

CREDIT MEADOWS ELEMENTARY SCHOOL



Principal: A. Lagundzija-deFreitas
Vice Principal: S. Masterson
220 Blind Line Orangeville, ON L9W 4V2
Email: creditmeadows.es@ugdsb.on.ca
Tel: 519-941-7487 Fax: 519-941-8121

December 2, 2020

Dear CMES Families,

I hope all is well with you and that everyone is staying safe and healthy. I am sending this letter to let you know that I will be retiring as Principal of Credit Meadows Elementary School effective December 31, 2020. The UGDSB announced the confirmation of the retirement at the recent board meeting.

I had planned to retire last June but when schools closed unexpectedly in March, and I knew that I would not see staff and most importantly our students, it did not feel right. To say farewell virtually, was not how I wanted to complete my educational journey at Credit Meadows Elementary School and with the UGDSB. The September back to school return was a huge task. I wanted the opportunity to help transition our students back to school safely, with the hardworking and caring team at CMES. A heartfelt thank you, is being sent to our teachers, ECEs, EAs, CYC, office coordinators, support staff, our custodial team, and to you our parents/guardians, for the many ways you all have supported our CMES children/students in returning to school safely during these challenging times.

I will miss the students, staff, and parents/guardians that I have met over my time at CMES as a teacher many years ago, Vice Principal, and Principal. Credit Meadows holds a very special place in my heart and anyone who comes to work here will tell you about the culture of respect, team, sense of community/family, and the most amazing students to teach and learn with. CMES is a school with a positive, proactive, committed approach to learning, with special attention given to supporting our students who learn in a variety of ways academically, emotionally, and socially. This has been especially evident during this time of the COVID 19 Pandemic.

To our students, thank you for your stories, your joy, your laughter, your inquisitive nature, hard work, and your resiliency. To my kindergarten friends each morning who began their learning outside my window. Thank you for your smiles that greeted me each day after morning announcements. I had the best view in the school! To our primary students thank you for inviting me to hear your songs, poems, outdoor learning stories, and sharing the gains you were making with reading. To our juniors, thank you for sharing about daily happenings and for working hard on building your math skills. To our intermediate students, thank you for the many extracurricular activities that you have participated in over the years, for your resiliency, and positive attitude when these activities became less during this Pandemic. Thank you for working hard on academic subjects and for taking on leadership initiatives around Inclusion and Equity, sharing them virtually and on morning announcements. Our CMES Cobras fill the walls of CMES with life! Thank you for many wonderful memories that I will cherish always. Keep learning, asking questions, being resilient, and believe in yourself, because you can do it!

I have thoroughly enjoyed my career with the Upper Grand District School Board. I feel thankful, grateful, and blessed, to have been an educator for thirty-one years with our Board. It has been an amazing journey. Having high expectations to support our students in learning in a safe, and caring environment has been at the heart of our work together.

A decision on the incoming Principal will be determined at the December 15th meeting of the Board. I will send a communication as soon as I am able to inform you who that will be.

Thank you for the many ways you have supported our school and your children, our CMES students. I hope you have a restful holiday, filled with laughter and fun. Wishing you all the best!

Sincerely,

Anita Lagundzija-deFreitas (Ms. L.)