

St. Edward's School Report – 2006-07



St. Edward's School

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This school report is the final one in this format. For the 2006-07 school year, the school report will be replaced by the current provincial Annual School Development Report. This 2006-07 report is a combination of the former School Report Card and the current School Development Report. The 2006 - 2007 school will year will see our school adopt the current provincial model and continue our school's internal review. St. Edward's will then re-focus our values, vision and a new 3-5 year school development plan.

School Mission Statement

All students are unique. The staff of St. Edward's School shall strive towards taking the child, with the help of the family, to continual improvement so that he/she can become as complete a human being as his/her limits permit.

Message from the Director of Education

The Eastern School District is committed to providing safe and caring learning environments for its 44,000 students. This goal is supported by a strong team of education professionals who challenge and develop each student to achieve their full potential.

The district's focus on student achievement is evident in the Eastern School Board's ongoing strategic planning process, as well as in the goals and objectives set out by individual schools in their school development plans. The Board's focus on strategic planning will continue into the next school year as it engages with the public on its future goals and directions.

This school report for the 2006/07 school year highlights the activities of your school over the past year in achieving its stated goals. It provides an opportunity to review the challenges, successes and opportunities for your school in providing educational opportunities for students. It also highlights how success can be achieved when teachers, parents and community members work together in a supportive and collaborative manner.

I encourage you to review this school report and contemplate how you can contribute to your school's success, and to increased educational opportunity for all students.

Dr. Darin T. King
CEO/Director of Education

Message from St. Edward's Administrative Team

St. Edward=s School is pleased to present its ninth annual School Report. Since the school opened in December 1982 it has consistently reported to parents on student progress. At this time we wish to report to you on our school-wide progress, including a summary of our programs and services, as well as a synopsis of our results as measured on standardized tests.

This report is part of a wider initiative to increase parental involvement in our schools and to make the school system more accountable. As a school we have initiated the the provincial model for school development and we look forward to the completion of our internal review. This process will assist us in establishing goals and action plans for the 2006-07 school year. We hope that you read the report carefully, note our strengths and needs, and work with us to enhance the learning environment at St. Edward=s. We welcome your comments and encourage you to contact the school with your suggestions. Thank you for your continued support and cooperation.

Richard Gagnon
Principal

Trudy Buckle
Assistant Principal

Our School

St. Edward's is part of the Eastern School District which has 125 schools with a total of 44 000 students and approximately 4 000 teaching units and support staff. St. Edward's, which was built in 1982, includes grades kindergarten to six with a current enrolment of 560 students and offers programs in Kindergarten to Grade Six in both official languages, French and English. The school's jurisdiction encompasses Foxtrap in the east to Kelligrews in the west.

Our Staff and Classes

Our school has a total of 32.5 educational staff, which includes 24.5 classroom teachers and 5.0 categorical/ non categorical education units. We have a guidance counselor, a learning resource teacher, 3.25 specialist teachers in the areas of music, band and physical education as well as the support of 3 student assistants. In addition to the staff based at the school, we have access to District office staff including: a speech pathologist; itinerant teachers for the visually impaired, learning disabled and enrichment students; and a school psychologist. The school also has the services of secretarial, maintenance and cafeteria personnel.

Special Services

Students with identified exceptionalities were provided services by a Non Categorical and/ or Criteria teacher. Presently at our school, we have the services of 5.0 Categorical/ Non Categorical Special Education Units. The special education units include the services of a .5 non categorical teaching unit with the ability to speak French. These teachers were directly involved in the writing and implementation of the educational component of the ISSP's as well as monitoring students progress. Weekly meetings with Guidance, Speech Language Pathologist, categorical/ non categorical special education teachers and administration were held to discuss and monitor the on-going needs of our identified exceptional students. In addition we were allocated 16.5 hours student assistant time. Last year we had the services of 3 Student Assistants. Our Special Services Team served the needs of approximately 70 special education students.

Our aim is to meet the identified needs of all students placed in our special education programs. In consultation with all involved, an individualized program is designed. This program capitalizes on the strengths of the students and meets their individual needs through program and evaluation modifications.

Class Size

2006-2007		
Grade	Number of Students	Number of Groups
K	60	3
K-EFI	30	2
Gr. 1	44	3
Gr.1 EFI	30	2
Gr.2	51	3
Gr.2 EFI	25	1
Gr.3	53	2
Gr. 3 EFI	20	1
Gr. 4	50	2
Gr. 4 EFI	20	1
Gr. 5	56	2
Gr. 5 EFI	21	1
Gr. 6	74	3
Gr. 6 EFI	27	1

Pupil Teacher Ratio

For 2006-2007 the pupil-teacher ratio in St. Edward=s School was . This compares to a pupil-teacher ratio of 17.0 for the district and 13.9 for the province. This ratio is calculated by dividing the total student enrolment by the total educational staff. It does not indicate the average size of homeroom classes since the total number of educational staff includes educators such as the principal, guidance counselor, and specialist teachers (music, physical education, special education and learning resource). By comparing our pupil-teacher ratio to that of the province, we can see that our ratio is higher than that of many schools in the district and the province.

What Programs are offered at our School

Regular Curriculum

All our school programs are based upon a curriculum which is prescribed by the Department of Education and Training. This curriculum identifies learning outcomes for students in the different subject areas for the various levels of school, namely Primary and Elementary. The outcomes for each level provide teachers and parents with specific direction as to what students are expected to know, understand and be able to do as a result of instruction at the various grade levels.

In addition to these programs, St. Edward=s School is able to provide additional programming in the area of guidance, resource based learning, music, and physical education.

Guidance/ Counseling Services

St. Edward's School has a full time guidance counselor. The goals of the primary/elementary guidance program are to help children develop positive self esteem, to develop an understanding of self and others and to develop the skills of sound decision making and problem solving strategies. Guidance programming is developed and implemented by the guidance counselor with support from teachers and administrators. The counselor works with teachers and parents as well as other professionals as part of the Individual Support Services Team (ISSP). The guidance counselor works directly with students by providing individual and small group counseling services such as supporting children who have experienced grief and loss, or who need social skill development. The program supports teachers in the provision of classroom programs such as organizational skills, conflict resolution and personal safety. The role also includes assessment of children needing academic or behavioral supports, referring children to other community services, participating in the school's Tragic Events Support Team, and assisting in the transition of children from elementary school to junior high school.

Learning Resource Centre

Our school=s Resource Center is a busy place where children are actively engaged in learning. The resource teacher and the classroom teachers cooperatively plan units of work throughout the year. The Kindergarten to Grade 6 students participate in cooperatively planned units each year based on the curriculum outcomes of the particular grade level.

The Resource Center has an Aopen door@ policy which allows students to visit the Center during the school day.

Several years ago a Pre-Kindergarten program was introduced whereby pre-kindergarten children were invited to visit the Resource Center and borrow books. This program was implemented to emphasize the importance of reading at an early age.

The Columbia Library System is our circulation system. The students use OPAC (online public

access catalogue) to access the books and/or resources that they require. In addition, our two CD ROM computers are used for research purposes.

Music

St. Edward=s School offers a music program that involves all the students from Kindergarten to Grade 6. The program centers on the Kodaly method and students are active participants in rhythmic activity and solfege based singing. Students are exposed to Orff and rhythm instruments, note and rhythmic reading, music games, and choral speech and singing. At the elementary level, students also study composers, traditional music, families of instruments and various musical genres.

There are over 360 children involved in the school choirs. All students in grades 1-3 participate in grade level choirs and perform on school concerts and assemblies. The Elementary Choir is a non-select group of 141 grade 4-6 students. The Elementary Choir participates in the Choral Connections clinic and concert as well as other school concerts and assemblies. The grade 6 choir members form the Jazz Choir which performed this year at the Fairmont Hotel , the C.B.S. Christmas Tree Lighting Ceremony and various school events.

Each Spring our Drama Club performs a musical. The club is open to all students at the elementary grade level. Last year 85 elementary students performed the play ‘Rats – The Story of the Pied Piper.’ Our drama club meets once a week beginning in October through to Performance Night.

St. Edward’s has an active band program. Students in grades 5 and 6 are invited to join the band program. Our school has two bands – a beginner band with 40 members. Our advanced band has 14 students that participate

Music Enrichment is offered to our elementary students. Each year our music teacher identifies 14-16 students that have both aptitude and an interest in music and performance. Our enrichment group has two 30 minute periods per cycle. The group regularly performs at assemblies and has done some performance in the community.

Physical Education

Our school=s Physical Education program encourages all students to lead a healthy and active lifestyle beyond their formative school years. Students are encouraged to participate in all the activities regardless of their athletic ability. One of the goals of the Eastern School District is to promote Healthy and Active Schools. This past year a committee was formed to promote healthy and active living in our school. Numerous activities including school wide walks, skating and swimming sessions were held to promote a healthy life style.

Physical Education, at the primary and elementary levels, aims to provide a wide variety of

movement and balancing experiences. These activities develop physical abilities and promote positive attitudes toward active living, teamwork, and personal achievement. The program is designed to enhance student self-esteem, improve fitness levels, and provide students with the basic skills necessary for a healthy lifestyle.

Our entire school participated in the Terry Fox Run for cancer research. In keeping with the Eastern School District's Healthy and Active Living Policy our school has participated in a number of school wide events to promote a Healthy and Active Life style. Several times throughout the school year our entire student population participates in a walk for your breakfast event. Bussed students and students that are transported by their children are dropped off at a central location and approximately 1 kilometre from the school. Under the supervision of teachers students walk to the school. Upon arriving at school students are provided a healthy breakfast. Another school wide activity that promotes healthy and active living is participation in bi monthly aerobic exercise sessions. The school has an aerobics instructor come to the school every second Friday. All primary and elementary students participate in a 30 minute kickboxing aerobic session. In addition to our annual sports day our elementary students participate in intramural sports. Our school has girls and boys basketball and volleyball teams. Our school also has basketball skills development camps for students in grades 4,5 and 6.

Criterion Referenced Testing

How well students achieve the objectives of various provincial programs is measured using criterion referenced tests (CRTs). In these tests, student performance is compared to what students are expected to learn, that is, the material on these tests is matched to the objectives of the provincial curriculum. Each test is made up of subtests that focus on different parts of the program. To date, students have been tested on mathematics and language arts at the end of primary, and mathematics, writing, science, and core French at the end of elementary.

Language Arts CRT Results - Spring 2006

In the spring of 2006, Grade 3 English and Grade Six English Students across the Eastern School District and the province participated in a criterion referenced language arts assessment. The Language Arts Assessment is based on Five performance levels. Level Three indicates an acceptable grade level standard. Levels Four and Five indicate a standard of excellence above grade level. The following charts indicate how students from our school performed on these tests compared to students in the District and across the Province.

Criterion Referenced Test – Language Arts Process Writing*

Grade 3 (2007)

	Percentage of Students			Percentage of Students		
	Level 3 & Above			Level 4 & Above		
	School	District	Province	School	District	Province
Content	100	79.1	80.9	20	27.2	27.3
Organization	100	74.4	76.8	60	26.3	25.0
Sentence Fluency	80	73.7	76.7	0	25.6	23.6
Voice	100	74.7	73.7	40	24.4	24.1
Word Choice	100	85.8	86.1	20	18.5	18.3
Conventions	80	82.9	84.7	20	31.0	30.3

Criterion Referenced Test – Language Arts

Grade 3 (2007)

	Percentage of Students			Percentage of Students		
	Level 3 & Above			Level 4 & Above		
	School	District	Province		District	Province
Poetic Reading	74	67.1	65.8	16.0	15.2	14.6
Informational Reading	84	76.8	74.4	26	18.7	17.0
Visual Reading	74	45.7	42.6	20	9.0	8.3
Demand Writing	74.5	75.9	74.5	27.4	19.8	18.2
Listening	82.8	64.7	64.1	52	24.2	23.5
Speaking*	0	86.5	85.7	100	29.8	29.2

* Only a representative sample of students were selected to complete this portion of the test.

Mathematics CRT Results - Spring 2006

Our grade Three English and French Immersion students wrote the Criterion Referenced Test for Mathematics. Evaluation like the Language Arts was based on 5 levels of achievement. There were 3 categories evaluated - Shape and Space, Number Operations and Number Concepts.

Criterion Referenced Test – Mathematics Grade 3 (2007)

	Percentage of Students			Percentage of Students		
	Level 3 & Above			Level 4 & Above		
	School	District	Province	School	District	Province
Reasoning	70.9	44.2	43.6	27.8	12.0	12.0
Communication	59.8	38.2	37.5	20.9	9.0	9.0
Connections & Representations	56.9	36.1	36.3	25.0	8.7	9.0
Problem Solving	72.2	51.7	51.9	31.9	14.3	14.7
Number Sense	81.7	53.5	53.9	35.2	14.8	14.6
Place Value	88.7	52.0	52.2	26.7	12.2	12.1
Measurement	62.6	44.9	45.1	20.9	14.0	14.9
Geometry	59.7	44.9	46.9	44.4	21.7	23.7

Criterion Referenced Test – Mathematics Grade 6 (2007)

	Percentage of Students			Percentage of Students		
	Level 3 & Above			Level 4 & Above		
	School	District	Province	School	District	Province
Reasoning	44.3	32.0	33.1	10.3	7.7	8.0
Communication	42.3	29.1	30.6	8.3	6.5	7.0
Connections & Representations	44.3	38.5	40.1	10.3	8.4	9.1
Problem Solving	59.9	50.0	50.6	14.5	12.2	14.1
Number Sense	36.6	25.7	29.8	5.4	4.1	5.8

Place Value	24.8	32.6	33.8	9.7	10.0	11.1
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School Development 2006 - 2007

This was the third year of three year school development plan at St. Edward's. Our plan was developed using our school survey results from 2003-2006, provincial data. Results of criterion-referenced testing and Quality of School Life Survey and school based-results of the grade one provincial reading assessment. Our School Development Team met in September 2006 to revisit our plan and outline new objectives. In consultation with Deborah Toope our district assigned program specialist we have initiated the school development again. This past year we have surveyed, students, parents and staff to identify priority areas. In September 2006 began the process of identifying important school development goals that will meet the needs of our student population.

Over the course of the past three school years 2003-2006 we focused our attention on two important goals - Technology and maintaining a Safe and Caring School Environment. Below is a list of the goals and objectives that we accomplished this year.

Technology

Goal: To promote effective use of technology across the curriculum at all grade levels.

Objectives:

§ Purchase adequate hardware for classrooms

§Purchase supplementary hardware to support technology in the classrooms - digital camera, LCD player, Lap top computers (2) and an electronic screen for the gymnasium

§Acquired the necessary software and licenses to support technology

§Provided professional development support to address staff needs - closeout days Professional Development sessions offered to staff on technology

§Half day closeout to support the integration of First Class as a communications system.

Safe and Caring Schools

- Participation in the Roots of Empathy Program – 2 classes involved
- Parent Internet Safety course
- Monthly peace lessons – school wide

§Our school became a charter of Peaceful Schools International

§Grade 6 students participated in the D.A.R.E. program with the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary

\$Provided inservice education to all staff on inclusive education
\$Cooperative Learning strategies session
\$Peer mediation program
\$STRIVE program with the Royal Newfoundland Constabulary
\$A Breakfast Program was initiated Feb 2005
\$Bus Monitor Program

Message from St. Edward's School Council Chair

June 2007 another school year gone by... as the kids are excited about summer holidays, I would like to wish the students, parents, teachers and staff of St. Edward's School a safe and happy summer.

As chair of St. Edward's School Council I appreciated the opportunity serving the students and parents of our wonderful school. A huge thanks must be extended to the teachers and staff of St. Edward's for providing the care, attention and of course the excellent education to our English and French students alike.

Thanks to our thoughtful volunteers who provided a healthy breakfast to our children two days a week; with the assistance of the Breakfast Program, as well as, volunteering their time to help out in the Resource Centre, photocopying, or whatever the task, thank you.

To the students who made our Vegetable and Chocolate fundraisers an extreme success, thank you!

So kids enjoy the summer, get well rested because before you know it we'll see you in September...we hope eager to begin another year!

Rhonda Nugent

Our School Council met regularly throughout the year. The School Council Chairperson is Rhonda Nugent. Other council members include: Darlene Bennett - Teacher Representative, Trudy Buckle - Parent Representative, Karen Simmons - Parent Representative, Elaine Wells - Scott Andrews - Community Representative and Rick Gagnon - Principal. Minutes of School Council Meetings and Contact Information for all School council Members is available at the School Office.