Jules Douge
Principal of Silvermine Dual Language Magnet School



How do you and your school community promote a sense of belongingness?

Belonging begins with a simple but powerful belief: every child deserves to feel seen, heard, valued, and loved for who they are and who they are becoming. As principal, my leadership philosophy centers on three core pillars: our parents, our teachers, and our students. By investing in each, we build a school community where everyone has a place and everyone matters.

What do you value most about your staff?

Our dual language model allows us to build connections that extend far beyond the classroom. We are not simply teaching students to speak two languages; we are teaching them to understand different perspectives, embrace diverse cultures, and recognize that their language, culture, identity, and voice are vital strengths to be celebrated. At the heart of it all, I want every child who walks through our doors to know that they belong and that the world is richer because of the gifts they bring.

What I value most about our staff is their deep commitment to our children and their willingness to believe in what is possible, even when the work is challenging. The greatest measure of our educators is not only what our students achieve on paper, but what they come to believe about themselves because of the adults who stand beside them.

How does your school community help you to be a better principal?

My school community reminds me every day that leadership is about the people we serve.

- Our parents make me a better principal because they entrust us with what is most precious to them, their children.
- Our teachers inspire me by bringing their expertise, passion, and questions to the work, reminding me that strong leadership means listening, removing barriers, and providing unwavering support.

- Our students challenge me through their resilience, curiosity, and determination to look beyond obstacles and see endless possibilities.
- Our community reminds me that leadership is measured by the lives we touch and the opportunities we help create.



What are you most proud of and what are you striving to do better?

I am immensely proud of the academic success our school community has achieved in such a short period of time. It demonstrates what happens when a community believes in its children and works toward a shared vision.

As a principal, I know our work is never finished. Beyond academic success, I want our legacy to be generations of children who leave our school believing in their abilities, proud of their identities, and prepared to build a future without limits.