

# 2024-25

## Annual School Development Report



**It is the vision of St. James' Elementary that all students entrusted to our care will develop as well-rounded individuals who are able to connect with themselves, their world and others to become respectful citizens.**

## Improve Wellness and Positive Relationships

### How did you know this was a Strategic Issue? What evidence did you have?

#### *Using our internal data collection, PMF data and school development surveys we noticed:*

- Our family surveys report that 39.1 % of our families reported a negative response to family engagement
- Our student surveys report that 13.4 % of our students gave a negative response to feeling safe at school
- We have had an influx of new Canadians with different languages and cultures
- Teachers express that they feel deficient in multicultural sensitivity with the influx of new Canadians
- Research data from St. Francis Xavier indicated parents wanted to be involved in the school more and they didn't know what was happening within school with respect to how their child was learning
- Curriculum day feedback indicated that parents appreciated seeing their child's learning environment this past September
- Social Emotional Learning pilot has led to less office referrals (Review 360 shows less reports)
- Social well-being of staff (staff express feelings of emotional and physical burnout)
- Social Emotional spaces lack resources

### Year End Summary of Progress. What evidence do you have to support this progress?

- Although we have actioned many different things within our SD Plan to improve our wellness and positive relationships, we feel we have garnered the greatest success and gains in creating a safe, welcoming environment for students, staff, and families through four particular actions. Inviting parents to our various events has been our greatest success in building a positive relationship with our families. As an example, this year we carried out our curriculum night activities within the school day and our parent feedback forms indicated that parents truly enjoyed the event and our numbers were close to double what we had in previous years. For our students, we actioned SEL programming from K-6 but the bulk of our work was done from grade 5 -6. We implemented Healthy Minds, Healthy Schools and Roots of Empathy in grade 6, Get Ready Program for Grades 5-6, purchased Relationships for grade 5, and had Lions Quest PL for two staff members and CASEL ( Collaborative for Academic Social and Emotional Learning) for our SA's. We also incorporated positive reinforcement initiatives (Capes) through all grade levels and students really enjoyed being a SJE hero, wearing their cape and having their picture posted on our FB page for families to celebrate. For our staff we felt that our Wellness day was a great addition to the other things we do to care for ourselves. Even months after the PL, staff are still talking

about how enjoyable it was and asking “when are we doing it again?”.

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**Next Steps:**

- Implement Lions Quest Program for grade 1 and 5
- Implement Relationships for grade 5

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