



Provincial Assessments		
	School (%) 2015-16	Board (%) 2015-16
<b>Literacy Assessments</b>		
<b>Grade 8 Provincial</b>		
Reading	65%	76%
Writing - Ideas	86%	91%
Writing - Organization	71%	80%
Writing - Language Use	79%	82%
Writing - Conventions	64%	70%
<b>Math Assessments</b>		
<b>Grade 8 Provincial</b>		
Mathematics	41%	63%

2015/16 has been an exceptional year at Graham Creighton. We are currently in year two of our SSP (Student Success Plan) formerly CSI (Continuous School Improvement). We have worked tirelessly as a staff to work on two key areas of improvement identified as a staff that students need to work on.

**Math Goal** – *Students will demonstrate improvement in mathematical problem solving.*

**Literacy Goal** – *Students will demonstrate improvement in drawing conclusions about texts using various reading strategies.*

These specific goals drove our work in our PLCs (Professional Learning Communities) and professional development for staff and allowed our team to work collaboratively to improve student success. As you can see from the table above our scores indicate in literacy that our students are close to the board average. Our teachers continue to strive to push our students to excel in reading and writing.

Math will continue as an area of focus. Our students have shown improvement over the last couple of years but we have some work to do to get our students to where they should be. We will continue to work together and bring in the necessary resources to ensure that our students are getting the concepts that they need to be successful in high school.

Student programming has continued to be an area of focus for Graham Creighton staff. Tienet review for staff occurred at the beginning of the year and meetings for grade levels and specific classes happened regularly throughout the year to ensure that the appropriate level of learning was happening for all students. Program Planning Team and School Planning Team meetings occurred frequently to help

support struggling students.

Also, an area of focus for staff was communication with parents/guardians. Our website was updated to allow for better communication. Teachers were encouraged by administration to contact home to keep parents/guardians aware of student learning and also encouraging students to become more proficient in PowerSchool. Our staff received some Professional Development from staff who had used Google Apps which has allowed all staff to use it in their classrooms. Google Apps has provided us the ability to share documents and students can share assignments and work with teachers with more ease.

We are very proud to be the only school in the HRSB with a Discovering Opportunity Program. This program is offered to 20 grade nine students. It allows the students to explore outcomes from a different perspective and gives them opportunities and awareness of various educational and career choices. We were also the only junior high school that had a combined class this year - a grade 7 and 8 Early French Immersion class. Teachers worked collaboratively to ensure student success in this class and we were fortunate to have HRSB coaches available to help teachers with planning for this class.

Throughout the year we supported many programs and school wide initiatives to meet the diverse needs of our students. Extra-curricular events this year included the Terry Fox Walk-a-thon, the Grade 9 trip to Montreal and Quebec city, a ski trip to Martock, and skating and swimming at Cole Harbour Place. New this year was our Robotics Club that competed in robotics competitions with other schools, including a high school!

Student Council events included numerous dances, one of which served as a fundraiser for a family in our community. The Student Council also ran teacher versus student basketball games, a haunted house, bouncy castles and much more. The We Can group once again hosted a community pancake breakfast. The group raised money for the Red Cross by participating in the Art/Music show. Our Discovering Opportunities program students participated in events such as Feed Nova Scotia, HRSB Career Fair, We Day, NSCC tour, and a Discovery Center tour. They even had a professional chef teach them the fine art of cooking.

These high quality programs helped students participate in activities that interested them and also let them connect with other students, teachers and community members. It built a platform for discussion, cooperation and academic collaboration that not only engaged staff and students in academic success, but closely tied the community to goals in Math and Literacy.