

Our School Story

What are the unique, positive characteristics that we celebrate in our school/community?

At Cinnabar Valley we have implemented a comprehensive Social Emotional Learning (SEL) program to help our students cultivate lifelong skills. Our school-wide expectations focus on being safe, respectful, and responsible, and are supported by the monthly virtues and positive recognition system of Valley Virtue slips. To help students regulate their emotions and thinking more effectively, SEL programs provide them with the tools and opportunities they need to self-regulate. Through these communities, we create emotionally healthy classrooms and schools where our students can feel comfortable taking risks and developing emotionally. We are proud to be teaching students the powerful skill of calming their nervous system and empowering them to be successful in their future.

What are the important demographics of our school and community?

Since opening its doors in 2001, Cinnabar Valley has been a pillar of academic, athletic, and artistic excellence in the valley. Currently, 295 students make up the Valley Vipers, 44 of whom are Indigenous students, and all students are enriched by the culture, knowledge, and Hul'q'uminum language offered by their teachers and Indigenous Culture & Student Support Worker. Cinnabar Valley has 13 divisions (K-7) staffed by 13 full-time teachers, a .719 Library/Commons Prep Teacher and a .657 ADST/Gym Prep Teacher. In addition, the school has a .6 Reading Intervention Teacher, a .3 Speech and Language Pathologist, and a School Psychologist (when needed). To support students, Cinnabar Valley employs 7 Educational Assistants, a .4 Indigenous Culture & Student Support Worker and a full-time Secretary (Sec.2/3) and part time .2 Sec. 1. The school is headed by a full-time Principal and a supportive PAC.

Our School Goals

1. Safe, caring and healthy learning and working environment that is inclusive of the diversity of our entire learning community.
2. Continuous improvement of instruction and assessment in literacy and numeracy.

Our School Celebration Story



The students and staff of Cinnabar Elementary School are rising to the challenge of improving their students' mathematical understanding. Partnering with Carol Fullerton, a math guru and our District Numeracy Series Presenter, the school hosted a demonstration lesson for both grade one and grade seven classrooms. The session involved live demonstration lessons with Carole Fullerton, in which she modeled instructional strategies designed to promote mathematical thinking in all learners. During the demonstration, teachers and Educational Assistants from Cinnabar and throughout the district were able to observe and then engage in post conference discussions with Ms. Fullerton on how to support all students in developing deep conceptual understanding while building skills and strategies. The results of the demonstration were impressive, as the students were engaged and eager to learn. Extensions, adaptations, and connected lesson ideas were shared with the teachers, ensuring that all teachers will have the opportunity to apply what they learned.

This experience has become a source of motivation for the school and has served as a reminder that engaging students in numeracy and the love of numeracy is possible. To further this cause, the school has committed to providing quality education in mathematics and celebrating their successes with the greater community. Cinnabar staff is using staff meetings to share their practices and discuss potential improvements in strategies through focused discussions and the use of math games. With the gift of time at the staff meetings and the help of such initiatives, the students and staff of Cinnabar have been inspired to strive towards even greater mathematical success in the future.

