

2015-16 Community Report for Beaver Bank Kinsac Elementary School

Provincial Assessments		
	School (%) 2015-16	Board (%) 2015-16
Literacy Assessments		
Grade 3 Provincial		
Reading	65%	69%
Writing - Ideas	86%	76%
Writing - Organization	71%	62%
Writing - Language Use	88%	66%
Writing - Conventions	60%	52%
Grade 6 Provincial		
Reading	63%	76%
Writing - Ideas	88%	82%
Writing - Organization	68%	68%
Writing - Language Use	75%	72%
Writing - Conventions	56%	65%
Math Assessments		
Grade 4 Provincial		
Mathematics	90%	78%
Grade 6 Provincial		
Mathematics	54%	72%



Last year Beaver Bank Kinsac school was recognized as an improving school. Teachers and students worked diligently to improve in the areas of reading comprehension and problem solving and communication. Over the course of five years much learning was done by both staff and students. This year at Beaver Bank-Kinsac School, the journey to improve student achievement continues. We remain committed to supporting students with the development of the skills required to be life-long learners and responsible global citizens. The following are the literacy and math goals identified by staff this year which will be the focus of our work as we progress through the school improvement process:

Literacy: Students will demonstrate improvement in writing with a focus on ideas, organization and conventions.

Mathematics: Students will demonstrate improvement in problem solving in the area of number.

The Department of Education and Early Childhood Development assesses students in grades 3, 4, and 6 across the province each year. The results of these assessments enable schools and school boards to examine progress over time, help teachers develop goals for improvement, and offer an opportunity to compare classroom assessments with external assessments. This past year our staff looked closely at our external and internal data. As a result we were able to identify that in literacy our students are good at making straight-forward text based inferences, locating details within a text, using language in writing and using organizational features in reading to locate specific information. Our challenges in literacy were responding critically in reading, making complex connections and drawing conclusions, conventions and organization in writing and identifying the main idea within poetry.

Beaver Bank-Kinsac provincial data results for both grade three and six students demonstrates that our students are performing well in the areas of ideas and language use for writing, however, organization and conventions continue to be an area of challenge. In reading, our scores reflect a significant drop for both grades this year. This provides information that helps us recognize what type of intervention is required to improve student achievement. Taking a collaborative approach to literacy instruction, utilizing Early Literacy Support, and having purposeful, explicit resource support should all serve to increase student performance in literacy.

Provincial mathematics scores have increased again this year for our grade four students, with 90% of students meeting or exceeding expectations. In grade six the results were not as favorable. Our scores dropped from 86% of students meeting expectations to 54% of students meeting this year. A number of our students have been identified as requiring extra support in mathematics. Intervention has been provided in small groups to target specific areas of concern. Over the last number of years teachers have participated in numerous professional learning opportunities provided at the board and school level. Teachers are working to create classroom environments that see students actively constructing ideas and strategies for their math learning. More time and energy will be spent on how to incorporate problem solving into daily practice. Our math goal will focus our attention on building a strong foundation in number which should impact achievement positively.

Our students benefit from the extracurricular activities provided throughout the school year. This past year students had the opportunity to be involved in Choir, Green Team, Peer Helpers, Care Club, Running Club, Drawing Club, yoga and meditation, as well as some lunch time intramurals. Our Green Team members have worked to collect our school's recyclables and have raised money which has been instrumental in the creation of our beautiful school garden. Students also enjoyed several guest presenters such as musician and motivational speaker Terry Kelly, and an author visit with Jan Sebastian LaPierre.

Teachers have participated in a variety of professional development sessions, including the implementation of the Primary to Three Streamlined Curriculum, Culturally Relevant Pedagogy with Dr. MacLeod, the new Provincial Code of Conduct, and introduction to the Streamlined Four to Six Curriculum. Teachers meet regularly in professional learning communities to share strategies and practices that support student achievement. Teachers create, administer and analyze assessment results together to discover how best to support their students to meet and exceed outcome expectations.

The School Advisory Council (SAC) meets a minimum of six times a year to ensure that Beaver Bank Kinsac continues to be a great place to work, learn and grow. The SAC discusses and reviews student assessment results, School Board policies, the Provincial Code of Conduct and other issues, such as home and school communication, that directly affect our school community.

Community involvement is highly regarded at Beaver Bank Kinsac School. Our PTA has an unwavering commitment to planning and organizing fun family events that are enjoyed by all. Students, staff, and parents have participated in our Halloween Dance, Family Movie Nights, Turkey Bingo, and our Spring Fair. Their efforts have helped to develop the strong sense of community at Beaver Bank Kinsac, as well as enabled the purchase of more technology for students and additional field trip opportunities. A long term fundraising goal will be realized this fall when our new playground will finally be constructed.

Please join us in celebrating the continued growth and success of our students and this community.