



**School:** Edith McDermott Elementary

**Principal:** Alan Millar

**Assistant Superintendent:** Jovo Bikic

## A. Goal

Goal: To lower the percentage of students, school-wide, not yet meeting expectations in reading to less than 10% with particular emphasis on grades 4 & 5 and 6 & 7.

## B. Rationale

The number of students not yet meeting expectations in reading in 2018-2019 was 15% and has hovered around this percentage for the last number of years. As research has shown, struggle with literacy in adulthood has a dramatic and negative impact on the life chances of an individual. It is the moral and ethical imperative of public education to create literate citizens. At Edith McDermott, we take that imperative very seriously.

## C. Action Plan (List specific actions, school level and district level resources or structures used)

- Create awareness and a sense of urgency through the following means: by developing protected literacy time in the schedule; protected collaboration time utilizing lunch-hour supervisors; using helping teachers to problem-solve and provide resources; and keep literacy front and centre throughout the school (special themes, activities all literacy based).
- Focus collaboration time, and aligned preps, on instruction, intervention and awareness of students.
- Have an engaged literacy committee developing school-wide themes and activities based on literacy to keep it the focus (omnipresent) throughout the school.
- Convene extraordinary meetings identifying and planning for each individual vulnerable students.
- Develop and nurture the ethos of shared responsibility of all students regardless of division. Break down the barriers of individual classrooms, thinking outside the box using co-teaching/bring the experts on staff to the students (one teacher covers class while that teacher moves to a different space to work with students, not necessarily their own)
- Hold calibration activities during staff meetings and provide additional collaboration time for this purpose
- Use Spire (universal) Literacy program, performance standards
- Fixed agenda item on every staff meeting agenda
- Hold extraordinary staff meetings as necessary to reinforce urgency and moral imperative
- Developing peer mentoring project of vulnerable students focused on reciprocal instruction (reinforce "basics")

## D. Evidence / Data (How will you measure success?)

- Monitoring the centralized data on the portal
- Feedback from students and families regarding attitudes towards literacy
- Use of the Performance Standards (Early Primary Reading Assessment and Intermediate Reading Assessment) especially year-end

**Principal:**

**Superintendent:**

**Board Chairperson:**

**Date:**