Don Titus Montessori School
WHERE KIDS LEARN TO SHINE!

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School District 59 (Peace River South)

DON TITUS MONTESSORI SCHOOL GROWTH PLAN 2026-27

Focus on Success

What do we want for our students? We envision the ideal school as a welcoming, friendly, safe place to come to learn and have fun. Expectations are set at a high standard and the teaching is current, fun and engaging. Structures are in place to maintain routines and students know what is expected – both academically and socially. Each student will have access to rich learning opportunities and supports that connect them to their passions and aspirations. Core competencies will be integrated into all curricular areas.

Mission Statement

Our mission is to provide a complete learning experience, which considers the emotional, intellectual, physical, and social development of the total child by addressing the uniqueness of each in a nurturing, emotionally secure and academically excellent environment. We want success for every student, and we recognize that success can look different for every child.

What Does Our Ideal School Look Like?

Respect for All and Valuing all Voices

- The spirit and dignity of each child is our first priority.
- Students are engaged in actively developing the core competencies.
- Students have a healthy self-concept and view themselves as capable and joyful learners.
- Open communication and collaboration where everyone feels valued and respected.
- A spirit of cooperation rather than competition is the best atmosphere for learning.
- Learning should be a happy, joyous experience! – happy students, parents, staff.

Meaningful Learning Opportunities

- Learning is student-driven with varied opportunities to honor and value all learners.
- Students understand that they are not limited in their learning potential.
- Students are self-directed and take ownership of their learning by solving problems in original and creative ways.

Strengths that we can build on to help achieve this ideal?

- Warm school climate and strong community spirit within the school.
- Strong collegial relationships among staff.
- Growth mind set where all students can reach high levels of individual success.
- Care is shown for each and every student.
- Students are engaged, happy, and motivated to learn.
- Positive energy and enthusiasm in the students, staff, and parents

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School Growth Planning Targets for 2026-27

To increase parent engagement in all aspects of Don Titus Montessori School, including in class volunteers, field trip volunteers, and attendance at special events and activities.

Rationale:

Parent engagement is crucial to student success in a Montessori program. As the school has grown, opportunities for parent engagement has decreased, creating a whole in the school culture. A strategic effort needs to be made to provide opportunities for parent engagement.

Strategies:

- Provide a list of opportunities that have been successful in the past at getting parents in the school.
- Brainstorm additional ideas.
- Ask for volunteers to take on 1-2 activities.
- Project a tentative budget for each activity and fundraisers that can be planned to help with cost.
- Create a survey for parents to get an idea of what types of opportunities they will take advantage of.

Assessment Indicators:

- Teachers will take attendance at any special event/activity so we have a baseline of parent engagement.
- The attendance at PAC meetings will increase from 3-4 to 6-8.
- Teachers will have a bank of volunteers to draw on for field trips.

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School Growth Planning Targets for 2026-27

To provide strategic literacy interventions for all students reading below grade level and see growth over the school year.

Rationale:

Some students need an extra dose of literacy interventions in order to progress in their literacy skills. By strategically using our in-house experts and educational assistants, all students should be given the opportunity to get extra literacy support as needed.

Strategies:

- Mrs. Pohl will offer her expertise to teachers in setting up their literacy programs.
- Mrs. Pohl and Mrs. Collins will work together to set up small group blitzes in the literacy room.
- Intermediate students who are at risk in literacy will act as mini-teachers in the blitzes.
- The REWARDS program will be offered to intermediate students not at grade level.
- Mrs. Pohl will provide after school in-service for interested teachers in literacy centers.
- Teachers and admin will attend the Primary Literacy PLC's.
- Baseline data will be collected and collated to determine the most at risk students-alphabet knowledge, phono data, F&P.
- New teachers will be connected with District Helping teachers to support literacy, specifically making the connection between reading and writing.
- Buddy activities will be incorporated into literacy time, pairing students to support each other's reading fluency development.
- Teachers will have literacy boxes in their classrooms for extra doses of literacy interventions.
- EA's will be invited to any after school workshops for literacy.

Assessment Indicators:

- Teachers will attend PLC's.
- Teachers will have all preliminary data gathered by the end of September.
- Mrs. Collins will do an alphabet and sight word assessment in Primary classes and begin pull out interventions by mid-October. .
- All teachers will have literacy boxes available by end of Oct.
- Data collected in June will show significant growth for students who we know had missed opportunity and growth for all students.

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School Growth Planning Targets for 2026-27

To incorporate Montessori philosophy and practices into every classroom.

Don Titus Montessori staff have initiated an annual internal review to ensure that it is carrying out the principles of a Montessori school and Montessori classrooms in its practice.

Rationale:

Our staff is committed to and passionate about the Montessori principles. The Don Titus Montessori staff is committed to on-going Pro-D, collaboration and continued learning in the Montessori methods.

Strategies:

- Regular Ongoing Teacher Collaboration Opportunities and Peer Mentoring
- Montessori Professional Development & Out of District Montessori School Visitations
- Participating in Montessori Professional Learning Community
- Sharing/implementing Montessori Givens:

- plants that students care for
- hands on activities such as centers and manipulatives
- practical life skills (snack prep, sewing, etc.)
- at least one field trip per term (more in upper grades)
- self-correcting opportunities (control charts)
- morning greeting music
- Peace Corner
- shared supplies
- snack when hungry (not scheduled)
-not everyone doing the same thing at the same time
-small group or individual lessons
-chore list with explanation of what to do
- student choice in work block time
- outdoor education opportunities
- peer teaching/helping
- class meetings at least weekly
- uninterrupted work block with quiet
- Must do's with some way of tracking them
- orderly/neat environment
- multi-age groupings
- minimal teacher in front of class time

Assessment Indicators:

(A) Teachers will self-evaluate using the list of givens to indicate what they do in their classroom.

(B) In addition, Don Titus Montessori students, will be surveyed about their ability to articulate the principles of the Montessori program.

(C) Teacher attendance at after school Montessori PLC's, led by in house trained teachers (Mrs. Bougerolle or Mrs. Pohl) or PSA leaders in other communities (at least one per term).