

DOUGLAS ROAD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PLAN (2022-2025)

SCANNING:

Who are our learners and what is impacting their success?

Our neighbourhood is one that values family and community. Our school is at the heart of the community. Douglas Road is in an area that faces some challenges with easy access to transit, a central community centre or other accessible community gathering places. By default, our school is the “heart” of the community and functions as a community school. We have a variety of programs offered at our school which includes: Canada Scores, YMCA Friendship Club, Big Brothers Mentor program, Burnaby Parks and Recreation programs, Shadbolt, ACTS Cameray afterschool homework and dinner club, Burnaby FC Soccer. Our parents struggle to participate as most families are two working parents or single parent/guardian homes. Anecdotal feedback from parents is that they really appreciate community building activities. Given the location and nature of our community staff have consistently stated that they feel we need to continue to focus on building community and connectedness. Our data supports an ongoing need for this to be a focus.

WHAT DOES OUR FOCUS NEED TO BE?

Goal 1: Empathetic Education – Increase Student Empathy

Data from surveys (MDI grades 4 and 7 and FSA questions developed with Suzanne Vardy) show that our student population lacks the ability to understand empathy as well as lacks an ability to recognize empathetic behaviour. Therefore, we will focus on educating our students and families on empathy and its importance to healthy relationships.

Increase Student Empathy

Understanding that self-knowledge, reflection and understanding is the first step to having empathy towards others:

- 1) Increase student ability to accurately communicate to peers feelings and concerns
- 2) Provide and teach mindfulness tools to connect to self. Include connections to nature and Indigenous teachings
- 3) Increase physical activity opportunities in nature to improve mental health

Interventions: perspective taking, staying out of judgement, recognizing emotion, communication emotion

Whole class instruction: teachers work together across grade levels to include social-emotional learning (empathy and school bonding/connection) into daily instruction through:

- Daily “check ins” or “community circle”
- Guided discussions around empathy using chosen literature and activities
- Pridentity
- Roots of Empathy program
- Mind-up
- Zones of Regulation
- WITS
- Four Step Apology

Targeted Interventions

- Working with the counsellor and non-enrolling staff to practice using strategies from Heart Mind
- Individual and group sessions with the counsellor
- 4 Steps Apology – lessons on empathy
- WITS problem solving
- Peer Mediation Program
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Goal 2: Increase students positive attitudes to math, and increase the number of students meeting or exceeding in Mathematics

Fall 2022:

- 1) complete a base line assessment for students attitudes to Math. This will be repeated at the end of the year.
- 2) Complete baseline assessments for students understandings and abilities in Math.

Spring 2023: Teacher Resources Purchased

Fall 2023: ProD workshop with Melania

Ongoing Learning

How and Where Can We Learn More?

- Continued work with Melania Alvarez to increase teacher understanding of teaching foundational Math concepts and how to include play and fun into Math
- Teachers to begin using new Math Up Curriculum – several teachers have taken in-service with this online curriculum
- Participate in Marian Small series
- Explore newly introduced Math Materials - games, manipulatives and the Book: "Get it Together - Math Problems for Groups" provided by Melania Alvarez.