report to the community



Sansome Elementary School

2019-2020



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The Early Years (K-5) provides a nurturing environment where children are encouraged to investigate, create and discover. Children develop their competencies in language and literacy skills, thinking and problem-solving skills, social and emotional development, independence, creativity and knowledge in preparation for becoming responsible citizens. Instruction in the following curricula: Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Physical Education/Health and the Arts is focused on meeting the unique needs of Early Years students. Instruction focuses on the integration of subject matter and hands-on activity-based approaches to learning.

Last Year's School Accomplishments (2018-2019)

Students participated in a variety of literacy routines and lessons that encourage both surface level thinking and deep learning.

- ✓ Staff collected and analyzed school-wide authentic writing samples throughout the year and compared these samples to our beliefs of writing achievement.
- ✓ Engaging instructional practices and student products were shared within grade groups and beyond to encourage critical thinking and to provide an authentic audience for all.

Students improved their ability to communicate their mathematical thinking and demonstrated growth in the areas of problem solving and mental math calculation.

- ✓ Students gained skill at explaining their strategies and thinking orally, in writing, when using concrete models, drawings, actions and/or with numbers.
- ✓ A school space has been dedicated to critical thinking and the benefits of using a non-permanent vertical learning space. As well, common planning time was provided to staff to share impactful strategies and resources.

Sansome students and staff have had the opportunity to engage beyond the curriculum and increase their understanding of personal safety, health, individual self-awareness and sense of belonging within their school and community.

Our Vision Statement

Sansome School promotes learning within a challenging, safe and supportive environment.

School Profile

Number of teachers: 17.5 Number of students: 279 Grade levels: K-5

School Highlights

These include:

- Resource Specialist
- · Guidance Specialist
- Reading Recovery
- Math Enhancement
- Active Parent Council
- Roots of Empathy
- The Integrated Arts
- Artists in the School
- · Celebration of Learning
- Community BBQ
- Professional Learning Communities
- Interschool Athletics
- Parent/Child Coalition Center
- Literacy with Information and Communication Technology

Extra-curricular Activities

Large variety of activities and opportunities:

- Cross-Country
- Floor Hockey
- Badminton
- Handball
- Cup Stacking
- Games Club
- Safety Patrols
- Intermediate Choir

✓ Students gained a stronger understanding of personal problem solving strategies, specifically Zones of Regulation and WITS, which became common language throughout the entire school.

A Quick Snapshot of the Classroom

Mathematics: Students continue to work on the four areas (strands) of math:

- Number
- Shape and Space
- Patterns and Relations
- Statistics and Probability

English: Our focus within English Language Arts instruction is to develop skills in listening, speaking, reading, writing, viewing, and representing through the use of quality literature, a variety of writing genres, and a greater understanding of the revised curriculum document.

Science: Students learn to communicate their understanding of concepts through a wide range of learning experiences. Scientific inquiry and the design process are used to ensure relevance and encourage a deeper understanding of concepts.

- Primary Choir
- · Orff Club
- Recorder Karate
- Chess Club
- Talking/Sharing Circle
- Winter Musical and Talent Show
- Ultimate Frisbee
- Cooking Club
- Lego Club
- Tabloid Days
- Games Club
- Intramurals
- Student Sports Council
- Student Voice

Arts: Students experience a wide range of art media and techniques as they participate in a variety of classroom and school based art projects that are integrated with a variety of learning outcomes.

Planning & Goal Setting

School goals are created using the Divisional Strategic Plan as the guideline (www.sjasd.ca/Documents/stratplan_2016-21.pdf). The goal setting process begins in early Spring and includes input from students, teachers, parents and the community. Goals are developed around the needs and direction of the various departments with student progress and achievement and our mission and vision statement as our focus.

This Year's School Goals and Priorities (2019-20)

- 1. Students will participate in a variety of predictable literacy routines and engaging lessons that will encourage both surface level thinking and deeper learning. Ultimately, students will improve in their ability to comprehend and critically respond to the world around them.
- 2. Sansome students will be able to effectively communicate mathematical thinking in the areas of problem solving and calculation.
- 3. Sansome students will be provided with ongoing opportunities to further develop their emotional intelligence and consider their impact on others as they develop a sense of pride and belonging within their school and community. As described in "Ensouling our Schools" by Jennifer Katz, emotional intelligence is defined as including the following 5 interrelated sets of cognitive, affective and behavioural competencies:
- Self-Awareness
- Self-Management
- Social Awareness
- Relationship Skills
- Responsible Decision Making