



## ***Southwood School Planning Report for 2014 - 2015***

***We CARE about ourselves, We CARE about others,  
We CARE about this place***



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### ***2014- 2015 Priorities***

**Priority #1** By May 30, 2015, 95% of students will have demonstrated an improvement in their quality of writing over the course of the current school year.

**Strategies:** All Southwood School teachers will receive school-based training by the divisional Literacy CST, regularly scheduled writing samples conducted with students, staff professional book study using *Writing Essentials* by Regie Routman, *Handwriting Without Tears* program provided to targeted students and kindergarten classes, adaptations made for students who struggle with the writing process, mRLC *End of Year Writing Expectations* resource used by staff, writing protocol developed by Literacy Committee, and grade level PLC's organized to support classroom teachers.

**Priority #2** By May 30, 2015, Southwood teachers will have improved their ability to engage students by researching and implementing strategies for engaging students thus reducing the number of incidences of negative student behaviour. **Strategies:** continued staff training in Restitution, gathering data for MakerSpace, professional book study for staff with books *Leaving To Learn* by Elliot Washor and *Teaching To Diversity* with Dr. Jennifer Katz, introduction of two Accentuated Learning Environments, assembly activities, hiring of guidance counsellor, outdoor learning environment, and development of nature playground.

**Priority #3** By May 30, 2015, 95% of students will show increased competency in their grade level mental math abilities.

**Strategies:** grade level PLC's for teachers, school expectations for mental math developed with HSD Math CST, grade level school based math workshop, review of *Glance Across the Grades* document (MAPLE), school wide review of numeracy curriculum, and professional book study opportunity: *Small Steps, Big Changes* by Chris Confer and Marco Ramirez.

### ***About Us***

- Southwood School originated in 1947 and is home to 441 students, grades K to 4.
- We have 28 teachers, 10 Educational Assistants, 2 Secretaries, 1 Library Clerk, and a custodial staff of 3.
- Our school support team include the following members: Guidance counsellor, resource teacher, reading recovery teacher, and language support teacher.
- We strive to teach our students about the basic needs of behavior through an approach called Real Restitution. This belief is supported through programs like Second Step and Roots of Empathy.
- We believe each child, deserves to be healthy, safe, engaged, supported, and challenged. That is what a whole child approach to learning, teaching, and community engagement means at Southwood.
- Students in Southwood School demonstrate they care for others in our community in a variety of ways, by supporting local charities and fundraising organizations through our actions.
- Southwood School is striving to educate our students and parents in the area of digital citizenship. We are also exploring the effective use of social media (ie twitter) to effectively improve communication to our broader community and as an opportunity to model responsible use of technology for our students.