Hillcrest Elementary

Principal: Dr. Cammy Coughlin Vice Principal: Nancy McAleer

Culturally Responsive Education in Action

Hillcrest Be Your Best th

May 23, 2017

Hillcrest Stars



- 290 students
- 36 staff members



- 16% of students are English Language Learners; 6% are First Nations or Metis
- Of our ELL students, 9 different languages are spoken at home: Arabic, Cantonese, Farsi, Korean, Mandarin, Portugese, Punjabi, Spanish and Turkish

School Goal:

To increase students' experience, understanding, and awareness of Aboriginal ways of knowing across the curriculum.

As students explore their own identities along with learning from the Aboriginal perspective, this will lead to further growth in their emotional and social development.

Key Strategies: Embedded focus of Aboriginal ways of knowing

- To increase students knowledge of Aboriginal histories locally and in Canada for a better understanding of our country's past and current state of affairs
- Primary students: Understanding community, sense of belonging, culture, & history relevant to local area
- Intermediate students: Residential School curriculum and authentic storytelling

School Community



Orange Shirt Day



1st winter concert in 10 years - Dec 2016



Staff braving the dunk tank

Areas of excellence at Hillcrest

* Strong sense of community, warm environment and connections (ex., TC Run - Team Tiernan, Spring Fair, PAC movie nights, PAC dance, Orange Shirt Day)

* Inclusion of all learners: those with designated special needs, English Language Learners, Aboriginal learners, and students from around the world

* Common language around self-regulation (5 hand breathing/calming/appropriate use of fidgets)

* Social thinking models in place (Michelle Garcia Winner strategies/school wide common phrases expected /unexpected behaviours)

* Infusing technology into the curriculum both in and outside of the school

Student Excellence

- Student to student leadership language, student mentors
- Leadership: Tour guides, interpreters for new Canadians, lunch monitors, patrolling, assisting with community events
- Reading: 72%
- Writing: 71%
- Numeracy: 82%
- Benchmark scores have increased from term one to two

Evidence of Student Learning in ELL and Environmental Science

Evidence of Student Learning in ELL and Environmental Science

Thank you!

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