

ANNUAL EDUCATION RESULTS REPORT



HILLCREST MONTESSORI
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

YEAR #3 2023-2024

SCHOOL AUTHORITY - A.0347

BOARD CHAIR: CHARITY SHONHIWA



FORT McMURRAY
—MONTESSORI—
SCHOOL FOUNDATION



ACCOUNTABILITY STATEMENT

The Board is committed to using the results in this report, to the best of its abilities, to improve outcomes for students and to ensure that all students enrolled in Hillcrest Montessori Elementary school (HMES) can acquire the knowledge, skills and attitudes they need to be successful and contributing members of society. The Annual Education Results Report was prepared for the 2024/2025 school year. The report was prepared under the direction of the Board of Directors in accordance with the responsibilities under the Education Act and the Fiscal Planning and Transparency Act. This Annual Education Results Repc

Charity Shonhiwa
Board Chair

ASSURANCE FRAMEWORK

The results in the AERR then determine priorities and shape the direction of the Education Plan. Alberta Education 5 Assurance areas include:

- Student Growth and Achievement,
- Teaching and leading,
- Learning Supports,
- Governance
- Local and Societal Context.

LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

"We want to acknowledge that we are learning and leading on Treaty 8 territory and we honour and acknowledge all of the First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples who have lived, traveled and gathered on these lands for thousands of years." The Fort McMurray Montessori School Foundation Board prepared The Education Plan and the Annual Education Results Report (AERR) under the direction of Alberta Education. The three-year Education Plan determines the short- and long-term strategic goals and academic direction for Hillcrest Montessori Elementary School (HMES). The results were based on consultation with teaching faculty, the Parent Advisory Council and other stakeholders within the greater community, (local based). The school is currently operating from preschool to Lower Elementary. The current highest level is grade 6. The Education Plan is re-evaluated and revised annually with approval from the FMMSF Board of Directors in May in each school year. The AERR reports the results from these local measures, as well as key areas identified by Alberta Education. These key areas provide assurance that HMES is meeting the needs of learners and fulfilling its responsibilities as a school.





FOUNDATION STATEMENTS VISION

Our vision is of a world that lives in peace; a world community based on interdependence and respect for all life and all people. A Montessori school community of supportive parents, dedicated teachers and staff, and joyful learners.

MISSION

The Mission of the Hillcrest Montessori Elementary School is:

- To inspire a passion for excellence
- To nurture the curiosity, creativity, and imagination born within us all
- To give our students a vision of the universe
- And to awaken the human spirit of every child

VALUES

We cultivate within our students of a passion for excellence in everything they do, both in and outside of school.

Universal values: We strive to develop a strong set of universal values, which include self-respect, respect for others, honesty, integrity, responsibility, empathy, compassion, kindness, peacefulness, a sense of concern for others, warmth, and a love of community.

Global perspectives: The development of a global perspective and sense of international understanding.

Stewardship: A lifelong commitment to give something back through service to others who are in need.





Hillcrest Montessori Elementary School



Dec 9, 2023 · 🌐

This was certainly an exciting concert experience for all involved at the Golden Years Society! Everyone loved watching our little stars shining bright. We are so... [See more](#)



👍❤️👤 6

3 shares

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GOALS

- The Montessori approach to learning is the educational framework of our educational program.
- Hillcrest Montessori Montessori Elementary School (HMES) is committed to being an international and multicultural school.
- Our school teaches students to be at home in the world of nature.
- HMES is designed to prepare students both for the university and for life.


Our goal is to inspire a passion for excellence and a lifelong love of learning.

THE FUNDAMENTAL NATURE OF OUR SCHOOL

The Montessori approach to learning is the educational framework of our educational program. Hillcrest Montessori Academy (HMA) is committed to being an international and multicultural school.

- HMA is a close-knit community of students, educators, parents, and friends of the school.
- HMA is designed to prepare students both for the university and for life.
- Our school teaches students to be at home in the world of nature.
- HMA is a family-friendly school.
- We are committed to character and values.
- We are committed to diversity.





Hillcrest Montessori Elementary School is with ...

The Montessori Centre.

Sep 21, 2023 · 🌐

HAPPY INTERNATIONAL DAY OF PEACE.
Montessori Peace Education is the core of what makes the Montessori Method a world-changing practice. P... See more





Josh Shannon + 10

1 share

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BELIEFS & ATTITUDES

We affirm that education begins at birth and continues throughout life. While our emphasis is on our students, we are a center of support for people of all ages to continue learning and developing toward becoming whole, balanced, and healthy individuals.

We believe that intelligence is not rare among human beings, nor is it fixed at birth.

We believe that wisdom can be cultivated.

We believe that true wisdom is the ability to listen to your heart and know how best to put your intelligence to work for you. In order to achieve this goal, self-esteem, human dignity, and emotional well-being, as well as the ability to communicate and cooperate effectively with others, must be valued at least as highly as academic and material success.

We approach learning by seeking to understand and respect each student’s uniqueness and by guiding them individually at their own pace through the range of learning skills so that they fully realize their potential.

We celebrate the natural diversity of human beings, be it in learning style, interests, or definition of what makes a happy and successful life.

We affirm the ideal of the renaissance person. Our ultimate goal is to produce renaissance men and women who have not only learned how to learn, but also have an innate love of learning, a wide range of interests, and an openness to new ideas and possibilities.

We nurture self-esteem and affirm that it is a crucial ingredient for the full expression of a person's potential. This is the very fabric of our community and our educational methods.

We teach students to not be afraid of failure. We support them in stepping outside of their comfort zone and to not fear taking risks. We encourage them to learn from their experiences — both successes and failures — and to accept the outcome as non-threatening feedback on their progress and personal growth.

We nurture intellectual, emotional, spiritual, and physical growth in developing a whole, healthful being.

OUR SCHOOL

- Hillcrest Montessori Elementary School(HMES) has operated out of the historical former Birchwood School building since 2018.HMES was accredited by Alberta education initially as an ECS Kindergarten program in 2019. Backing into the Birchwood Trails, the building creates breathtaking indoor and outdoor nature-based classrooms, with trails and forest for outdoor activities and fitness programs. We will deliberately seek to create a campus of timeless natural beauty that communicates to our students that the buildings and grounds are expressions of our love and commitment to their education and success.
- As of Sept 2020, The Government of Alberta accredited HMA as an independent school offering ECS programs for preschool (ages 3 and 4years) through to Kindergarten - Grade 6. Since then HMES has partnered with the International Montessori Council (IMC) to work on its (MACTE) accreditation status. Using the IMC Montessori principles, HMES is fully Montessori committed and follows the Alberta Program of Studies in order to set standards stipulated by the Alberta Education.





OUR SCHOOL

- HMA is steadily working towards graduating a grade each year to promote continued enrolment growth in all programs, with particular emphasis on the Upper Elementary program (Gr4-6).
- HMA serves families residing in the local thick wood area surrounding the Birchwood trails, Timberlea area, the downtown area, Gregoire areas with the furthest family traveling from Anzac community 23km from the school.



HILLCREST MONTESSORI
ELEMENTARY SCHOOL

An education for life

2025-2026
Registration Now Open

Proud member of   

Contact us:
☎ 587.258.1777 ✉ hillcrest@fmmacad.com 📍 190 Tamarack Way. Tickwood





LEARNER SUPPORTS

Students with identified special education codes are supported within HMA’s inclusive classrooms. Each class is led by a teacher with both Alberta Teaching Certification and MACTE Montessori Guide training and is supported by a Montessori Assistant, and when necessary, an additional 7Educational Assistant to further support student needs and diverse Learning Styles. We acknowledge that children learn in different ways and at different paces. Our goal is to view each child as a unique human being and to be as flexible as possible in addressing his or her learning style and needs as an individual learner. We also seek to provide an environment open to students with diverse learning styles, while our primary focus will always be the well-being and best interests of those students who will thrive in our Montessori environment. In every case, we assess whether our school is able to meet a student’s needs, while keeping the integrity of the classroom.



COVID-19 IMPACT

The 2021/2022 school year was rough year and continued to be affected by the COVID-19 restrictions and health guidelines mandated by the Government of Alberta. 2022-2023 school year brought in emerging effects mainly on:

- Numeracy
- Literacy
- Social and Emotional

Students required more supports, Reading and numeracy levels right across from grade 1 to 3 are below average and the students required supports. As a school we enhanced our remedial classes as well as established the library reading room as some of our older students were and are uncomfortable to do the reading practice in a room with others. The learning commons has and is providing the privacy to each child to learn at their own pace with confidence.



STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

We recognize that a Montessori school is more than a place of learning; it is a community of children and adults that has a significant impact on our students’ capacity to learn, grow, create, develop, assimilate values, and relate peacefully and respectfully to other people and to the natural world.

Throughout the 3 years of annual plan and this year being the 3rd year, we have consistently encouraged parents to participate in programs that can help them to refine their parenting strategies, to facilitate the development of independence, responsibility, self-confidence and self- respect in their sons and daughters, and in themselves. We recognize parenting as an extremely difficult, rewarding and valuable job for which we have had little preparation and for which, in the modern world, we get little support. We continue committed in providing ways that support families of HMES from birth through adulthood by the creation of a parenting center that includes parenting classes currently individually based as on each family’s need. In the 2024- 2027 school growth plan HMES intends to expand the parenting center to group family classes. 2023-2024 year marked the full implementation of Ambassador Parent Program: We understand the special needs of new participants in the community and the necessity of a program to match new families with ones experienced in the community to provide support and information.





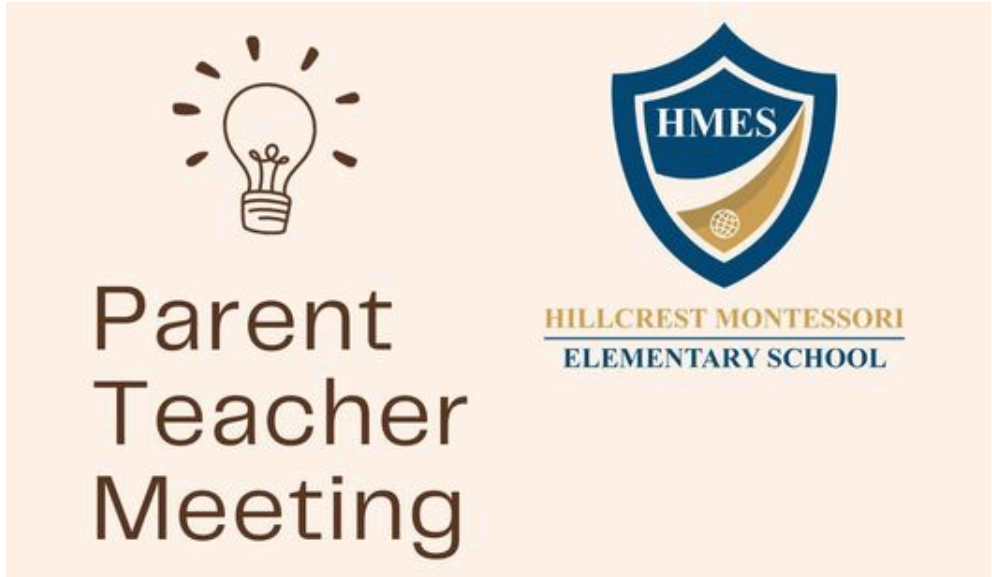
STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

Short term goal Reporting for 2023-2024:

- HMES has created successfully Class Community Meetings and plans to expand to ongoing support groups, and a parenting library nights in the 2025 through 207 school planning.
- Two formally scheduled Parent Teacher Conferences and one student led conference are now fully implemented within the school calendar to communicate specific, individualized feedback and a commentary on student progress.
- Parents have made great strides to contribute to strategic planning through Parent Advisory Council meetings and are set and ready to register formerly to a parent council in the 2025 through 207 school planning.
- 2023-204 school yar marked the full immersion and partnerships with Multiple community-based agencies such as Birchwood Circle of care, Providence, Khan Academy Occupational Therapy, Sound Speech Pathology provide input to Individual Program Plans and future direction of learner supports.

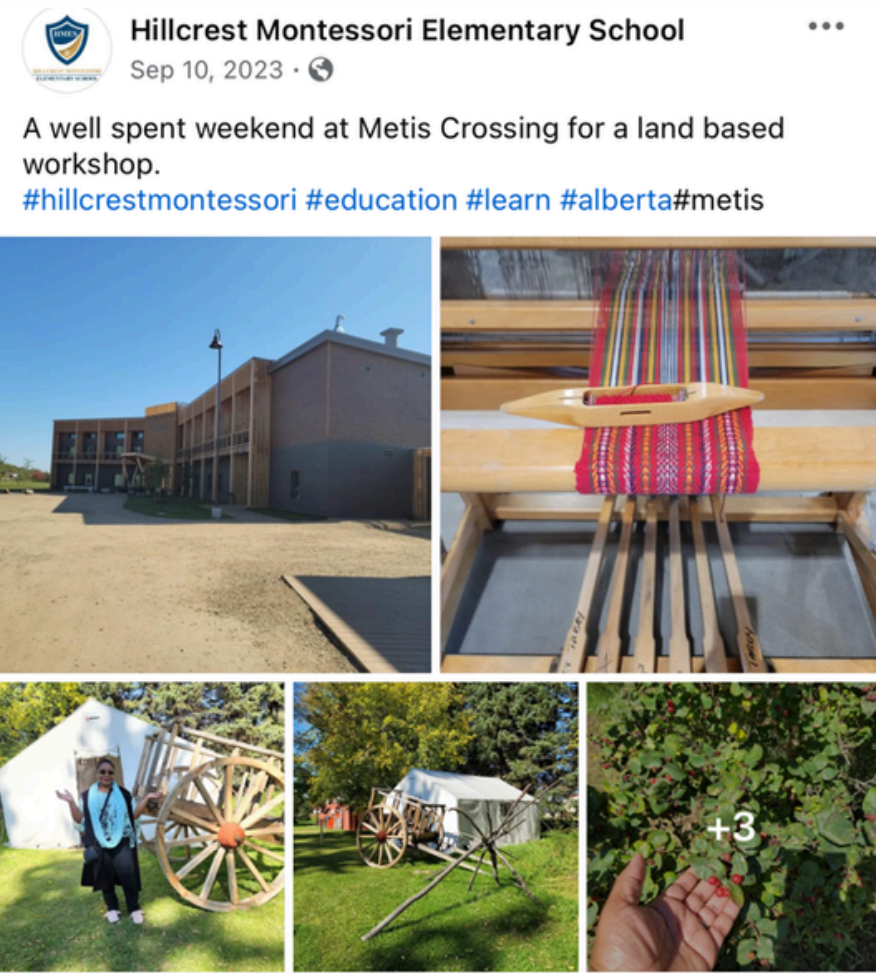
Long Term Goal Reporting for 2021 through to 2024:

- Established of a sensory room and Inclusion lending library for HMA students and the community was not achieved and plans are to carry this goal forward to the 2024 through to 2027 3yr annual planning .



FOSTERING ENGAGEMENT WITH THE INDIGENOUS COMMUNITY

Initiatives to support First Nations, Métis, and Inuit student success within Hillcrest Montessori Elementry



Hillcrest Montessori Elementary School was successful in working to improve educational outcomes for all students (including First Nations, Metis and Inuit Students) by ensuring that teachers and guides have the necessary and appropriate planning, instructional, tools and environment in place. 2023- 2024 school year marked the completion in Michief language and cultural training for all ECS staff. HMES is proud to report that the ECS classrooms are equipped with Metis language materials, literature cultural artifacts and will continually strive to carry it through each grade up in each year as the students broaden their language acquisition. First Nations and Inuit cultures continue to be included in the co learning to meet Alberta Education program of studies.

WHISTLEBLOWER PROTECTION REPORT

Initiatives To Support and Enable Open Communication Between Students, Staff and Parents

Through the Through the <https://open.alberta.ca/publications/p39p5> Hillcrest Montessori Elementary School assures that anyone who wishes to report or disclose any wrong doing done against students, staff or parents of the school or done by the school against the public interest or suspicion of wrong doing, co-operates in an investigation of wrong doing or declines to participate in suspected wrong doing will be protected from punishment. Any suspicion or acts of wrongdoing can be reported to

Gene Williams
Designated Officer, Alberta Public Service
6th Floor, Peace Hills Trust Tower
10011 109 Street
Edmonton, Alberta T5J 3S8

Phone: 780-644-2570
Email: whistleblower@gov.ab.ca





Hillcrest Montessori Elementary School

Jun 26, 2023 • 🌐

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💡 Did you know? In a Montessori classroom, children are often seen working on tasks they have chosen themselves. This self-directed learning encourages curiosity, critical thinking, and helps students develop a genuine interest in the subjects they're exploring. 🧐

<https://fmmsschools.ca/>

#MontessoriMethod #SelfDirectedLearning #ymm #fortmcmurray #alberta #canada #rmwb #woodbuffalo #education #learning #school #motivation #students #love #study #student #science #knowledge #teacher #children #kids #learn #business #teaching #inspiration #english #art #music #montessori





PROFESSIONAL LEARNING, SUPERVISION, AND EVAULATION

Initiatives To Support and Enable Teacher Growth and Professional Learning

To ensure proper professional growth and learning, Hillcrest Montessori Elementary School has continued acknowledge that it has a responsibility to ensure that its academic staff are equipped with the necessary skills and tools to deliver curriculum linked education to the students. In order to do this using, the Montessori philosophy the classroom environment has continued to be kept in top notch. To ensure that the environment is conducive for learning all Montessori materials are checked every month-end for completeness of sets, damaged or lost material as well as worn out materials. Anything found to be amiss has been annually replaced. 2023-2024 year reporting marks confirmation that all Teaching guides are all Montessori trained so they know and understand of maintaining a conducive environment and how to clean them and check for completeness. Though this is a teacher led activity the school principal has continually done random checks of the age-appropriate Montessori materials throughout the academic year. It should be recognized that the primary objective of supervision and evaluation at HMES is to improve instruction for students, enabling them to achieve their fullest potential.

The School Principal has fully developed a track plan that outlines the process teachers follow with respect to their professional growth. This developmental track plan enables the teachers to foster an interest in ongoing professional development . In the next upcoming 2024 through to 2027 annual reporting ,the teachers will be able to improve on their teaching practices and in creating learning environments that enable students to maximize their potential.

Rolling over into the next 3 years planning and reporting HMES will continue to :

- Use Professional Growth Portfolios to track their own professional development.
- Share The Annual Professional Growth Plans with the administrators in order to identify specific plans the teachers have for their professional growth and the success of the students.

Rolling over into the 2024 through to 2027 annual planning and reporting is:

- An assurance of proper supervision, ongoing professional monitoring of staff by the school principal.
- The Principal will provide ongoing support and guidance to both new and seasoned teachers.
- Once a year , a formal assessment of professional staff performance is and will continue to be conducted.
- The staff will first do their self evaluation and have an opportunity to sit with the school principal to discuss policies related to Teacher Growth, Supervision and Evaluation , as prescribed by the Alberta Education standards.
- The teaching quality standards is and will continue to reflect the education plans of the school, the school authority and the Government.
- The Principal is and will continue to maintain an annual record of those teachers on both the evaluative and professional growth track.

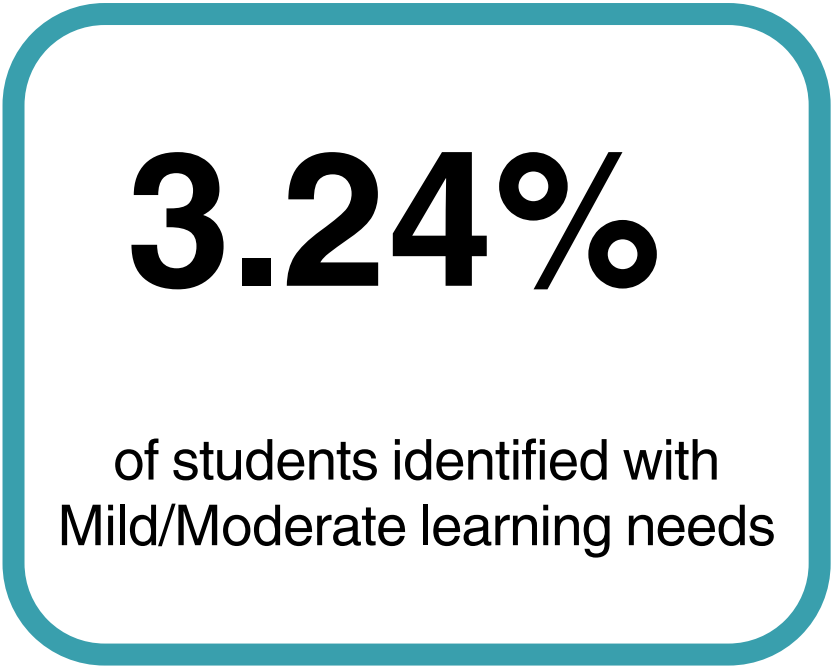
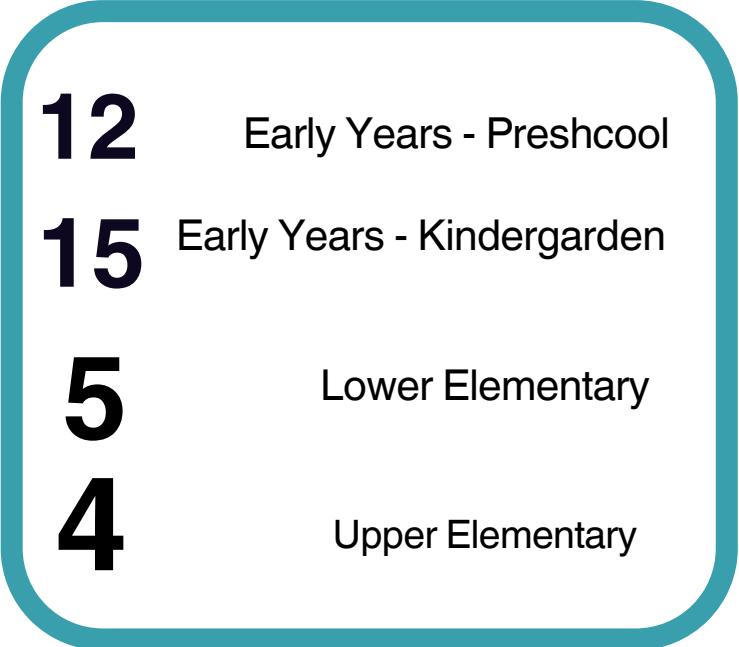
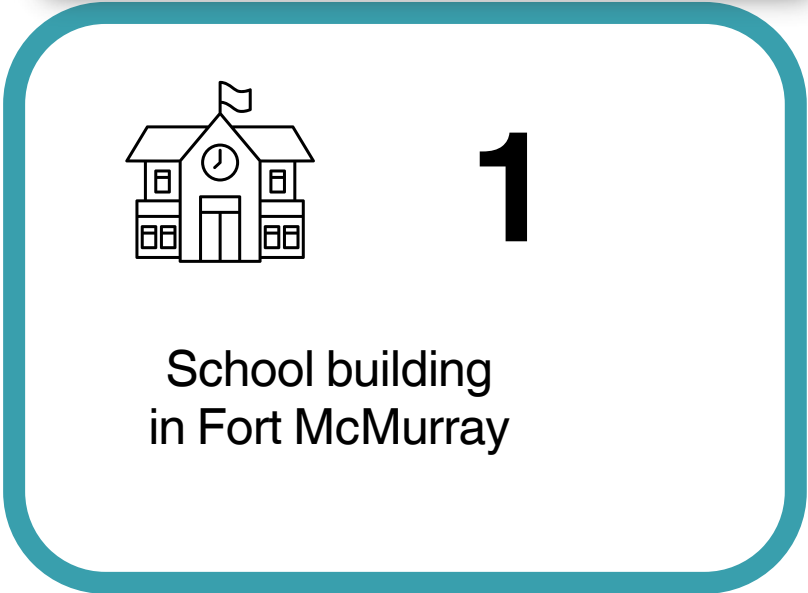
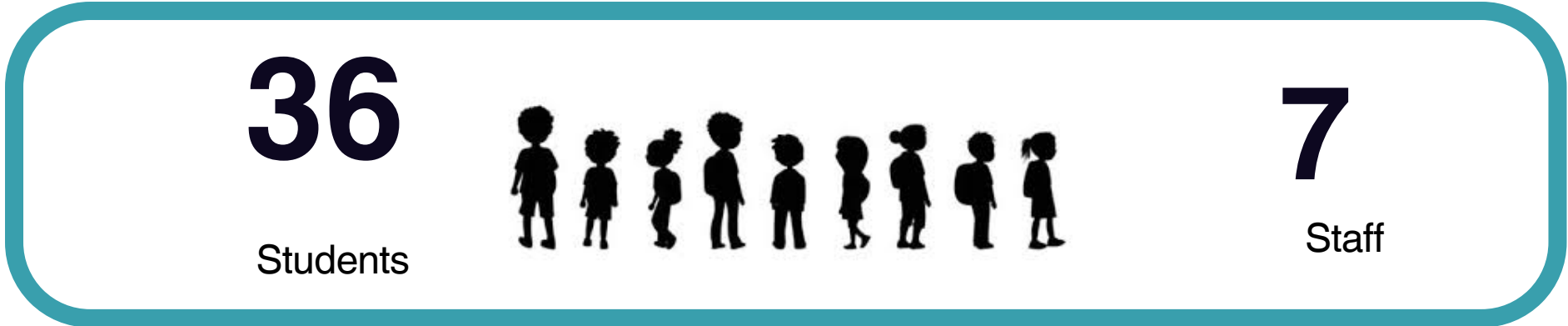
HMES is proud to report that 2023-2024 year marked the achievement, implementationof HMES main professional learning goal that was targeted to have each class to have First Nations, Inuit, Metis and other cultural relevant equipment and learning materials that will produce a conducive classroom environment. This has been quite successful in that all early education classrooms E.C.D.P to Kindergarten were equipped with relevant cultural materials members of staff to Metis Crossing for training on the Metis culture. This professional development course had an extensive curriculum that covered the history of the Metis people, their food, dressing, accommodation, spirituality and approach to life. This has been a success to Hillcrest Montessori Elementary School because the school now has staff members who are aware in the Metis culture and can teach it more authoritatively in our classrooms. To further aid this and rolling into the next 3 years plan and reporting the school is looking forward to creating a Metis themed environment in the school premises. The impact of this is the increased awareness and appreciation of the culture of the Metis people of Northern Alberta by both the students and staff at Hillcrest Montessori Elementary School.



ALBERTA EDUCATION ASSUARANCE MEASURE RESULTS

In the 2023-2024 school year, HMES only had 2 students in Upper Elementary (grade4-6) students enrolled. We therefore we did a local survey to check performance results were gathered through anecdotal parent feedback at parent-teacher conferences, school council meetings, suggestions boxes. Parents and staff communicated to the administration concerns and or achievements – Local measures.

In evaluating the school’s programs and performance, each member of the faculty was as objective and positive as possible, encouraging individual initiative, self-evaluation, and continuous professional growth. Faculty offered feedback that will shape HMES’s Education Plan outcomes and guide future strategies/goals in the next 3 years.





PRIORITY#1

OUTCOME: #1: Create a school community wherein each student, staff, and families feel valued, respected, and accepted as a member of the community and school. They will feel a sense of belonging while contributing to an environment where individual needs are respected and accommodated throughout all interactions within our community. The school 's role is to put in place an enabling and welcoming, caring, respectful and safe working and conducive learning environment.

OUTCOME #2: Provision of supports to enhance mental and physical health and wellness for both students and staff.

DOMAIN: Learning Support.

Teaching & Leading



Hillcrest Montessori Elementary School

Dec 15, 2023 · 🌐



Well that was one successful Winter concert! The Montessori approach to music engages the whole child. It involves the ear, the eye, the voice, the hand, th... See more



9

2 comments



Like



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PRIORITY #1 OUTCOME #1 Year 3 Results

Safe & Welcoming Environment


POSITIVE GROWTH

End of year performance
Parent paint night
Parent Math night
Parent council initiation
The year was coupled with creativity in lesson planning around observations of diverse cultural celebrations with students and or families. We held a multicultural symposium were families, students and community members came to the school and shared rich cultural, foods, dressing, language and artifacts.

SURVEY RESULT COMMENTS

AREAS OF DEVELOPMENT

more school council parent involvement
bringing the hallways culturally alive
revising the antibullying policy & disciplinary mesuares for the Elementary years.



Hillcrest Montessori Elementary School

Feb 23 · 🌐

...

What a fantastic Multicultural Day! Students learned about the cultures and traditions of several countries. They sang local songs and got a chance to see what it was like to live in a different parts of the world. Thank you [Multicultural Association of Wood Buffalo](#) for celebrating with us. 🌍💖

[#MulticulturalDay](#)
[#CulturalCelebration](#)
[#GlobalLearning](#)
[#DiversityMatters](#)
[#CulturalExchange](#)
[#InternationalExperience](#)
[#EmbracingDifferences](#)
[#CommunityUnity](#)





PRIORITY #1 OUTCOME #2 Year 3 Results
Mental & physical heath & wellness

POSITIVE GROWTH

It is a pleasure report that we sailed through the year fully implementing Our Phys-Ed and Wellness classes.

SURVEY RESULT COMMENTS

GAREAS OF DEVELOPMENT

We are planned and delivered by the classroom teachers. In the 2024-2027 three-year annual plan, the school is planning to hire a part-time Phys-Ed and Wellness teacher.

Local Parent Survey Question #8

How do you feel about expanding the Physical Education and Wellness program at Hillcrest Montessori Elementary School, and incorporating the development of a second language in the curriculum?

Very supportive, both programs should be expanded.	81%
Supportive of expanding Physical Education and Wellness but not the second language program.	14%
Supportive of expanding the second language program but not Physical Education and Wellness.	0%
Nuetral, I'm not sure how either program should be expanded.	5%
Opposed to expanding either program.	0%



Hillcrest Montessori Elementary School

Jan 31, 2023 •

Hillcrest Montessori Academy
Gym Class... See more



Gym Class

Students, remember to
wear your sport uniform!



PRIORITY #1 OUTCOME #2 Year 3 Results

POSITIVE GROWTH

Spanish club for the Elementary class
Michief language in the Early years classes

SURVEY RESULT COMMENTS

AREAS OF DEVELOPMENT

Introducing French immersion class in the early years programs and growing the program from bottom up.



PRIORITY# 2

OUTCOME: #1: Hillcrest Montessori Academy will continue to improve student engagement and learning opportunities in Culinary Arts, Judo, Dance, Skiing, Music and Art.

OUTCOME: #2: Classroom Assessment and creating priorities for numeracy and literacy in students.

DOMAIN: Student Growth and Achievement

Teaching and Leading



Hillcrest Montessori Elementary School

...

Aug 11, 2023 · 🌐



Join our magical musical journey with the unique piano program! 🎵... See more



PIANO LESSONS

Shizu Murayama

With 5 years of teaching experience and over 12 years of education in piano under the tutelage of Ms. Yashima in Japan, I am a dedicated piano teacher passionate about nurturing musical talent.

Education and Training:
I honed my piano skills for over 12 years in Japan, receiving comprehensive training from the esteemed Ms. Yashima. This rigorous education instilled in me a deep understanding of the piano and its technical intricacies. To further expand my knowledge and pedagogical expertise, I am currently enrolled in the "Tales of a Musical Journey" pedagogy course, learning with/ from teachers around the world. This course enables me to provide students with a solid foundation in technique and musicianship.

Teaching Philosophy:
As a piano teacher, my primary goal is to be a positive influence in students' lives. I believe in fostering a genuine interest in each student, taking the time to understand their individual needs, strengths, and goals. By building a strong rapport and creating a supportive environment, we strive to boost their self-confidence and inspire them to reach their full potential.

Embark on a magical musical journey with Tales of a Musical Journey! This unique teaching method uses fairy tale settings and lovable characters to introduce and expand musical concepts.

Engaging stories and analogies make learning music and piano playing fun and easy. Ear training exercises and theory activities develop young musical ears.

With a focus on mastering technical skills, students cultivate freedom and flexibility in their upper body.

Perfect for children aged 5 and above, lessons are period at \$50/half an hour. Advancing students may transition to 45-minute lessons after three months of observation. Enrollments require a one-year commitment. Books and other materials need to be purchased by parents.

Exciting performance opportunities await, including:

There are the profound advantages that piano lessons provide for your child's development, encompassing cognitive, emotional, social, and academic benefits.

Cognitive Development:
Piano lessons have been shown to enhance cognitive abilities in children. The complex task of reading sheet music, deciphering notes, and coordinating hand movements stimulates their development, improving memory, concentration, and problem-solving skills. Studies have demonstrated that children who learn piano develop stronger logical reasoning skills, enhanced mathematical abilities, and improved language skills.

Emotional Well-being:
Piano lessons offer a healthy outlet for self-expression and emotional growth. As children learn to breathe and convey delicate emotions through music, they develop a heightened sense of self-awareness and emotional intelligence. Music lessons provide a creative space where children can channel their feelings, building self-esteem, resilience, and a sense of accomplishment.

Social Skills:
Participating in piano lessons cultivates valuable social skills in children. Collaborative activities, such as ensemble playing, foster teamwork and communication. Regular piano recitals and performances provide opportunities for children to showcase their talents, build confidence, and interact with their teachers and peers.

Personal Growth and Discipline:
Piano lessons instill valuable life skills such as discipline, patience, and perseverance. Regular practice and dedication are essential for progress. Teachers provide clear instructions and constructive feedback, guiding young learners through challenges and celebrating their achievements. This process teaches children the value of hard work and a strong work ethic, skills that extend far beyond their piano lessons.

The decision to enroll your child in piano lessons can have far-reaching and transformative effects. Beyond the joy of creating music, piano lessons offer cognitive stimulation, emotional well-being, social development, academic excellence, and personal growth.

By embracing the challenges and rewards of learning the piano, your child will embark on a remarkable journey that nurtures their overall development and equips them with invaluable skills for a lifetime.



6

2 comments



Like



Comment



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STUDENT LEARNING, SUPERVISION, AND EVALUATION

Results of Initiatives To Support Early Intervention, Enable Succses, and Track Progress of at-Risk Students

Grade Level of at risks students at the time of initial assessment(s)	Alberta Education Provided Assessments used.	Number of students assessed in Fall 2023	Number of students identified as being at risk in Fall
1	Student Learning Assessments (SLA)	1	Literacy: 0 Numeracy: 0
2	LeNs CC3 Provincial Numeracy Screening Assessments for grades 1-3	2	Literacy: 0 Numeracy:0
3	LeNS CC3 Provincial Literacy Screening Assessments for Grades 1-3	5	Literacy: 4 Numeracy: 4



STUDENT LEARNING, SUPERVISION, AND EVALUATION

Results of Initiatives To Support Early Intervention, Enable Succses, and Track Progress of at-Risk Students Continued...

Number of students identified as being at risk in Spring 2023	Average number of months behind grade level after 2 nd review	Average number of months gained at grade level after administration of the final assessments for at risk children
0	Literacy: 0 months	Numeracy: 0 months behind
0	Numeracy: 0 months	Literacy 0 months behind
0	Literacy: 0 months	Numeracy: 0 months behind
0	Numeracy: 0 months	Literacy: 0 months behind
2	Literacy: 12 months behind	Numeracy: 6 months behind
2	Numeracy: 12 months behind	Literacy 6 months behind



PRIORITY #2 OUTCOME #1 Year 3 Results

POSITIVE GROWTH

spanish club for the Elementary class
Michief language in the Early years classes

SURVEY RESULT COMMENTS

AREAS OF DEVELOPMENT

Introducing French immersion class in the early years programs and growing the program from bottom up.

Local Parent Survey Question #3

To what extent do you feel the Hillcrest Montessori Elementary School community fosters an environment where all students, staff, and families are valued, respected, and accepted?

A GREAT DEAL	52%
A LOT	24%
A MODERATE AMOUNT	24%
A LITTLE	0%
NONE AT ALL	0%
NA	0%



Hillcrest Montessori Elementary School

Jun 13 · 🌐

Hillcrest Montessori School is a close-knit community of students, educators, parents, guardians and friends of the school. Each year we appreciate our parents join... [See more](#)



Hillcrest Montessori Elementary School + 9

1 share



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EVIDENCE

PRIORITY #2 Year 2 Results

OUTCOME: #1: ENRICHMENT SUBJECTS

- The most loved activities were judo, skiing, and culinary. One of the students proceeded to provincial championships and brought a gold medal home
- Through meetings and parent teacher conference, the general feedback was positive. Parents reported an improvement in behaviours and moods and assertiveness in students.
- The Parent Advisory Council together and school managed Suggestions from parents and staff have been brought forward to introduce conservation and land-based learning.ECS teachers have been enrolled in the ELECT program for the upcoming year through Metis crossing.

< Hillcrest Montessori Elementary... Q

Cooking helps young kids develop self-confidence, math, and language skills. It also gives them an early start in nutrition and healthy eating habits.

Preschool to Grade 6
*Thursdays during school hours

Register now!

January to March: Hot Meals
April to June: Food Art

Interested in enrolling your child at Hillcrest?
Call: +1 (587) 258-1777
Email: hillcrest@fmacad.com



Culinary Class

Forks, spoons—and
of course, food!





EVIDENCE

PRIORITY #2 Year 2 Results

OUTCOME: #1: ENRICHMENT SUBJECTS

- The school was successful in hiring Ms. Sizhu for Piano classes. Choral Music and preliminary lessons to theater, speech and debate is still under the classroom teacher instruction.
- 2022-2023 marked the introduction of Judo to replace Taekwondo. Our students excelled very well mainly our school Head girl who expanded to Alberta competitions and brought home gold medals
- Class teacher is continuing to work on the C.H.E.E.R program to promote Health and Wellness. Currently families are donating fresh fruits granola bars and cereals for additional nutritional snacks. The schools long term goal is to connect and be successfully enrolled in a breakfast program



Hillcrest Montessori Elementary School

Mar 21 • 🌐

Taekwondo is the largest and fastest growing martial art in the world. It emphasizes self-confidence, self-advocacy, self-control and self-discipline. 🏆
At [Hillcrest Montessori Elementary School](#) School we promote and focus on physical, mental and spiritual balance. For more information contact us: <https://hmaschools.com>

[#TaekwondoMastery](#) [#HillcrestMontessori](#)
[#MartialArtsGrowth](#) [#SelfEmpowerment](#) [#MindBodyBalance](#)
[#MontessoriTaekwondo](#)



Taekwondo Lesson





EVIDENCE

PRIORITY #2 Year 2 Results

OUTCOME: #1: ENRICHMENT SUBJECTS

- Lower Elementary students were successful in creating a Health and Wellness Club proudly lead by students. – Yoga led by our School Head girl. The classes involve both theory and practical.
- We are also proud to report that our student team successfully implemented a chess club. Students have the flexibility to play chess as a brain breaker right in the class. Honours goes to our school head boy for donating the chess boards as well as actively leading and coaching chess for the club. Both the head boy and his mother have been actively involved in launching the Chess club.





EVIDENCE

PRIORITY #2 Year 2 Results

OUTCOME: #2: NUMERACY & LITERACY

- From student report cards and assessments, the literacy levels increased by 30% especially in reading. Students are still needing support in writing and numeracy in the upcoming year.
- Library visits were increased and the town local librarians also had a chance to visit the students in school.
- Founders of the school donated a box full of Metis legendary stories and readers to add to the library collection for both literacy and culture studies.
- We are creating more visible Social Emotional Learning strategies and supports for all students





EVIDENCE

PRIORITY #2 Year 2 Results

HMA prepares students for life

Students provided feedback about school activities and extra-curricular events is ongoing in-class discussions. The Administration maintains an open-door policy where all students are welcome to connect, offer feedback and ask questions.



PRIORITY#3

OUTCOME: #1: Hillcrest Montessori Academy promotes student growth, learning and student success through enrolment of more students in grades 4-6

DOMAIN: Learning Support
Teaching and Leading

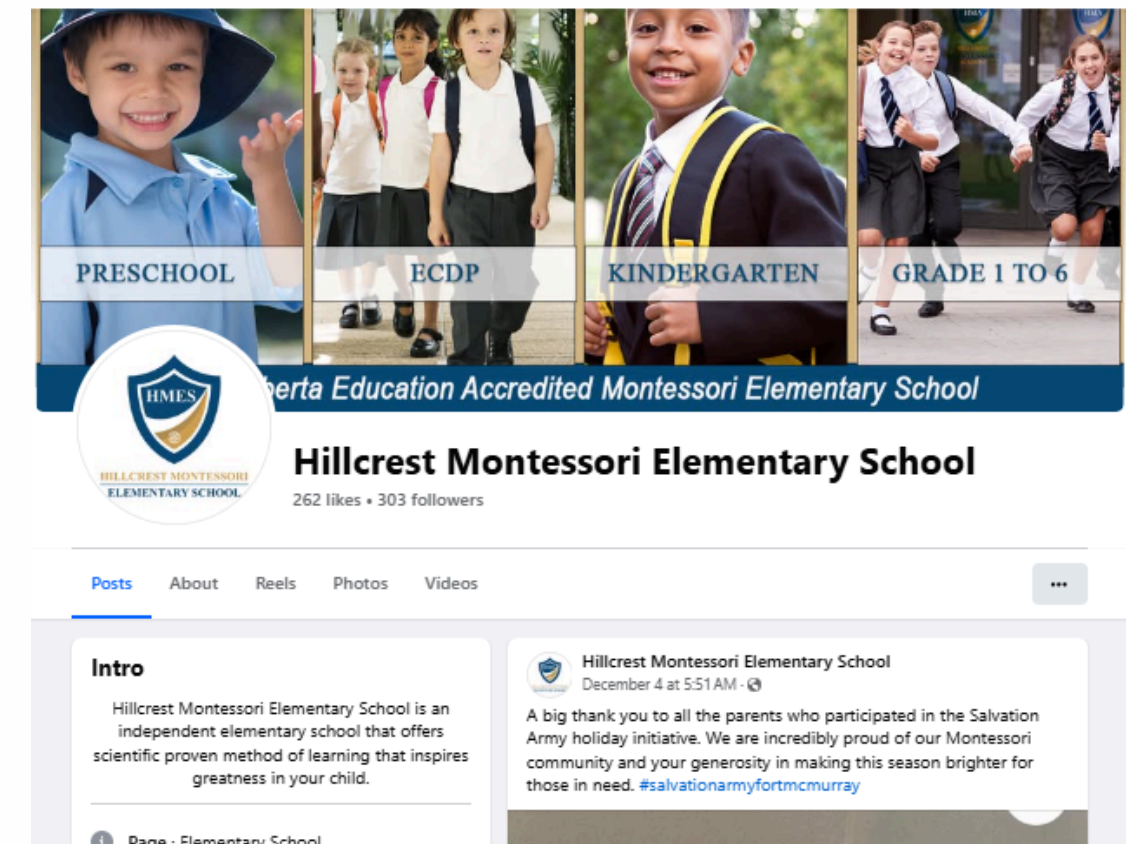




EVIDENCE

PRIORITY #3 Year 2 Results

- The school embarked on enrollment marketing campaign for 2023-2024 year both internally, by providing our current families with information of our school growth plans to enhance their confidence in sharing their success stories with friends and families. The marketing department has also kept and is keeping our school Facebook page active by showcasing events and activities happening in the school.
- The school Principal has and is dedicating time to discuss and share Montessori methodology and school success stories with current school family Ambassadors. These family ambassadors are continuously joining our school team to extoll the virtues of Montessori Philosophy and teaching and sharing this information into our community.
- The school successfully managed to now acquire its own space in the building and no longer co sharing rental space with the Out of School care programs and childcare programs who now have their own separate wing. This has managed to o make the Elementary school stand out as An Elementary school especially in the ECS programs that can mistakenly be assumed to be childcare.





EVIDENCE

PRIORITY #3 Year 2 Results

- Our childcare partners whom we share the work hard in building these partnerships so as to have a strong base of enrollment growth from the base up in the 2024 to 2026 vision for our school growth. The long-term goal is HMES Alumni actively supporting enrolment plans by holding Montessori 101 information nights on monthly basis. A Montessori student can never be replaced. Our secondary goal in the process of admissions and recruitment is to find families for whom the school will be a perfect match. We are seeking families who share common values and goals with the school, and who, after careful consideration and exploration, have concluded that our school is something that they want very much for their children, for the right reasons. Hopefully the children whom we admit in the early years will graduate from our school. Ideally it will be so much a part of each family's life that eventually the children of our graduates will attend our school as well. We want to be a family tradition

< Hillcrest Montessori Elementary... Q

Jun 24 · 🌐

From baby steps to enormous leaps, our grads are truly remarkable!... See more





EVIDENCE

PRIORITY #3 Year 2 Results

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Hillcrest Montessori Elementary School

Jun 13 • 🌐



Hillcrest Montessori School is a close-knit community of students, educators, parents, guardians and friends of the school. Each year we appreciate our parents join... [See more](#)





PRIORITY# 4

OUTCOME: #1: Hillcrest Montessori Academy promote parent and community engagement in our school in order to create a long lasting and effective partnership.

DOMAIN: Governance

Local and Societal support





EVIDENCE

PRIORITY #4 Year 2 Results

In order to enhance literacy levels to curb the effects of school disruption during COVID. The school Has set very strong partnerships with the local library, Students visit the library monthly and have all signed up for the traditional library cards with the city library. The librarians visited the school and did a workshop with the students to share resources for research, selecting and reserving books for unit studies and using the library for research and reading for leisure.

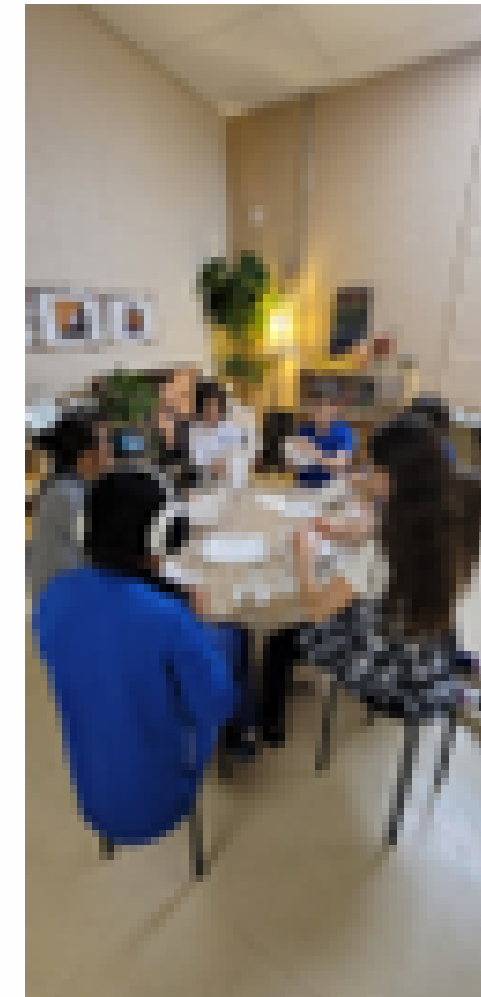




EVIDENCE

PRIORITY #4 Year 2 Results

This year our students participated in decision making of their choice in fundraisers from bake sales to garage sales.





EVIDENCE

PRIORITY #4 Year 2 Results

The **Parent Advisory Committee** continued to commit to reviewing and critiquing strategic planning about future directions of HMA. PAC continued to offer suggestions on the areas on growth and supports the school needed. They planned and launched the annual fall barbecue.

Long Term Goal: Establish a strong vibrant parent council since participation since COVID has dwindled.

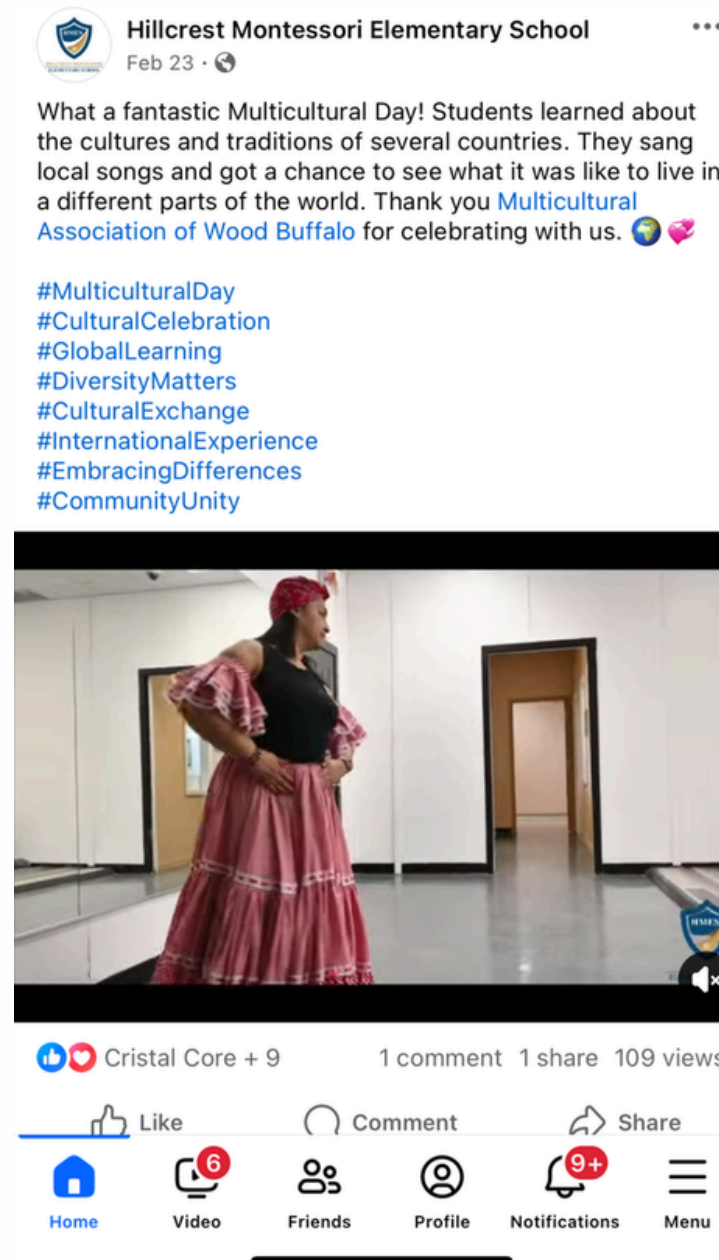




EVIDENCE

PRIORITY #4 Year 2 Results

We established value and celebrated a diverse multi-cultural and international community of students, faculty and staff. We acknowledged the unique contributions of all individuals, who enrich and inspire personal growth as well as growth of the school. The staff sought to show and teach the students that the freedom and education they receive at the school comes with the responsibility to help others both in the community, and those less fortunate but no less deserving. Our responsibility this year was to show them that the responsibility to change our world for the better lies with all of us, and that service needs to be an accepted part of everyone's life if we are to achieve this goal. The staff, students and families worked together to coordinate the angle tree gifts.





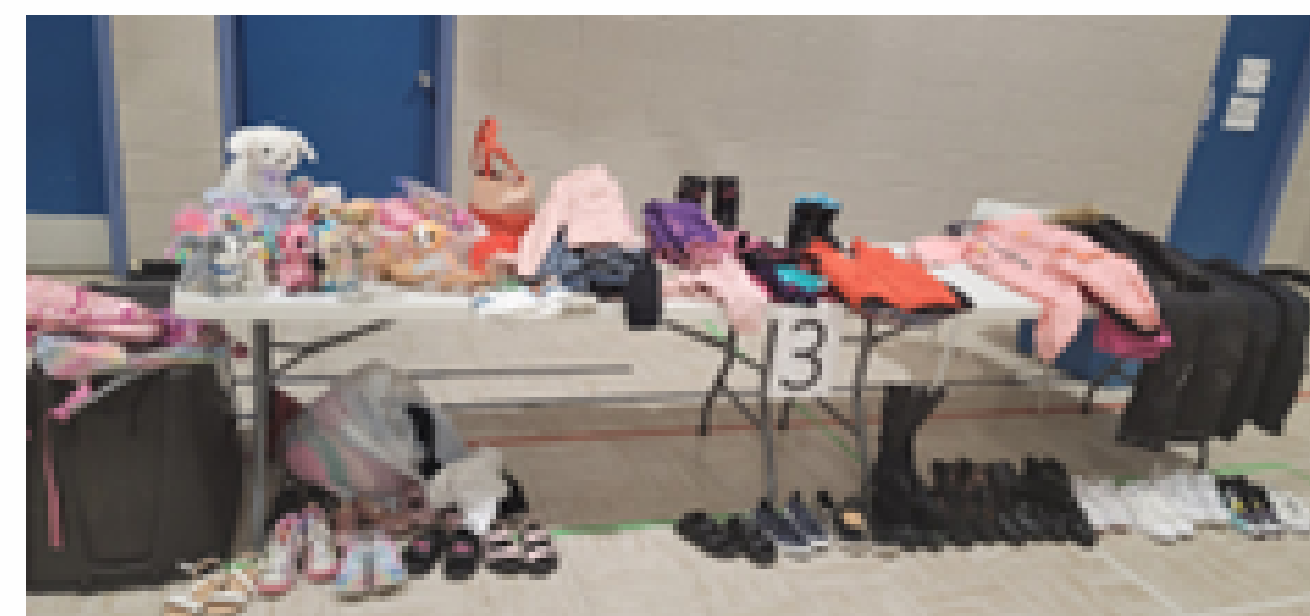
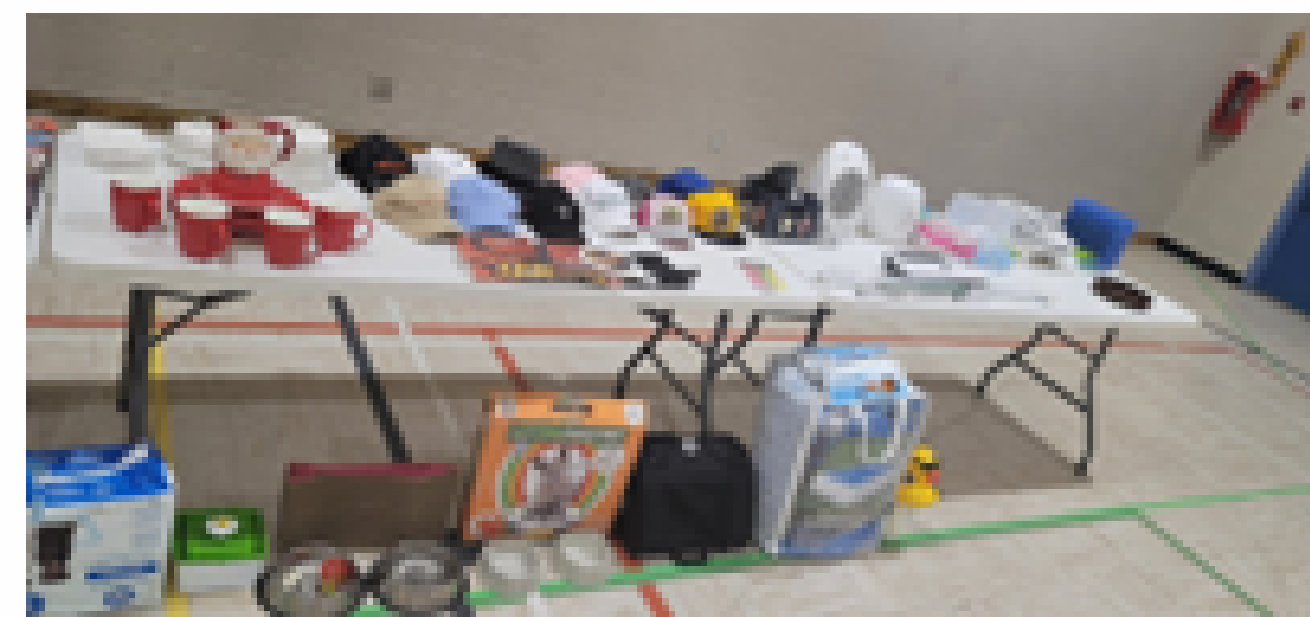
EVIDENCE

PRIORITY #4 Year 2 Results

What will students Achieve?

Gaining opportunities to perform community service in the community at large include, the adoption of a senior at the Golden Years Old Age Society by the classes at holiday time.

The school has enjoyed a positive relationship with the Golden Years Old Age Society and intends to embrace the partnership into the foreseeable future. We follow the Eden Philosophy that informs us that “creating a human habitat where life revolves around close and continuing contact with plants, animals, and children” is healthy. It is these relationships that enable both the students and the old with provide to a well lived life.





EVIDENCE

PRIORITY #4 Year 2 Results

Long Term goal: For students to be open-minded and compassionate, to gain a sense of themselves and others, and to understand and appreciate the diversity of the human spirit





GOVERNANCE

Local Component: Budget Summary 2022-2023		
Revenue Summary	Amount	Contextual Information
Alberta Education	283,144	35 Students (ECS-Elementary)
Tuition	107,500	
Non-Instructional Fees	-	
Other	29,400	
Total Revenue	420,044	
Expense Summary	Amount	Contextual Information
Salaries and Benefits	183,332	
Services, Contracts and Supplies	96,229	
Amortization	-	
Other	28,528	
Total Expense	308,089	
Total Revenue Less Expense	111,955	



GOVERNANCE

Local Component: Summary of Financial Results 2022-2023		
Revenue Summary	Amount	Contextual Information
Alberta Education	139,192	35 Students (ECS-Elementary)
Tuition	76,837	
Non-Instructional Fees	-	
Other	-	
Total Revenue	216,029	
Expense Summary	Amount	Contextual Information
Salaries and Benefits	233,903	
Services, Contracts and Supplies	117,478	
Amortization	-	
Other	30,987	
Total Expense	382,368	
Total Revenue Less Expense	- 166,339	

Local Parent Survey Question #1

How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the quality of education your child is receiving at Hillcrest Montessori Elementary School?

VERY SATISFIED	52%
SATISFIED	38%
NEITHER SATISFIED NOR DISSATISFIED	5%
DISSATISFIED	5%
VERY DISSASTISFIED	0%
NA	0%

Local Parent Survey Question #2

How satisfied or dissatisfied are you with the quality of teaching at Hillcrest Montessori Elementary School?

VERY SATISFIED	33%
SATISFIED	57%
NEITHER SATISFIED NOR DISSATISFIED	10%
DISSATISFIED	0%
VERY DISSASTISFIED	0%
NA	0%

Local Parent Survey Question #4

How confident are you that Hillcrest Montessori Elementary School will continue to improve student growth in literacy and numeracy skills over the next year?

EXTREMELY CONFIDENT	43%
VERY CONFIDENT	38%
SOMEWHAT CONFIDENT	14%
NOT SO CONFIDENT	5%
NOT AT ALL CONFIDENT	0%
NA	0%

Local Parent Survey Question #5

Which factors would most influence your decision to enroll your child at Hillcrest Montessori Elementary School?
(Please select all that apply)

High-quality teaching staff	75%
Personalized learning approach	95%
Safe and nurturing environment	90%
Strong academic programs	55%
Extracurricular activities offered	65%
Positive reputation and reviews	40%
Location and accessibility	45%
Tuition fees and financial aid options	50%
Other (please specify)	0%

Local Parent Survey Question #5

PARENT COMMENTS

Which factors would most influence your decision to enroll your child at Hillcrest Montessori Elementary School? (Please select all that apply)

- Location and accessibility
- Tuition fees
- Additional supports for special needs.
- Additional supports for special needs.
- Respect for parents
- Student supports, if needed.

Local Parent Survey Question #6

How effectively do you feel Hillcrest Montessori Elementary School supports the professional development of staff in enhancing their knowledge and application of the Montessori philosophy?

EXTREMELY EFFECTIVE	14%
VERY EFFECTIVE	43%
SOMEWHAT EFFECTIVE	19%
NOT SO EFFECTIVE	0%
NOT AT ALL EFFECTIVE	0%
NA	24%

Local Parent Survey Question #7

How do you believe Hillcrest Montessori Elementary School can best promote parent and community involvement to create a thriving educational environment that benefits students, families, and the school community?
(Please select all that apply.)

Offering more volunteer opportunities for parents and community members in classroom activities and events.	35%
Organizing regular community engagement events, such as school fairs, informational meetings, and workshops.	50%
Improving communication channels between the school and families through newsletters, emails, and social media updates.	50%
Encouraging parent participation in decision-making and school governance.	35%
Creating mentorship or tutoring programs that involve parents and community members supporting students' academic growth.	40%
Providing resources and support for parents to engage in their children's learning at home.	60%
Developing partnerships with local businesses and organizations to enhance educational experiences and opportunities.	45%
NA	10%

Local Parent Survey Question #7

PARENT COMMENTS

How do you believe Hillcrest Montessori Elementary School can best promote parent and community involvement to create a thriving educational environment that benefits students, families, and the school community?

(Please select all that apply.)

- I think school is sufficiently active in community through current events and involvement
- Using a platform like signup genius to give all parents an equal opportunity to sign up for things like field trips and events.

Local Parent Survey Question #9

In your opinion, has the quality of education your child receives at Hillcrest Montessori Elementary School improved, stayed the same, or declined this year?

IMPROVED	43%
STAYED THE SAME	38%
DECLINED	5%
I DO NOT KNOW	5%
NA	9%