

2015-16 Community Report Sackville Heights Elementary School

Provincial Assessments		
	School (%) 2015-16	Board (%) 2015-16
<u>Literacy Assessments</u>		
Grade 3 Provincial		
Reading	62%	69%
Writing - Ideas	80%	76%
Writing - Organization	61%	62%
Writing - Language Use	69%	66%
Writing - Conventions	52%	52%
<u>Math Assessments</u>		
Grade 4 Provincial		
Mathematics	83%	78%

This year marks year 2 of a five year Student Success Plan cycle (Previously known as Continuous School Improvement). We are continuing with our school goals developed by our Staff and SSP Team in Year 1. In literacy our goal is **writing with a focus on the development and organization of ideas and written conventions**. In Mathematics our goal is **number sense with a focus on representing and partitioning numbers**. The above data shows we are on par for the most part with Grades 3 and 4 HRSB students in Reading, Writing and Math. Attention to our writing goal will continue. Our results show very good success with Math; this goal will continue as well.

Teachers continued to work regularly in **Professional Learning Communities (PLCs)** to develop common understandings of **conferencing and sharing** as integral pieces of the workshop model in Language Arts. Within the workshop model, which was a focus in Year 1, teachers have placed particular emphasis on conferencing with students as a means of **assessing student achievement** and determining student needs for future teaching and learning. Also within PLCs, teachers have examined **number sense and partitioning** within the Math Curriculum and this will continue to be a focus in the upcoming years of the SSP as teachers plan lessons that connect to our Literacy and Math goals.

This year, grades Primary to Three implemented an **integrated curriculum** in which Health, Science, Social Studies, and Visual Arts were taught within the Language Arts and Math strands. Blocks of **'physically active time'** became scheduled components of daily learning in response to research showing the benefits to learning when students have active body breaks. Growth in the area of **technology** occurred for teachers and students alike. Teachers participated in professional development around google docs, Osmo, ipads, chromebooks, spheros, coding and more. Teachers worked together to bring this new learning into the classroom for their students. In all curriculum areas, teachers made use of **'I Can....' statements** in daily classes to clearly illustrate for students the learning targets they were expected to reach.

Data indicates that our students frequently perform well in most areas. Parents reported in a recent survey that 94.7% believe the school has high academic standards.

Proudly **SHES continues to be a caring community**. Students had opportunities to participate in Bricks 4 Kids, yoga, running club, golf lessons, Mad Science, drama, choir, intramurals, friendship club and social club. Students have been entertained and learned from Maritime Dance, ProjectARC, Goatworks Drumming, The Comic Art Tour and The Maritime Center for African Dance. Students also raised social awareness by taking part in the Terry Fox Walk, Stand Up Against Bullying Day, 'We Create Change' Campaign, 'Socktober' Campaign and raising money for the NS Lung Association. Teachers and administration attended professional development focused on cultural relevance in teaching and learning. This has deepened our understanding of how knowledge of the **culture of our individual learners** directly supports everyday student achievement. 100% of parents who took part in our Survey report they have never experienced discrimination at SHES.

Survey results indicate that 97.9% of students feel they try to do their best in school. The parent survey results showed that 100% of parents sometimes, usually or always know how their child is doing academically. Our school is fortunate to receive wonderful support from engaged parents who support school events and activities. Our **PTO** works diligently all year long to raise funds which support technology, class trips, classroom supplies, school performances and special events. This year's **SAC** gained many new members and the council provided valuable insights and feedback about our school and the HRSB.

