

2015-16 Community Report for Kingswood Elementary School

Provincial Assessments		
	School (%) 2015-16	Board (%) 2015-16
<u>Literacy Assessments</u>		
Grade 3 Provincial		
Reading	64%	69%
Writing - Ideas	82%	76%
Writing - Organization	62%	62%
Writing - Language Use	70%	66%
Writing - Conventions	54%	52%
Grade 6 Provincial		
Reading	76%	76%
Writing - Ideas	99%	82%
Writing - Organization	87%	68%
Writing - Language Use	91%	72%
Writing - Conventions	72%	65%
<u>Math Assessments</u>		
Grade 4 Provincial		
Mathematics	88%	78%
Grade 6 Provincial		
Mathematics	85%	72%

2015-2016 was the fifth and final year of implementation of our Student Success Plan (SSP) at Kingswood Elementary School. Over the past five years, we have focused on improving our teaching and learning in math communication and reading comprehension, specifically non-fiction texts. The structure of this plan has given direction to teacher learning, new classroom strategies for student learning as well as classroom assessment in literacy and math. Teachers have worked together in Professional Learning Communities (PLCs), collaborated with colleagues, and engaged in professional development to strengthen their knowledge and skills in supporting student success. As the table shows, our students are succeeding well in the provincial assessments. There have been improvements, particularly in math and writing. However, the data also points to areas where we will continue to focus on improving student achievement. The data provided by classroom and provincial assessments (above) direct our teachers in their planning for student learning.

Teachers collaborate in PLCs and work together to plan Professional Development (PD) based on the strengths and challenges shown in these assessments. This year, upon analysis of the provincial assessment data, our SSP team noticed a decrease in our reading achievement in grades three and six. We noticed in particular analytical type questions in areas such as poetry and non-fiction are challenges for our students and worked, through PD and in PLCs, to focus on Reader's Workshop lessons to address this. The data equally shows that our students have shown improvement in both math (grades 4 and 6) and writing (grades 3 and 6), specifically in ideas and language use, and these continue to be strengths. We will carry forward with a focus on improving all of these results.

With the direction of teacher learning coming from the classroom and provincial data available to us, this year teacher PD has allowed teachers to explore how the new streamlined literacy and math curricula support students' increasing understanding of reading, writing and math concepts. Teachers also learned about effective assessment and culturally responsive teaching to support the learners in their classes.

Teachers are using problem-based instruction in math through the three-part lesson model, and are using Readers and Writers Workshops in language arts. The ability for learners to clearly communicate their thinking and strategies when working on math problems strengthens their understanding of the processes and allows them to explore different strategies to solve problems. The progress our students are making in learning to express their problem-solving strategies has a direct impact on their achievement of the provincial outcomes and their performance on both classroom and provincial assessments, and our students continue to be strong with sharing their understanding. Using workshops in literacy supports learning comprehension strategies and allows students to practice these strategies using texts that are relevant to them.

Professional Learning Communities (PLCs) are opportunities for teachers to meet and work together to address and discuss student achievement, and how to support students. Our teachers at Kingswood work in grade level PLCs weekly to plan assessments, to explore and discuss student achievement, and to devise strategies to support all learners in their classes.

We are looking forward to the 2016-17 school year to embark once again on the cycle of improvement, to make a new SSP to continue learning and supporting the students at Kingswood.