



**Clinton
Street PS**
Clintonstreetschool.ca



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Dear Clinton Street PS Community:

Prior to the pandemic, it was common for schools to arrange time for the staff to meet and examine student data, analyze current pedagogical approaches, and formulate a plan for improvement. Unquestionably, Covid created a change of focus, and these types of professional learning opportunities were not given the same priority. Such gatherings were dearly missed. During this past week at Clinton Street PS, we arranged for most of our staff to have a significant amount of time to meet and discuss the following questions:

- 1) What are your observations about your students' abilities in math and literacy?
- 2) What are the essential mathematics and literacy skills upon which you are placing the most focus?
- 3) What are the essential mathematics and literacy skills you are noticing as areas of concern?
- 4) What resources do you currently use regularly to address literacy and mathematics? What might be additional resources that would support your instruction?
- 5) Are there social / emotional / behavioural challenges you are noticing in cohorts? What helps? What needs more support?

Holding these meetings following the first reporting period seemed appropriate. The professional conversations that occurred were rich, comprehensive, and engaging. As a staff, we do our best to appreciate the impact of the past number of years on our families and students and the subsequent implications for our practice.

At our staff meeting on Thursday, we discussed the responses to the questions, and aligned our school's budget to initiate an intentional plan of action. We will be sharing more information about our direction at the in-person school council meeting at 6:30 p.m. on Thursday, November 30, at Clinton Street PS library, and we hope you can attend.

We wish you all a peaceful weekend, and, to all the American families in our Clinton Street PS community, a happy Thanksgiving.

Sincerely,

Dan Taylor

Principal