

## ANNUAL TRUSTEE ZONE REPORT

Trustee Tania Brzovic School Year: 2022/2023

School Names/Zone: NDSS Zone (shared with Trustee Leanne Lee)

Schools:

Ecole Pauline Haarer
Ecole Quarterway
Fairview Community School
Mountain View Elementary school

# **Annual Highlights:**

**Ecole Pauline Haarer:** I was only able to visit the school twice. I met with staff to introduce myself in the spring & had a great conversation with them about their school goals & some of the unique challenges that French Immersion schools face.

I met with Principal Bohm in September. The school has an active PAC who cares deeply about the wellbeing of staff and students. There are some concerns about the upcoming construction near the school at the site of the former Caledonia Medical Clinic; senior staff are aware and have communicated these concerns to the City in hopes that the main ones can be addressed. There is a follow up meeting with the developer on December 14<sup>th</sup> which Mark Walsh & Pete Sabo will be attending.

As we toured the school, Principal Bohm & I had a great conversation about literacy and supporting students to be able to read in both languages. We talked about the need for a levelled reading assessment designed specifically for immersion learning that would be available throughout the district. While some sections of the current ALPIN are valuable, other sections are not. EPH staff have begun to work on creating on an assessment tool which spans primary and intermediate.

EPH hosted a very successful French Immersion book fair open to families and staff of all the immersion schools, elementary and secondary, in our district, during the first week of November. This event helped the school move forward with one of their literacy objectives - creating/gathering levelled reading resources for Immersion intermediate students. For the past few years, the school has focussed on primary resources, but as the students move onwards into the intermediate grades, staff has seen that there are very few resources that meet their needs. EPH is trying to build a robust collection which will meet the needs of our students in their intermediate years.

### **Ecole Quarterway**

I attended the year end breakfast with staff in June & again took the time to just talk and get to know staff. I then visited at Halloween and had an opportunity to see the incredible school spirit and positive culture within the school. I briefly visited a grade 5 class, and as I was dressed up as

my favourite soccer player, it was a great chance to see what the kids knew about wheelchair sports. I was impressed by their knowledge. I also met the school's child & youth care worker that day & would like me to return for a Living Library event that she's planning for the spring. Other things of note about Quarterway in the past year is that they held an amazing, successful outdoor spring concert. The school also came in first in the District in Cross Country.

#### **Fairview Community School**

I attended the September PAC meeting and learned that there are some excellent initiatives led by the principal to give grade 7 students leadership opportunities. The kids fill out a survey and meet with the principal to talk about their skills so that they can take on leadership tasks that meet their goals & that they are best suited to. I was very impressed by this approach. The PAC is looking for more volunteers for activities such as reading with students and assisting in the school garden. The school also held a very moving assembly to honour Orange Shirt Day. The school's windows were decorated with cut out paper orange shirts with

#### **Mountain View Elementary school**

I made it out to Mountain View three times in the Spring. I had an amazing visit with their student leadership group. They are very committed to environmental stewardship. I greatly enjoyed just sitting and talking with them and hearing their ideas. They talked about everything from solar panels to expanding their school gardens. I also saw strong student leadership in the way the grade 7 students were given the opportunity to run the stations at their fun day afternoon. They took their responsibilities very seriously and had great support from the staff. In touring the school and in talking to the kids, I could also see that they are truly taking to heart Truth & Reconciliation.

Principal Bergmann retired at the end of June 2023, and the year end assembly was beautiful. I could feel the love the staff and students had for her.

I have connected with the new principal as well as the PAC chair. The transition seems to be going well.

As of this writing, I've been unable to connect with the PAC chair at Ecole Quarterway & Ecole Pauline Haarer, but my intent is to rectify that before the end of the month.