



# Elmdale School

## Planning Priorities for 2024-2025

*Our mission is to provide a safe and caring learning environment, fostering positive relationships serving students, families, and community.*

### About Us

#### 260 Students

Kindergarten to Grade 4

#### 17 Teaching Staff

Classroom teachers  
EAL & Literacy Support  
Guidance Counselor  
Learning Support  
Music & Phys Ed

#### Support Staff

School Admin Secretary  
School Secretary  
13 Educational Assistants  
Library Support Specialist  
Head & Assistant Custodian

At Elmdale we believe that students, staff and our community must work in partnership for the success of all learners.

Students are central to the teaching and learning process. They learn best when their physical, social and emotional needs are met.

Staff must start by building relationships with students and families. Once relationships are built and trust is established, students can be more successful.

Community members are a crucial part of the team. It is within a supportive community that students have a greater ability to develop their skills and reach their goals.

#### Principal

Anders Rempel  
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#### Address

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### Planning Priority #1 – Student Belonging

That all students will feel safe and welcome at Elmdale School

#### Strategies and Success Indicators

- We use a program that is grounded in Positive Behavioural Interventions and Supports (PBIS) principles. To encourage and celebrate good behavior, we give Green Slips and Princi-Pal awards. Likewise Amber and Red Slips, while not consequences, allow us to track and intervene to improve antisocial and unproductive behavior. “Bucket filling” and “bucket dipping” terms are integral to our common language.
- The Umbrella Project is used at our school to help the staff to equip our students to have positive social and emotional coping skills. It is our hope that the tools they acquire will help them live healthy and meaningful lives in the face of life’s uncertainties and struggles.
- School culture and community building are an important part of school safety and belonging. School-wide assemblies, inter-grade activities such as reading buddies, as well as leadership opportunities for older students (bus captains, lunch monitors, etc.) help students feel belonging and ownership in our school.

### Planning Priority #2 – Literacy

Our students get rich literacy instruction in their classrooms. Our goal is that every student will grow by a minimum of one grade-level when assessed using the Fountas and Pinnell Running Record Program.

#### Strategies and Success Indicators

- All students will participate in regular guided reading, home reading and literacy learning programs. Our Literacy Support Teacher will collaborate with teachers and support struggling students.
- We are excited to be learning about and implementing strategies from UFLI (pronounced "you fly"), a program developed at the University of Florida to give our students the foundational skills to read.
- We do regular check-ins on literacy levels and adjust our programming as needed according to the changing needs of our students.
- All students will be assessed on their reading level a minimum of twice each school year to gain ongoing insight into their abilities.
- Reading incentives will be offered during Summer and Christmas breaks to encourage students to keep reading when away from school.

### Planning Priority #3 – Numeracy

Our numeracy goal is to increase the number of students approaching or at grade level using mathematical processes.

#### Strategies and Success Indicators

- Using manipulatives, students across grade levels will be provided with opportunities to make connections among concrete, pictorial, symbolic, verbal, and written and mental representations.
- We will focus on the concepts of mental math and estimation and by building number relationships through the developmental process of learning math facts to increase computational fluency.
- Students will encounter new situations, respond to a variety of questions, and develop their own problem solving approaches.