

# Cinnabar Valley Elementary

Year: 2023-2024

Principal: Colette Young



## 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 aimed at fostering essential lifelong skills for our students. Our school-wide expectations prioritize safety, respect, and responsibility, complemented by monthly virtues, monthly virtue assemblies, choir songs related to the virtue and the positive recognition system of Valley Virtue slips.

The SEL programs play a crucial role in providing students with the necessary tools and opportunities to enhance their emotional and cognitive regulation. By instilling these practices, we aim to create emotionally healthy classrooms and schools, enabling our students to feel at ease while taking risks and fostering emotional development. We take pride in imparting the valuable skill of calming the nervous system, empowering students for success in their future endeavors.

What are the important demographics of our school and community?

Established in 2001, Cinnabar Valley has consistently upheld a standard of academic, athletic, and artistic excellence within the valley. The Valley Vipers currently consist of 274 students, including 37 Indigenous students. The student body benefits from the diverse cultural experiences, knowledge, and instruction in the Hul'q'umi'num language delivered by dedicated teachers and an Indigenous Culture & Student Support Worker.

Cinnabar Valley is organized into 12 divisions spanning kindergarten to seventh grade, each overseen by 13 full-time teachers. The school is proud to have a .719 Library/Commons Prep Teacher, counsellor who works 2 days per week and a .657 ADST/Gym Prep Teacher. Additional support is offered through a .5 Reading Intervention Teacher, a .2 Speech and Language Pathologist, and a School Psychologist (as required). In aiding students on their educational journey, Cinnabar Valley employs 6 Educational Assistants, a Child and Youth Care Worker 2 days per week, a .4 Indigenous Culture & Student Support Worker, and a full-time Secretary (Sec.2/3), along with a part-time .2 Sec. 1. The school is led by a full-time Principal, with support from an engaged Parent Advisory Committee (PAC).

## Our School Goals

A secure, nurturing, and healthful learning and working environment that embraces the diversity of our entire educational community.

Ongoing enhancement of teaching and evaluation methods in numeracy.

## Our School Celebration Story (2022-2023)



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.

