**ENGLISH BLUFF ELEMENTARY SCHOOL**

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 *Ms. Toshi Carleton Gaines, Principal*

*Soaring Toward Success Mrs. Maureen Hudie, Administrative Assistant*

October 11, 2023

Hello EB Families,

Over the course of the year, we invite you to explore the IB Primary Years Programme with us. We will be sending information home and posting it to our website. Our goal is to begin using the common language of the IB with shared intent. If you have ideas or questions, please feel free to reach out to your child’s teacher or Ms. Carleton.

**Collaboration in the PYP**

One of the central tenets of the Primary Years Program (PYP) is the importance of collaboration. The IB philosophy believes that a collaborative approach puts students at the centre to create a well-rounded, coherent learning experience for them. Collaboration can take place between members of the school community in a variety of ways. It may be between students, between students and their teachers, between teachers, between families and the school, and even between the school and the wider community. All members of the school community have a voice that is valued although they will participate in different ways. The school community is strengthened when all members of the community feel empowered to join in to develop plans for learning and growing.  In particular, when students collaborate with others, they are involved in taking action for their own learning and developing their abilities to communicate and cooperate.

**Some examples of collaboration could include:**

* Students working with a partner to complete a project
* Teachers working with an expert from the community to design learning experiences for students
* Families working with teachers to create an individual learning plan for a student
* Students and teachers planning a field trip together to deepen their learning of a topic
* Parents and teachers meeting to discuss student progress and plans for success
* Teachers working together to plan and implement Units of Inquiry for their classes
* Teachers and students deciding together on the essential agreements for their class for the year
* Parents sharing their knowledge with a class of students
* Families, students and staff providing input and enhancing our learning community

Collaboration is a continuous process of dialogue, reflection, and learning between all members of the school community. Within the English Bluff PYP, collaboration is intentional and continual. As the school year progresses, parents may notice both evidence of collaboration, as well as opportunities to join in. Every year is a little bit different, as the cycle of collaboration is ever-changing. We are excited to collaborate with you!

*Laura Leroy*

IB PYP Coordinator