



Conrad's School Plan

2023 – 2024



Conrad Elementary School is situated in the City of Prince Rupert on the Pacific Northwest coast of British Columbia. We are a diverse multicultural community located on traditional Ts'msyen territory. Currently, our enrollment is 208 students and 78% are of Indigenous ancestry.

Although student learning and social needs are diverse, our students are inspiring and we continue to celebrate many successes. Conrad School has some unique programming designed to meet the needs of many of our priority students. Through Community Link funding, many of our students are able to participate in After School Activities and Art Program. Community Link also supports approximately 100 students for the daily lunch program and Breakfast Club of Canada supports about 50-60 students on our breakfast program. This year, ten students from the village of Metlakatla attended Conrad via daily ferry and bus to and from school.

Our School Improvement Plan focuses on inquiry-based learning. Conrad Elementary was able to resume more events that involved family and community members. We also continued to hold more school wide activities that involve family and community members to encourage collaboration with school staff, students, and families.

At Conrad School our ongoing goals are to foster a sense of belonging and enhance the reading ability of every student. Students are given daily opportunities to read and build their confidence and joy of reading. Students in the primary grades use many programs in their classrooms to support literacy development through small group guided reading opportunities. Literacy programs included the Heggerty Phonemic Awareness Curriculum, UFLI, Tara West, Jolly Phonics and Talking Tables. Additionally, students in intermediate grades also participated in small group guided reading opportunities, utilizing Education Assistants and Learning Services Teachers to platoon and lead small groups with daily practice to strengthen reading fluency, accuracy and comprehension.



Vision: Create a safe and welcoming environment where every student is able to grow their core competency skills to further their learning and become successful community members.

Mission/Belief: Conrad Elementary is a community of life-long learners that challenges students to strive to do their personal best within a caring and supportive environment.



Goal #1

- **By providing a safe and welcoming environment for everyone at Conrad Elementary School, we are ensuring that learning is equitable for all students. By increasing students' sense of belonging, we hope to increase attendance rates, resulting in improved literacy rates.**

Structures and Strategies:

- Classroom Teachers utilise supports and services from district support staff (OT, SLP, Counselling, DBI, Literacy Helping Teacher, TDHH staff, Indigenous Education staff, IFRW) as well as non-enrolling teachers (LSTs) and the Principal and Vice-Principal
- Opportunities for collaboration between all school staff members (use of LIF and PRDTU Mentorship Program)
- Collaboration with Indigenous Education Department (Grade 5 Feast, fried bread, Crest Art, Storytelling, Identity, Seasonal Rounds)
- Whole-school trip to Seal Cove Salt Marsh funded by Family Affordability Fund



- School-wide meals: Pancake Breakfast (funded by Breakfast Club of Canada/prepared by volunteers from PRPA, Pembina and RCMP), Turkey Lunch, Spaghetti Lunch, Grade 5 Feast
- Applied Design Skills and Technology (ADST) and Science Technology Engineering and Math (STEM) activities (popsicle bridge challenge)
- Drumming sessions with Marlene Clifton
- Orange Shirt Days and Pink Shirt Day
- Spirit Days (Red/White/Green Day, Jingle Bells Day, Holiday Sweater Day, PJ Days, etc.)
- PAC monthly lunches: Pizza Hut, Vihaans Pizza and No 1 Catering/PAC Popcorn Fridays
- Outdoor exploration - students experiences outside: Connor Speer of Spirit North, forest hikes, outdoor garden, neighbourhood walks, waterfront observations, community bus tours, field trips to Oldfield Creek Fish Hatchery, Port Interpretive Centre, Prince Rupert Public Library, Museum of Northern BC, Butze Rapids and Ecology Centre
- Swimming and Skating opportunities
- Family Fun Night – Conrad Family BBQ
- Learning and growing in the 'Garden of Hope' (*Syndooynm Na K'oom*); Spuds in Tubs program for early Primary classes; successful grant recipient of 'Nutrients for Life'
- Community building - RCMP assisted Breakfast Club with pancakes, school walk throughs, and a school tour of various emergency service vehicles (RCMP, ambulance and fire trucks)
- Successful grant recipient of 'Farm2School' – Grade 5 Sm'algyax students learned protocol, *adaawx* and phrases to hold a school feast
- Successful grant recipients of Jane Goodall Institute – students worked with 'First Peoples Principles of Learning' to create artwork. Project culminated in a whole-school meal shared in our Gym together
- Successful applicants of Spirit of Healthy Kids grant – students tracked their physical activity to win funds to purchase outdoor equipment and healthy snacks

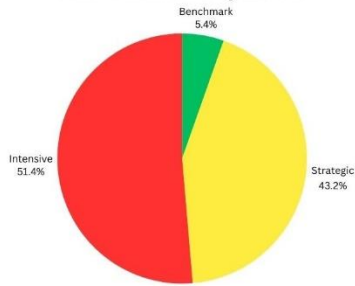




Data for Goal #1:

**Kindergarten Alphabet: All Students
Names and Sounds Assessment (Overall)
June 2024**

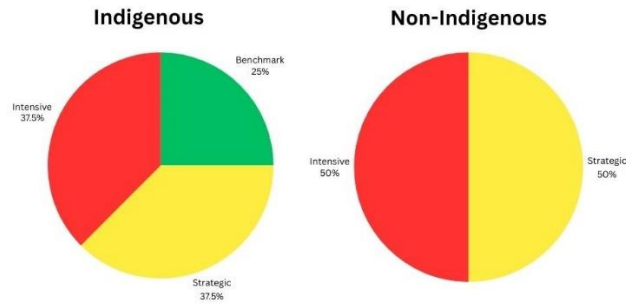
Conrad Elementary School



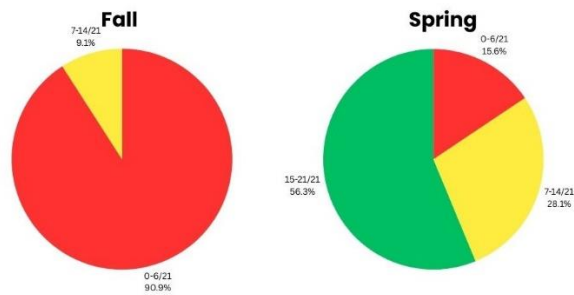
*Benchmark: 83/ Strategic: 65-82/ Intensive: 0-64

**Kindergarten Alphabet: Indigenous and Non-Indigenous
Names and Sounds Assessment (Overall)
June 2024**

Conrad Elementary School

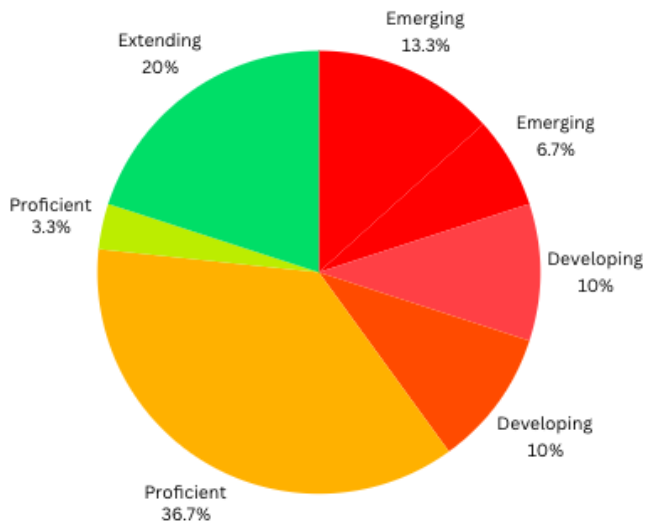


**Kindergarten Assessment
Consonant Sounds
2023/24
Conrad Elementary School**



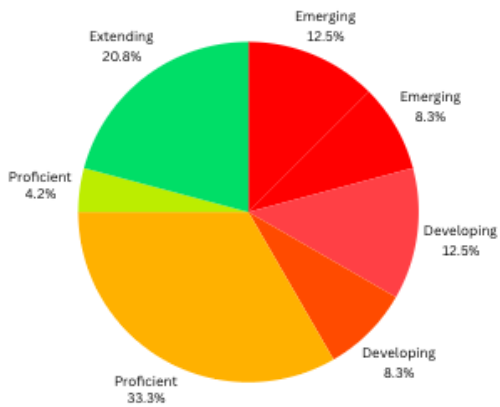


Grade 3 Literacy Data
Reading Levels: All Students
2023/24
Conrad Elementary School

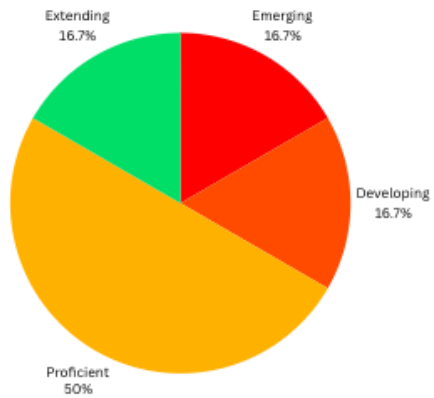


Grade 3 Literacy Data
Reading Levels: Indigenous and Non-Indigenous
2023/24
Conrad Elementary School

Indigenous

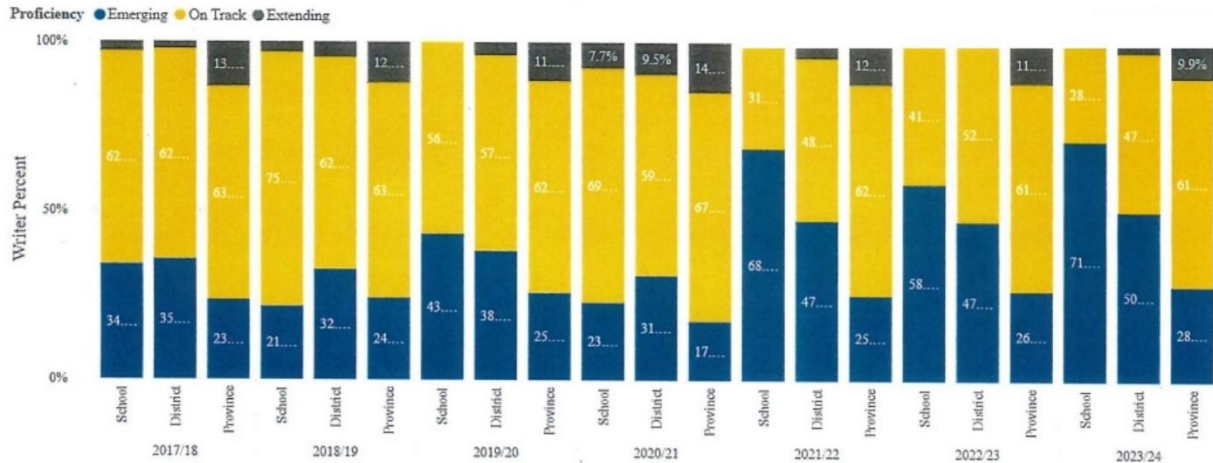


Non-Indigenous

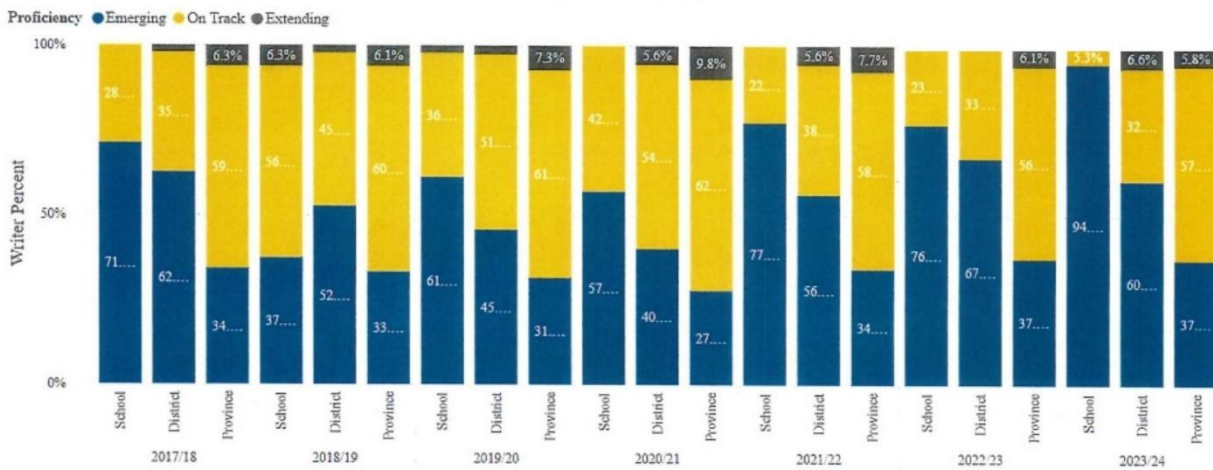




Proficiency Rates for Province, All Districts, Conrad Elementary [Literacy & Reading-04]



Proficiency Rates for Province, All Districts, Conrad Elementary [Numeracy-04]



Goal #2

- **By strengthening our relationships with Conrad families, Conrad School will build stronger relationships with students and families. Building trusting relationships will lead to increased attendance rates and build rapport with families, creating a safe space for everyone connected to Conrad.**

Structures and Strategies:

- Heggerty Phonemic Awareness Program
- University of Florida Literacy Institute (UFLI)
- Tara West (Science of Reading practice)
- Core Phonics
- Alphabet Teams (Orton Gillingham)
- Guided Reading groups



- Whole-school literacy challenges and opportunities (Reading Challenge, Chocolate Lily Awards)
- Weekly explorative and hands-on Literacy activities offered by Library Teacher (ADST, Mental Health Literacy)
- Small group support for Early Primary by Learning Services Teachers (LSTs)
- LST-consults for struggling readers
- Scholastic Book Fairs – very well-attended by Conrad families
- Buddy Reading between grade groups
- Readers Theatre and choral reading activities
- Use of district technology resources to enhance student learning (Raz-Kids, etc.)
- Free books on offer in school lobby area
- other various literacy opportunities



Goal #3

- **By teaching and learning about better mental health practices, we will build capacity for better mental health literacy for students, staff and families. In addition, by providing mental health strategies and trauma informed practices, students will feel safe at school and an increased sense of belonging.**

Structures and Strategies:

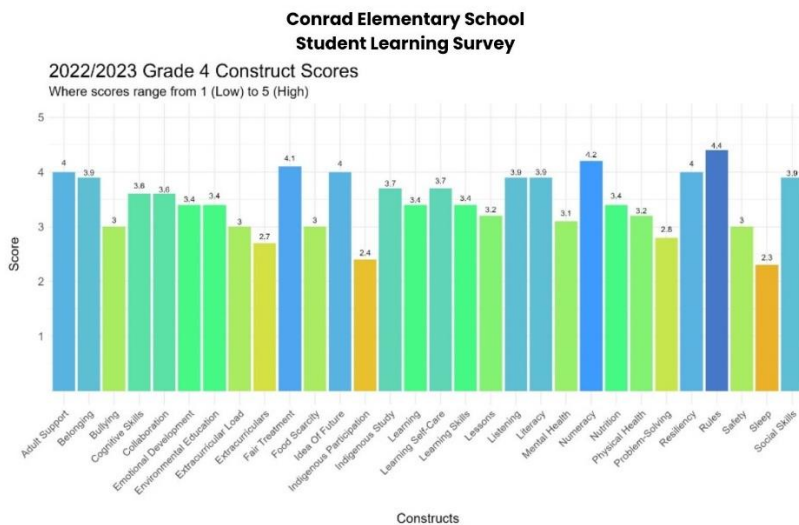
- Field trips in the community to reinforce concepts of Financial Literacy; real-world applications – students allocated a budget to purchase items
- Carole Fullerton materials available
- Offered real-life experiences for students to practice numeracy skills: baking, cooking, school-wide graphing of Read-a-thon results, school-wide estimation contests, exploration of numeracy manipulatives



- Reggio-inspired math (outdoor learning: patterns in nature, scavenger hunts, etc.)



Data for Goal #3:



Structures and Strategies:

- Wellness Teacher worked with small groups and individual students
- Boys & Girls Group / Lunch Bunch led by Indigenous Family Resource Worker
- Outdoor opportunities to connect with nature
- Mindfulness practiced in the classes
- Soft start (morning centres); alternate spaces and settings for breaks
- Breakfast Club available daily in the Gym from 8:30am
- Library Learning Commons available daily from 8:30am for early arrivals
- Food security (Rotary Apples Program, District lunch program)
- Mentorship teaching



- Community supports provided by CYMH, MCFD and FCC
- Sm'algyax Teacher & Knowledge Holder collaboration to teach Grade 5 Sm'algyax students protocols, adaawx and phrases in preparation in hosting a school-wide Feast
- Variety of strategies to teach students self-advocacy skills (WITS)
- SEL lessons in class by DBI
- Friendship/social skills development in small groups led by OT and DBI
- Use of Sensory Room as 'Rainbow Room' (*Gyits'oon Moaxii*) – self-regulation space for students with sensory-seeking needs
- Roots of Empathy program in both Kindergarten classrooms



Plans for Staff Development:

- Continue bi-monthly Staff meetings (every second Wednesday, in-person) to discuss BC curriculum, Indigenous Education and teacher mental health (self-care); as well as inviting Special Guests (with specializations) from District and community
- Continue organized social events for Staff (staff birthdays, lunches, weekly snacks)
- District-led Professional Development Events (Implementation Day, Regional Pro Ds)
- Continue to work with Indigenous Education Department
- Formation of an Inquiry Team to further work on strengthening relationships with families to increase attendance rates



Community Involvement:

- Monthly PAC meetings
- Monthly newsletters sent home physically, via email and available on website
- Social media platforms – school website and Facebook; keeping families up to date on current events happening at our school. Some classes also use cell phones to keep their families informed with the current events happening in their classes
- We have a digital display in our front entrance that displays information about upcoming events as well as photographic evidence of the fun and learning that takes place at Conrad
- Increasing in-house connections with families; hosted a Conrad Family BBQ
- Opportunities for parents to be involved in school events (class field trips)
- 'Student-Led' event where recreation passes were offered as door prizes
- Whole-school Seal Cove Salt Marsh field trip
- Skating & swimming events throughout the year, as well as community field trips (Library, Ecology Centre, Port Interpretive Centre, Gymnastics, Butze Trail/Grassy Bay, Oldfield Creek Fish Hatchery, etc.)

Ongoing Evidence:

- Encouraging and positive attendance at Family Night events such as our BBQ, which included approximately 40 families
- Conrad community provided feedback after school-wide events, often asking when the next school-wide event might be (PAC movie nights, families invited to performances/assemblies)



- Post-event discussions at Staff Meetings to provide constructive feedback on how to improve for the next event
- Families expressed positive feedback through personal interactions with staff members or on a social media platform



Reflection and Summary:

- Conrad School has work to accomplish in the areas of equity, truth & reconciliation and mental health wellness, which are also district priorities. We are, however, doing a good job in creating a safe space for our learners
- In our quest to make literacy a priority, our Staff has continued to invest in many literacy resources this year to compliment existing literacy programs; in addition, early primary classroom teachers continue to utilise programs to increase literacy levels



Next Steps:

- We would like to continue to improve our literacy programming by encouraging and supporting collaboration work between our Early Primary Team



- We will continue using varied reading strategies such as Core Phonics, Heggerty, UFLI, Tara West, Jolly Phonics, Talking Tables, Alphabet Teams, etc.
- Continue to use Coding and Computational Skills for all learners, so that students will learn critical thinking, problem solving and decision-making skills
- Continue to implement STEAM and ADST activities for all classes
- Continue with our school wide events and family involvement to promote a sense of belonging and connectedness
- Continue outdoor education, place-based learning and using 21st century learning strategies
- Continue to increase the blending of First Peoples Principles of Learning into daily instruction
- Continue to utilise the outdoor Conrad learning spaces: greenhouse, garden beds, picnic tables, compost area, and undercover learning space so all classes can learn about harvesting, planting, and continue to play outdoors



Things to Celebrate

School Successes:

- Classes actively taking part in outdoor education and helping with our outdoor garden
- School-wide events have created a more inviting and inclusive environment for students and staff
- Students feel a sense of pride being a member of the Conrad Family
- Collaboration between classes throughout the school year; it was great to see multi-age students working together for a common purpose
- Increased collaboration between staff for continuation of building on school-wide community



Important School Initiatives:

- Early Primary Literacy focus; collaboration between CRTs and LSTs to provide consistent weekly literacy supports in classrooms (Primary Platoon Groups included 5 classes/Divisions 3 to 7)
- Continued daily Breakfast Club, offered in the gym and the Library Learning Commons, both opening at 8:30am
- Daily Announcements including both Smalgyax and French morning greetings
- Birthday Display in common space to celebrate the Seasonal Rounds with student birthdays
- Continue school-wide Fun Day and other events (Halloween, Winter, Christmas Bazaar, Indigenous Peoples Day, Terry Fox Run)
- Continue to hold Spirit Days
- Family Events (Morning Muffins, Flashlight Fridays, Play in the K, School BBQ)
- Sports Activities (badminton, basketball and track & field)
- Afterschool clubs (Bhangra dancing, volleyball, Activities and Art)
- PAC lunches (Pizza Hut, Vihaans Pizza and No 1 Catering lunches); Friday Popcorn Days
- School-wide drumming with Marlene Clifton
- Place-based learning (Forest hikes, Butze Rapids, Rushbrook trail, Lester Centre of the Arts Performances, ANBT, Prince Rupert Public Library, Museum of Northern BC, etc.)
- Coding and STEM activities (Spheros, Ozobots, , Scratch Jr., etc.)
- Community Members (RCMP)