

Unity  
Elementary  
October 2022

## Elementary Principal's Report

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### **Reading, Reading, Reading!**

The "First Days of School" have officially come and gone, and the kids are digging into academics. One of the main areas Unity Elementary has been focusing many of our efforts on increasing, is our students' reading achievement and success this year. A number of supports, initiatives and plans have been established for this effort, and they are turning out wonderfully!

They include:

- 1) Expanding our **Read Right Program** to help more children. Mrs. Chell is an official trainer now, and more staff are completing this training. Many kids are graduating and it is changing lives.
- 2) Beginning our **Reading Corps Tutoring**. Mr. Muller and Mrs. DeLessio have completed their assessments, checks, and have been certified to begin sessions. 24 students are learning and growing, and many have graduated their first sessions and are already into the next levels.
- 3) Our **Reading Collaborative** is meeting at UW-RF the same evening as our school board meeting this month. The first course is focusing on research methods, and the science of research behind the development of reading skills. A lot of reading goes into learning more about teaching reading!
- 4) **Into Reading** is going well in it's second year. We have provided much longer, uninterrupted instructional blocks for our core reading program in the school this year. This has been enable because of the investment in the above supports. We believe this investment in time will help our students even more.
- 5) Finally, Mrs. Chell, our district reading specialist is helping the school draft a '**Reading Continuum**' document which will assist us in diagnosing with more specificity which areas of reading skills to help children with. This tool will help all teachers with a common understanding, and will be informed and improved from the Reading Collaborative team.



Thank you for your support in encouraging all students to read. It’s one of the best ways to help children achieve success in school and life, and we are incredibly grateful for the support, and excited to see them reach new heights!

### **Curriculum Maps Ready**

Our Elementary staff will be always appreciative of the investment and time provided by the school to refresh, update, and plan our Curriculum again for success this year and in years to come. This last inservice day was spent in final adjustments after our map review, and we are ready with them. We have had many teachers and instructional staff comment about how nice it is to finally have it re-set and planned and to be able to truly put the time and planning effort mostly on individual students with the mapping completed! We recognise and encourage continued adjustments as we find better instructional methods during the year, and because of this, we are also thankful that ‘Atlas’ was the program selected as it allows this in real time as well.