



Case Study of Granby Public Schools: Kelly Lane Primary School

At Kelly Lane Primary School, we care about ourselves, we care about each other, and we care about our school. This is the quote that pervades the hallways at Kelly Lane, said Colleen Bava, the principal, and Courtney Piotrowski, literacy coach, of this K-2 school. That is our standard for our community of learners. Teachers and administration collaborate regularly to look at and analyze data to ensure that each student's individual needs are met. They believe that this will help them continue to raise the level of reading and the quality of writing for all students!

The school's goal is to continue to grow as a community supporting all teachers in planning rigorous, data-driven lessons to reach ALL students.

The principal, her staff, and their TCRWP staff developer began working toward these goals. They first focused on methods of assessment and gathering informative data about students. This year, the TCRWP staff developer helped the school delve into the phonics units to unpack the lessons and to bring phonics into all parts of the student's day. Teachers studied the skills needed in phonics to move towards becoming avid readers. Principal Bava said, "We are seeing the transfer of phonics into reading and writing growth, and it is exciting for both students and teachers."



Kelly Lane started implementing the TCRWP Units of Study in Writing a few years ago. Again, with the support of their TCRWP staff developers, teachers attended lab sites to watch demonstration teaching and tried these methods in front of the staff developer to gain feedback. They consistently continue to study student writing, together, in teams to determine the next steps for small group strategy work. Teachers also frequently model their own writing in front of their students to demonstrate the writing and revision process.

"We see this work every day during writing workshop. There has been progress in what reading and writing workshop structures look like and I know that the instruction is helping our students progress to mastery and becoming lifelong learners," Principal Bava said.

Students at Kelly Lane have incredible data that shows the work that is being done. Over 72% of their kindergarten students are reading at or above grade level. Over 70% in first grade and by second grade over 83% are reading above grade level.

Academically, we are committed to the workshop approach to learning where instruction implements the gradual release of the responsibility model: explicit teaching, modeling, guided practice, and independent practice. The workshop model allows opportunities where all voices are heard and students share their thinking.

"As a staff," said Courtney Piotrowski, "we work together to foster a positive culture with a mindset for growth and risk-taking for all of our students."

"At Kelly Lane, we work to help ensure a safe, respectful, and welcoming environment utilizing the *Responsive Classroom* approach that emphasizes social, emotional, and academic growth in a strong and safe school community," said the coach and principal of the school.