



# École Viscount Alexander

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## Administration AGM Report 2021-2022

### 2021/2022 School Plan Priorities:

- Well-Being and Well-Becoming
- Literacy
- Numeracy
- Student Engagement

### Initiatives:

- Staff and students have embarked on a journey to learn more about themselves, their place and the histories that affect them. The important work of engaging in reconciliation must come after truth has been acknowledged. We began the year engaging in the *Truth and Reconciliation* week of learning experiences offered by the NCTR. Students planted a 'Heart Garden', which was displayed outdoors for our community on September 30. The Heart Garden served as an important symbol for reflection and to recognize our shared commitment to reconciliation. This year we have thought about what reconciliation means for us as teachers and learners. Some of the actions we have engaged in are:
  - Identity work: Who am I? Where do I come from?
  - Learning, relearning and unlearning: examining Calls to Action and the roles of schools and educators
  - Professional development such as Treaty Education
  - Expanding book collections and increasing Indigenous representation
  - Learning from elders and Indigenous community members – Michael Pierre and Shanley Spence
  - Engaging in land-based learning
  - Connecting with ourselves, each other and the important work of reconciliation
- Mental health and wellness direct instruction was offered in a co-teaching model throughout the year by classroom teachers and support services teachers. Mental health was featured prominently during the month of January where student voice and specific strategies were shared during classroom instruction, morning announcements, and on social media.
- Thrival Kits, a project created with the Canadian Mental Health Association, were purchased and integrated into classroom learning regarding mental health. This initiative shows children how to develop positive coping strategies and tools to deal with life events and emotions.

- April focused on sustainability and Earth Week. This culminated in the planning of a butterfly garden as inspired by the David Suzuki Foundation. Gratitude to the ACSL for the generous donation of funds to purchase the plants. A compost system has been established as well.
- Our breakfast program continued daily and was offered universally in all classrooms.
- EVA is a divisional STEM learning hub. Teachers worked to embed STEM learning outcomes and resources into their instruction. Students were invited to participate in monthly STEM challenges and the divisional STEM challenge in the spring.
- Literacy and Numeracy data was collected and reviewed on a regular basis to determine school and classroom supports and next steps. Levelled Literacy Intervention resources support further reading achievement. J'aime Lire in March included many guest speakers that shared their experiences as writers and publishers through TEAMS. Indigenous and Francophone voices were amplified. The Numeracy Team continues with its goal to grow students' positive mindsets in math. Enrichment mathematics groups, an opportunity open to all students, participated in the Gauss math contest again this year. The school purchased a new Marian Small resource, Questions Ouvertes, for every math teacher. This resource suggests open ended questions that promote critical thinking and problem-solving skills for each of the 4 strands in the mathematics curriculum.
- Attendance data was collected and reviewing on a regular basis to determine classroom and technology supports throughout the various remote learning periods and supporting student absence due to isolation requirements.
- Regular monthly assemblies and Cohort Connection activities created a whole-school community connection. Games were a highlight and reinforced school respect agreements, and engagement goals. Etoile du mois continued virtually and student achievements were recognized in areas of character education and French language skills. Students from all grades were able to step into various roles to help lead the school as a whole community. Meaningful connections were made in various sessions – from light-hearted Kahoot games to school-wide activities like creating hoops for the hoop dancing residency.
- EVA hosted a wide variety of both staff and student-initiated clubs this year including, GSA, Club de debat, Club de theatre, Club de tricotage, et Club d'art. A fall fine arts festival engaged grade 8 students in small group engagement, and our spring fine arts show returned. The Club de theatre presented a student written, directed and produced show at the Gas Station Theater and at the Cercle Molière.
- Indoor and outdoor sports were provided throughout the year, including many winter sporting opportunities. Students embraced our broad EVA neighbourhood community and hiked, ran, snowshoed, skied and tobogganed.

We are very fortunate to work in this community and appreciate the support of ACSL.