

Footprints for Learning Academy

Annual Report
2022/2023



Chair Message

The 2022/23 year unfolded with new ideas, traditions, the work and energy of routines, and welcome celebrations.

We opened our doors to 480 students from Kindergarten through Grade 12 and rediscovered the power of our student leadership with monthly efforts to give to the community and to organize student events. Among the many, we made sandwiches, packed food bags, collected money, and gathered food items for those needing to be fed. A new idea came forward with our Cancer Cuts initiative that had students cheering in the gym as two of their young teachers and four student volunteers cut their long hair and donated it to those in recovery.

In academics, the school-wide Spelling Bee returned and had many competing for recognition. The students and teachers worked hard together in preparation for provincial testing and their efforts were rewarded with much success. The monthly awards to skills and values each month became a time to showcase athletics with team competitions and community entrepreneurs. The year closed with three graduations - for our Kindergarten crew at their onset, for the Grade 8's as they transition to High School, and for the Grade 12's moving forward to post-secondary campuses.

In our extra-curricular programs, we added three theme dance nights, an art show, and many clubs. We also had the largest cohort of campers attend our annual outdoor education excursion. Field trips were many and varied, with Escape Rooms, Ninja Fit Obstacle Courses, Museum Tours, and Multi-cultural Meals.

Very importantly, we ended the 2022/23 year in a very purposeful and all-encompassing transition to the next - we are celebrating the renewal of our *Entrepreneurship program* and planning with excitement its potential to impact learning for our students in many ways.

A great year!

Board Members

The FFLA Board of Governance is responsible for ensuring that the mission and vision of FFLA are being fulfilled through strong leadership, effective planning, and sound fiscal management.

Thank you to the FFLA Board of Governance for their hard work, dedication, and enthusiasm.

Board Chair: Jane Anderson

Vice Chair: Corina Jeppesen

Treasurer: Laura Bancroft

Secretary: Jana Matthews

Directors: Linda Kamitomo, Kate Smith and Kaylee Terriff

If you would like to reach a specific Board Member please contact our administration at 587-775-9303 or admin@footprintsforlearning.com.

About Us

FFLA is an Alberta Education accredited private, charitable non-profit school for Kindergarten through Grade 12 in Airdrie, Alberta.

Our Mission

Our mission is to cultivate entrepreneurial skills and foster a global mindset through authentic learning experiences.

Each step in learning leaves footprints, lasting impressions. Our MISSION at Footprints for Learning Academy is to foster purpose-driven pathways that prepare students for success in the real world through entrepreneurial-focused and globally-minded learning programs. We aim to inspire and empower our students to become part of innovative learner and leader teams who will be equipped with the competencies, skills, and knowledge needed to make a positive impact in their communities. Through a dynamic and integrated curriculum, authentic experiences, and inclusive learning environments, FFLA strives to develop well-rounded individuals who are value-sensitive and creative students with a reliance on the growth mindset. Our goal is to provide every student with the opportunities, tools, and resources young learners need to reach their collective and unique potentials in making meaningful contributions to society, with their footprints on our future.

Our Vision

Our VISION at Footprints for Learning Academy is to create an educational institution that embraces learning pathways with authentic applications and solution-based programs that empower students to become resilient, adaptive, innovative and globally aware in their explorations. In our efforts to foster academic excellence alongside developing entrepreneurship and globally minded skill sets, we aim to ignite their passions and cultivate their unique talents while enabling their success in Alberta Education's curricula. We envision a future where our students graduate with a true sense of purpose, armed with the competencies, skills, knowledge, and entrepreneurial spirit to thrive and contribute in a rapidly changing world. They will be our leaders, innovators, and compassionate global citizens, shaping a brighter future for themselves and others, making a positive difference in the world. Together, we are building a school that transforms education, empowers learners, and inspires them to become agents of change.



Our Core Programs

Our curriculum follows the Alberta Education Program of Studies for K-12 schools for Math, Literacy, Science, Social and other required curriculum, while seamlessly integrating entrepreneurship and a global mindset into all these subjects. This holistic approach prepares students for the modern world, equipping them with essential skills and perspectives.

In subjects like mathematics and science, students develop critical and creative thinking skills, solving real-world problems and fostering innovation. History and social sciences explore the interconnectedness of societies, promoting understanding and appreciation of diverse perspectives.

Literature and language arts expose students to different narratives, fostering empathy and cultural understanding. Physical education and arts provide platforms for creativity, teamwork, and entrepreneurial activities such as event organization or artistic ventures.

By infusing entrepreneurship and a global mindset across the core curriculum, students not only gain knowledge but also cultivate adaptability, resilience, communication, and collaboration skills. This comprehensive approach prepares them to be future leaders, entrepreneurs, and global citizens who can positively contribute to the world and drive meaningful change.

Entrepreneurship

In Entrepreneurship, students learn and apply business start-up practices and concepts to projects they're passionate about. They build, test, learn, apply, and embrace the cycle of experimentation, which is core to entrepreneurship and is a great training ground for life. They get comfortable with failing and learning from failure. Working in teams and being supported by a dynamic mix of teachers, coaches, and mentors, all translates to deeper learning and skill-building.

Global Studies

At FFLA, Global Studies is a fundamental component of our curriculum, aiming to cultivate globally competent students. We prioritize the development of skills that enable students to examine local, global, and intercultural issues. They learn to understand and appreciate diverse perspectives and world views, interact respectfully with others, and take responsible action towards sustainability and collective well-being.

Spanish

As part of our Global Studies and Entrepreneurship Curriculum, we offer Spanish as a second language, starting from Kindergarten through to Spanish 30. Recognized as the third most important business language worldwide, learning Spanish becomes a vital aspect of our program, bridging entrepreneurship and global studies.

Skills & Values

Skills and Values are integral to our Entrepreneurial and global mindset education program at FFLA. Aligned with the Alberta Program of Studies for Health and Wellness, our program instills essential skills and values for global citizenship and an entrepreneurial mindset. This comprehensive program spans from Kindergarten to Grade 12.

This Year's Highlights



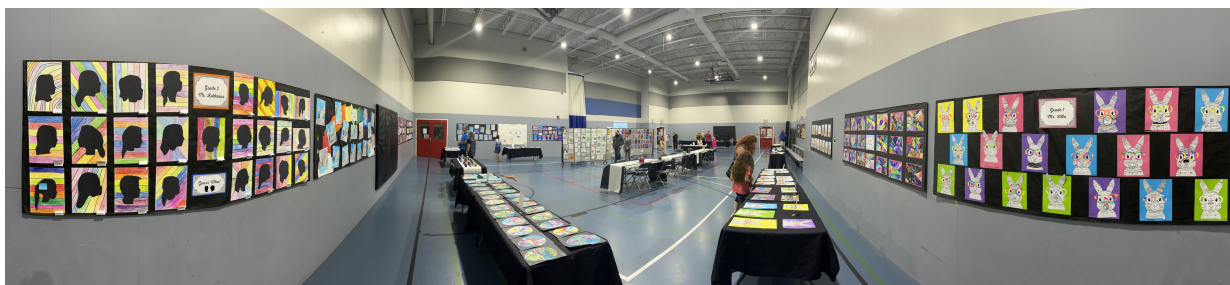
Our little stars from Grades 1/2/3 put on a heartwarming Christmas concert that made us all burst with joy in December.



In April, the theatrical performance of "The Lion King" by the Grades 4/5/6 classes was absolutely amazing and left us in awe.

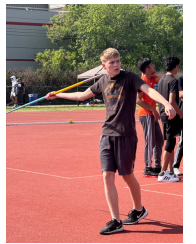
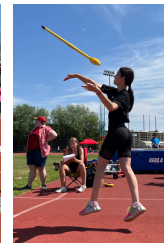
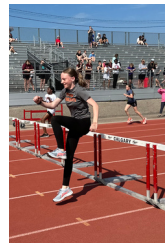


Our 7/8/9 classes embarked on an epic Outdoor Education camping trip this May, filled with team-building exercises and plenty of fun.



Our students and teachers' remarkable creativity were on full display at our inaugural Art Show event.

Foxes Athletics





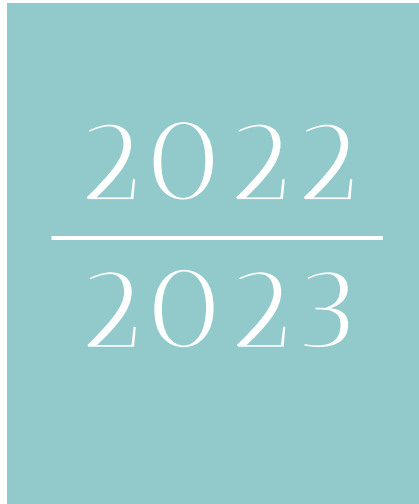
Our Graduating Class of 2023

The 2023 school year wrapped up with a very special celebration for 8 incredible students who made up our second FFLA graduating class. These students demonstrated exceptional dedication and commitment to their studies, and it was an honor to witness them cross the stage and receive their diplomas.

As they move on to the next chapter of their lives, we know that they will continue to achieve great things. We are so proud of everything they have accomplished, and we can't wait to see all the amazing things they will do in the future. Congratulations to the FFLA Class of 2023!



Our Staff



Education is the most powerful weapon which you can use to change the world.
NELSON MANDELA



Our Supporters



Magic Mountain Child Development Centre Ltd. – Provider of the School Facility and Equipment for the 2013 Expansion. “Magic Mountain Child Development Centre Ltd. has been serving the community of Airdrie for over 20 years. They continue to serve this growing community by offering quality child care and education programs to Airdrie’s families. Their goal is to create a standard of excellence in childcare and education, providing programs that meet the diverse needs of Airdrie and the surrounding communities.”



Kinsmen Club of Canada – \$7,000 Grant for Gym Equipment. “KinCanada is an all-Canadian service organization made up of dedicated member volunteers who serve their community’s greatest needs through hosting and sponsoring events and community service projects. Since its founding, Kin, Kinsmen and Kinette clubs across Canada have contributed more than \$1 billion to Canadian communities and disaster relief programs beyond our borders.”



Staples (Airdrie) – Since 2015 Staples has supported FFLA through a variety of ways, such as sponsorship donations, in-kind printing, and gifts of both school and office supplies.



WestJet – Since 2013 WestJet has been donating annually “a gift of flight” to our school. This has raised over \$20,000 to date for our school.



Alberta Computers for Schools – Our partnership began in 2018 and it has brought technology into the hands of our students in a way we didn’t believe we ever could. “Computers for Schools is a national program that refurbishes computers donated from government, private business and individuals for use by schools, libraries, not-for-profit organizations, Indigenous communities and eligible low-income individuals.”



Accro Woodworking – Accro Woodworking has provided sponsorship donations to many FFLA events and has also been a supporter of our athletics program.



Canadian Website Solutions – This local Airdrie professional provided FFLA with much assistance and time in coding and developing our new Website. The digital expertise will give us the ability to keep our public platform updated on an ongoing basis. Thank you!



Clothing for a Cause – FFLA and Clothing for a Cause have been collaborating since 2016. “Clothing for a Cause has utilized the recycling of reusable clothing and household textiles to provide assistance to international groups since 2005, and has now recently starting providing the same opportunity to local schools, clubs and organizations.”

Your endless kindness and unwavering support is greatly appreciated. Thank you so much!



Footprints For Learning Academy

HOLISTIC

AUTHENTIC

PURPOSE DRIVEN

ENTREPRENEURIAL

GLOBAL