

St Matthias Elementary School
PROFESSIONAL LEARNING FORM



Principal Name: Laurienne Graham

Vice Principal(s):

Superintendent Name: Area 4 - Peter Aguiar

FOCUS GROUPS - Groups within the school who require additional support

Grade 3 - No students are below level 3, and almost half are between level 3.7 - 3.9.

Grade 6 - Of those students performing below the provincial standard, 23% are at a level 2.7 - 2.9; This represents 5 students including our ESL students. All students will be considered our students on the move, as will the one student performing at a 2.5.

URGENT CRITICAL LEARNING NEED - Schools have many learning needs. This is the most urgent and critical learning need that will be addressed this year.

Open response, problem solving are almost universally an area of need. Patterning is a specific strand of need in primary; measurement is a specific strand of need in junior/intermediate divisions.

Therefore we must:

- make sense of word problems and solving multi-step problems
- demonstrate commonality of problem solving steps
- demonstrate the trajectory of learning in these strands through visible learning (K - 8)
- practice newly acquired skills in our daily activities, even outside of the math lesson and across the curriculum
- bring common understanding to math vocabulary
- focus on research based strategies used in patterning and measurement instruction and harness cross-curricular patterning and measurement activities

SMART GOAL - School goal for student learning that school will focus on achieving throughout the year.

Through focused instruction and problem solving strategies we will move grade 6 students from 53% in measurement to 73%. This means six students will improve in the strand.

Through focused instruction and strategies we will move grade 3 students from 63% in patterning to 73%. This means 4 students will improve in the strand.

To monitor movement of students, there will be monthly check-ins at staff meetings and November, February and April PL..

Teachers will use google drive to track their students on the move.

REQUIRED PROFESSIONAL LEARNING

STAFF PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT CRITICAL NEED - In order to address the student urgent critical need of the school and to work toward the school's SMART goal, the following professional development is required.

Focused professional learning will:

- provide relevant instructional resources for teachers (word problems to practice, patterning and measurement strategies, etc.)
- provide instructional strategies for vocabulary development
- provide strategies to help develop positive attitudes toward numeracy in general and problem solving in measurement and patterning in particular
- provide an understanding of how culturally responsive pedagogy and strategies can engage students in their learning (e.g. culturally responsive manipulatives such as using sticks or buttons for counters or Kente cloth for patterning)

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT PLAN - Professional learning topics that will be undertaken by staff throughout the year.

On Nov 7, February 20, April 3 staff will meet to analyze current assessment that will identify improvements/gaps in the numeracy learning cycle. Board numeracy resources will be used in professional learning with a focus on problem solving (specific specific strands patterning and measurement). Each professional learning session will also include an investigation into culturally responsive teaching and pedagogy. This will be supported by professional reading on numeracy as recommended by resources and an exploration of the book Deep Diversity.