

GIVING BACK TO THE COMMUNITY

St-Romuald School Success Story

Region : Quebec, Canada

Pedagogical Ambitions : Entrepreneurial and Community

Sonya is a 6th grade teacher at St-Romuald School, the kind that thrives with unique projects and that loves seeing stars in her students' eyes when they do or learn something entirely new. St-Romuald school is not like any other, they have plants everywhere, build innovation with their students and murals adorn the walls, every class has a different personality to it.

With the help of private and public organizations, they financed a Vireo project for the sixth graders. This concrete experience was a combination of learning about science, environment, entrepreneurship and group cohesion and most importantly, giving back to the community. Project-based learning and hands-on experiences where the students create opportunities for themselves.

At the beginning of the project, Sonya realized, with surprise, that the majority of her students had never seen vegetables grow fully. It was the perfect opportunity to integrate learning about vegetables, science and healthy life habits in the classroom. Meanwhile, they also realized a gratifying project with the garden itself. The group was divided into various groups where each person had a different task and could pursue an interest. Curiosity-driven learning and discoveries of new skills. Some learned about marketing, others analyzed the garden and the necessary nutrients or researched activities and recipes to do with the garden's harvests. Out of three, two harvests were given to different organizations in need that were chosen by the classroom.

In the end, the pride the students experienced, when donating the vegetables, taught them a valuable life lesson : that giving back to the community brings joy more than anything else.



"The project is infinite and that is what I love most. The garden is versatile, therefore we can adapt our teaching to the context."

"At the beginning of the Covid school year, students' stress and anxiety were palpable. However, the project brings motivation to learn, a group cohesion and an effect of social engagement that is great."

Sonia Demers, St-Romuald School Teacher

"It's so fun to learn maths and French in a different way, it feels good to get out of our comfort zone."

Felix, Student at St-Romuald School