

School Learning Plan

2020/2021

THE CURRENT CONTEXT

Queen Elizabeth Elementary is a K-4 Elementary School in a growing and diverse community. Currently the school has 440 students across 19 in-school divisions and 3 online learner divisions.

Our school vision is to “build a caring and inclusive community where children, staff and families learn together.”

In 2020-21 Staff continue to develop our collaborative practice model and are working specifically on Literacy Performance Standards; developing Anti Racism understanding and initiatives within teaching and learning; Outdoor Learning and our Emergency Evacuation and Student Release Plans.

GOAL: WHAT WE HOPE TO ACHIEVE

- 1) Staff are working in Grade group teams from Grade 1 to 4 to refine writing performance standards that align with the new report card proficiency scale language. Our aim is to improve the continuity of language instruction and the communication of writing performance from grade to grade.
- 2) Kindergarten staff are working on developing an Outdoor Learning program and continue with a variety of collaborative initiatives to share and develop best practice across our Kindergarten program.
- 3) Develop an understanding of anti-racism for staff and students. Our school aims to implement anti-racism initiatives with greater intention and more explicit classroom teaching and learning.
- 4) Emergency Evacuation and Student Release Plans: Further develop our Emergency procedures particularly our Student Release plans in the event of a school evacuation and longer term shelter in place outside the building. Our goal is to better identify specific individual staff roles and duties; procure all needed supplies to support longer term care of students outside if necessary; complete a simulation and articulate and communicate a more detailed plan to our community.

PLAN: THE STEPS WE WILL TAKE

Key Results

- improved understanding by our staff, students and parents of the new proficiency scales, particularly as they relate to writing
- enhanced outdoor learning program with increased access to resources, learning spaces and curriculum
- staff and students gain a better understanding of unconscious biases, what racism looks like and the impact on those affected.
- work towards acknowledging and celebrating all cultures in class in an authentic, rather than performative manner.
- obtaining resources with diversity and encouraging taking an intersectional approach when teaching.
- Staff, Students and the Community will better understand our Fire, Earthquake, Shelter in Place, Lockdown and Emergency Student Release procedures.

Timeline

- January to March – staff working in Grade group teams to refine performance scales and anchor written exemplars for each grade level to support the communication of learning
- September to June – increased procurement and access to Outdoor Learning resources, completion of our new Outdoor Learning Space and enhancement of our Outdoor Learning Curriculum
- Professional Development with Ravinder Johal on May 4th; Establishment of Staff Anti Racism committee to support and further develop teaching and learning initiatives (ongoing); Staff Survey to assess need and next steps (Fall 2021), grade group meetings (ongoing), Book club opportunity 2021-2.
- October/November office team further articulates plan; December Staff Working Group Meetings to review Roles and Responsibilities; April/May Working Group Staff Meetings to practice Plans; Articulated Plan communicated to the Community (Sept 2021).

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SUCCESS INDICATORS: HOW WE WILL KNOW THAT OUR ACTIONS ARE HAVING THE DESIRED IMPACT

- 1) We believe that our work will improve our writing instruction, the ability to communicate performance standards and proficiency levels, and more importantly to identify specific areas for improvement for our students and families.
“What does it mean to demonstrate a Complete Understanding in writing at each grade level?” is the question we are revisiting. In addition “anchoring” written performance exemplars in each grade will further help identify student needs and improve the implementation of resource supports both in the classroom and in our learning centre.
- 2) Outdoor Learning is becoming a staple at Queen Elizabeth in 2020-21. We hope classrooms will be more comfortable and prepared to offer students outdoor learning opportunities and continue to have greater access to resources and appropriate outdoor learning spaces.
- 3) Our staff will be better prepared to provide explicit learning opportunities and understanding for our students about what racism is and how we can prevent and mitigate its impact in our classrooms and community.
- 4) Our school community will be confident knowing that we are ready in the event of a school emergency/evacuation. Staff will understand their specific roles, students will feel well cared for and our community will be confident that their children are safe.

COMMUNICATION: HOW WE WILL SHARE OUR LEARNING JOURNEY WITH OUR COMMUNITY

Our plans and progress will be shared with our School Community through Report Cards, Conferencing, Newsletters, E blasts, Parent Advisory Council Meetings and School Team Meetings.