

Perlwin Elementary Annual School Development Report 2016-17



Mission Statement: To provide a caring, supportive, healthy and active, and engaging environment, where our students receive a quality education focusing on academic achievement in preparation for an ever changing world.



Message from Director

A Message From

TONY STACK

CEO / DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (Interim)



The school development report for the 2016-17 school year outlines your school's successes in areas such as student achievement and professional development.

School development plans align with and support the Strategic Plan of the Newfoundland and Labrador English School District, and also give guidance to individual staff growth and development plans. Producing this report is not done to simply satisfy an administrative requirement, but rather it is an important exercise that captures what has been achieved in order to frame the next steps that schools must take to continually ensure the safety, security, and success of our students so that they may have all the tools needed to realize their full potential.

Our schools are full of passionate educators and staff who give of themselves every day to see a child realize their potential. Our teachers, support staff, administrators, school councils, parents, guardians, and students are truly invaluable as we set collective goals to take us into the future. Each and every member of our school communities has a role in creating an accomplished education system and please know we appreciate your support, feedback, and continued efforts as evidenced in this report.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to be 'Tony Stack', written over a white background.

Tony Stack

CEO/Director of Education (Interim)



Message from Principal

Please find enclosed the *Perlwin Elementary 2016-17 School Growth and Development Report*. This report is meant to provide stakeholders with information regarding the academic performance of our students, the programs and services offered at our school and an overview of the School Growth and Development Plan.

In 2016-17, we completed year two of a four-year plan in which we continued to focus on core literacy and numeracy along with renewing our focus on providing a safe caring, and healthy school environment; one in which students can achieve to the best of their ability.

During the school year, both our Grade Three and Grade Six classes participated in the English Language Arts Provincial Assessment, while our Grades One and Two students once again participated in Provincial Reading Assessments.

Also during 2016-17, as part of the new Department of Education's School Development Model, students across the province (Grades 3-6 at Perlwin) completed school development surveys in which they were asked to reflect on their school experience. Staff and parents were invited to complete similar studies in which they were asked to reflect on the quality of students' experience at Perlwin. The information derived from these assessments and surveys has helped form the objectives of the school's one year school development plan.

As we look ahead to 2017-18 and year three of the current School Growth and Development Plan we are excited about the many opportunities for growth that lies ahead. We will continue to focus on early core literacy and numeracy with a specific focus on improving students' ability to express themselves in writing across all subject areas. It is our plan as well to provide increased opportunity for teachers to improve their teaching by providing structures for their collaboration and professional learning. Through the continued dedication of our entire school community we will continue to pursue opportunities that will help our students develop as healthy, productive and successful citizens.

I extend heartfelt thanks to our staff, school council and all partners for your past contribution to School Growth and Development and look forward to your continued involvement in this regard.

Roger Green

Principal

Message from School Council Chair

I am pleased to bring greetings on behalf of the Perlwin Elementary School Council for the 2016-17 school year. While our school and school council remains small we have been able once again to accomplish a lot this year. I would like to extend a heartfelt thank-you to anyone who has contributed in any way to implementing the strategies and objectives of our School Growth and Development Plan. I would also like to thank the many service groups and businesses in the area that continue to contribute to the students at our school and to the public which support our fundraisers so generously.

Over the past school year, we have reviewed school achievement and school climate results of the school and we continue to be pleased with the educational experience that our children receive at Perlwin. It is our plan to continue to work with school administration to enhance the experience of our students in any way we can.

As we continue to work with the school to strive for excellence and look forward to next year we would like to say thank-you to everyone who continues to support the school in any way. We look forward to your continued support.

Alison Piercey

School Council Chair

Overview of School

Our School Community

Perlwin Elementary is a part of the Newfoundland and Labrador English School District. Located on the Trinity South Shore, it serves the Trinity Bay South communities of Heart's Content, New Perlican, Turk's Cove, Winterton, Hant's Harbour, New Chelsea, and New Melbourne. Approximately ninety percent of our students are bused daily.

Our school has an enrolment of approximately 55 students from Kindergarten to Grade Six. All programs are offered, as required by Newfoundland and Labrador's Department of Education, Program of Studies sometimes in combined grades. The average class size is approximately ten students with 5.25 regular teaching units, 1.0 Special Education unit and 0.50 administrative units. We have the services of a Guidance Counselor one day each week and a Speech-Language Pathologist once on a bi-weekly basis.

Key Highlights/Special Projects

Cultural Connections Grant

We received a grant in the amount of \$1700 to attend a "culturally significant" event within the province. This year we had chosen to attend a musical production of "The Wizard of Oz" at Holy Heart Theater. Unfortunately, poor weather forced us to cancel the trip.

Community Healthy Living Fund

We are pleased to announce that using the \$3000 that was allocated by this program we completed the walking trail from the school to the municipal playground area. It is our hope that this trail will improve access for students and in turn, increase the amount of time that students are actively engaged in outside play. This we hope will help us meet Department of Education guidelines around outside play for students.

STEM/Teachers in Action

For the third consecutive year we had two teachers from our school, Mrs. Lisa Mulley and Mrs. Tiffany Whalen accepted into the Memorial University's Teachers in Action/ STEM program. This program is an action research program that supports teachers in their efforts to provide exciting hands-on learning opportunities for their students in curriculum areas that are centered in the areas of Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM). The teachers who were involved this year used the funds allocated to purchase four new google chrome books.

Little Green Thumbs

For the third consecutive year our students participated in *Little Green Thumbs* - a program supported by the NL Federation of Agriculture in which students set up and maintain a growing system in their classroom. This project encourages students to plant, maintain, harvest and eat organic produce entirely within their own classroom. The project supports several Life Science and English Language Arts outcomes and many initiatives of the School Growth and Development Plan.

School Music Program

Once again, this year our students participated in a Christmas concert and various school assemblies. Our school choir participated at the Kiwanis Music festival.

School Physical Education program

Our students attended the annual Harvest Run cross country running event again this year. Also our students visited the new stadium at Harbour Grace for a skating trip. We continue to offer a lunch time sports program and various after school activities.

Leveled Literacy Initiative

In March we received a Leveled Literature Intervention kit. This is a significant investment by the school district which allows the school to target small groups of readers who are struggling to attain reading proficiency. It is our plan for next year to allocate a portion of our Instructional Resource efforts to facilitate direct implementation of this program.

Technology Update

We continue to invest in technology and other infrastructure that allows our students to access digital learning opportunities. Highlights from this year include

- Purchase of eleven new google chrome books. We are even investigating the possibility of assigning some of these computers to students who have been approved for Alternate Format Materials (AFM)
- Subscription to “Reading Eggs” was purchased. “Reading Eggs” is an online reading program which was received very well by teachers, parents and students.
- Purchase of a primary set of computer headphones to be used for digital learning resources such as Reading Eggs
- Elementary students and teachers are using Google Classroom more for homework communication, assignments etc.
- Eight laptops purchased from Computers for Schools.
- District sponsored “Digital Citizenship Lessons” taught to students in Grades 1-6.

Partnerships

Kids Eat Smart (KES) Foundation

With the support of the Newfoundland and Labrador Kids Eat Smart Foundation and the generosity of the local community our school could offer a nutritious breakfast to every student who chose to use it on a daily basis last year. Among our key highlights this year was the annual (KES) Walk to Breakfast which raised nearly \$1700 for the program.

Multi-Materials Stewardship Board (MMSB)

MMSB continues to provide matching grants for the recycling we do at school, an initiative which also promotes environmental stewardship in our school community. Currently several of our Grade Six students are involved in recycling at school.

Masonic Lodge, Heart's Content,

We were pleased to be among several schools in the area that participated in the Masonic Lodge's annual "This Little Light" program, a program designed to encourage positive relationships among students. Members of the Masonic Lodge along with local media and Communities Against Violence attended a celebration assembly to recognize students for their efforts with a picture drawing contest this year.

Royal Canadian Legion Carbonear Branch

We once again took part in the Remembrance Day Poster, Poem and Essay Contest. As we strive to develop appreciative and empathetic students, such partnerships are invaluable in providing opportunities for students to express themselves through the arts. This year as part of our Remembrance observance 9 Wing Gander landed one of its helicopters in the playground next to our school. Students had the opportunity to tour the helicopter and interact with members of 9 Wing Gander.

Lion's Club Old Pelican

As in previous years our students participated in the annual Lion's Club Speak off. The speak-off continues to be an excellent reading /writing/speaking opportunity for our students. We had a number of students who were recognized at the competition.

Kiwanis Club Carbonear

As well as hosting the annual music festival we were pleased to receive a donation of \$500 to our local breakfast program from the Carbonear Kiwanis Club.

Internal Assessment Data

As a K-6 school, student literacy holds a prominent place in the school development plan. Developing young readers and writers is central to the work any Primary/Elementary school does.

A review of this year's internal data suggests that the school is doing a reasonably good job in this regard. 82% of students, school wide, attained a "satisfactory" to "good" understanding of the English Language Arts indicator, "*Reads and Views a Variety of Texts with Purpose and Understanding*;" that is, 82% of students scored either "3" or "4" on this report card strand in Term Three. Breaking this down further, approximately 71% of our Primary students reached this same level compared to 90% of our elementary students. This surely speaks to the strong work our Elementary teachers are doing to prepare students for high school and to the terrific foundational work our Primary teachers do to set students up for success in the elementary grades. These numbers are consistent with our results on this year's elementary ELA provincial assessment where 88% of Grade Six students achieved at the provincial benchmark for reading.

The numbers are remarkably similar for writing. Internal data suggests that a vast majority of students at Perlwin are meeting writing standards. Students who are struggling with reading are very often those that struggle to meet writing expectations. In many cases these are students requiring intense levels of individual and small group support to succeed. Allotting scheduled time for teachers to work with small groups of students using the leveled Literature Initiative, as well as utilizing computer Based Reading Software programs, we believe, will increase our teachers' ability to do just that. As teachers use the Benchmark Assessment System (BAS) kit to diagnose the types of errors students are making while they read and subsequently determining next steps for improvement, we expect that even more of our students to find success. Utilizing the potential of G-Suite in conjunction with Alternate Format Materials (AFM) to deliver prescribed accommodations to qualifying students we believe will help students as both readers and writers as they are able to access course materials from all subjects more independently. Where reading is concerned in particular, we continue to invest the bulk of our resources to the Primary division realizing that reaching at risk students early offers the greatest chance at remediation. Going forward there is the greater chance of moving those students who have achieved a "satisfactory" understanding of reading and writing outcomes to a "good" understanding.

This goal is appropriate for our students' performance in mathematics as well. Approximately 40% of our population last year, at the end of Term Three, failed to score at least one "4" (excellent understanding) on any of the Math indicators at the end of Term Three. For the next school year, we are piloting in our school the district promoted interactive Math software Dreambox Learner in Grade Three. It is our intention as well to place greater emphasis on Math theme days that promote Math as an enjoyable subject to learn.

Report on School Development Plan for 2016-17 Year

Goal 1: To maximize and enhance student literacy attainment.	
Objective 1.1 To improve students' written output on a variety of text forms.	Objective 1.2 To improve students' critical thinking and inferencing in reading.
<p><u>Evaluation</u></p> <p>1.1.1 Completed on school “prop writing” and one school “continuous story” activity. Teachers experimented with buddy writing in buddy reading periods.</p> <p>1.1.2 Most teachers experimented with this.</p> <p>1.1.3 Many of our hallway bulletin boards contained student writings throughout the year. Reports from students detailing school activities were included in monthly newsletters.</p> <p>1.1.4 Grade Six students wrote persuasive letters to principal. Students throughout school wrote letters of thanks to 9 Wing Gander for bringing a helicopter to our school.</p> <p>1.1.5 Articles on latest research for writing shared at staff meetings. Discussions held regarding the merits of technology in early writing instruction</p> <p>1.1.6 This became a central focus of classroom instruction in ELA</p> <p>1.1.7 Increase in the use of GAFE for submitting written assignments.</p>	<p><u>Evaluation</u></p> <p>1.2.1 Created a school template in Google Sheets of School Reading Levels. Teacher’s will be encouraged to update this digitally on an ongoing basis. Color coded green, yellow and red to denote students who are meeting, almost meeting and not yet meeting reading standards. Will be used for LLI group formation</p> <p>1.2.2/1.2.3 Discussion and awareness increasing as to best practices going forwards for using diagnostic information from reading assessment to inform teaching practice going forward.</p> <p>1.2.4/ 1.2.5 Teachers using more of the strategies from authorized resources to target higher level reading strategies.</p> <p>1.2.6. Raz Kids resource not renewed in favor of a subscription to Reading Eggs digital reading program. This was pursued as a means of creating small reading groups for leveled Literature Initiative (LLI)</p>

Goal 2: To develop Mathematical communication/reasoning skills to help students think logically and make sense of Mathematics	
Objective 2.1 To develop Mathematical communication/reasoning skills- to help students think logically and make sense of Mathematics	Objective 2.2 To develop efficiency in Mathematical concepts/operations with all students
<u>Evaluation 2.1</u> 2.1.1. All teachers using Math Word Walls. Going forward teachers are encouraged to use these more throughout each unit and to allow students to create the walls themselves. 2.1.2. There is evidence that teachers are seeking and using resources beyond the text in this regard 2.1.3. Not attempted this year 2.1.4. Increased use of manipulatives in instruction noted. 2.1.5 Not yet attained. Will consider including these in next year's plan. 2.1.6 Not yet attained. Will consider including these in next year's plan.	<u>Evaluation 2.2</u> 2.2.1. Evidence that teachers are seeking and using resources beyond the text in this regard 2.2.2. Evidence that teachers are seeking and using such resources on the IPAD and in the computer lab 2.2.3. All teachers have designated areas within their class dedicated to small group Math learning 2.2.4. Not yet attained. . Will consider including these in next year's plan. 2.2.5 Continuing to “find” and organize existing resources-no new significant purchase of resources resulted from this strategy.

Goal 3: To foster and enhance a safe, caring and healthy environment

Objective 3.1 To promote positive interactions within the entire school environment

Objective 3.2 To incorporate daily physical activity and encourage healthy food choices

Evaluation 3.1

Evaluation 3.2

3.1.1. Completed

3.2.1 Completed

3.1.2. More Grade 6 students involved in recycling

3.2.2 Fruit served daily at Breakfast Club

3.1.3. Sent home in opening day packages/ added to website

3.2.3 Completed in monthly school newsletter

3.1.4 Utilized to implement routines during first week of school. Needs to expand on this throughout the school year/capitalizing on the course work of our elementary students in Health, Religion etc.

3.2.4 Needs more attention

3.2.5 Needs to be more regular

3.1.5 One reference to bullying research in monthly newsletter-be more consistent with this next year.

3.2.6 Students participate in lunch time sports at least every second day-student used new trail to visit playground more often

3.2.7 Completed in monthly school newsletter

Operational Issues Report 2016-17

Year	Issue	Action	Evaluation
2016-17	Relocate/Establish Technology Lab	Put on hold pending government's decision regarding public library closures.	Will reevaluate next year.
2016-17	Classrooms and Storage Areas to Hold Books, resources etc.	Reorganized School Book Room	Still Require more shelving in several rooms
2016-17	Complete Walking Trail to Town Playground	Completed	Trail has been a welcomed addition to the school exterior.
2016-17	Repair Gymnasium Floor	Completed	Repairs were effective however other areas of the floor have become an issue.
2016-17	Interior painting	Spoke with Maintenance Personnel	Will continue to make request to Maintenance Department

Actions for Change

Objective 1.1	Objective 1.2	Objective 1.3
<p><u>Actions for Change 1.1</u></p> <p>Realizing the interconnectedness of reading and writing we are combining these objectives within our plan.</p> <p>Greater focus on interactive software and small group reading instruction</p> <p>Increased focus on school wide writing initiatives that allow students to work in small groups and with their mixed-aged peers.</p> <p>Specific time allotted in schedule for the use of LLI kit.</p>	<p><u>Actions for Change 1.2</u></p> <p>Two math objectives merged to create one math objective that focuses on core skills and problem solving.</p> <p>Greater focus on interactive software as a tool for students to learn mathematics</p> <p>Greater focus on math theme days that allow for different kinds of learning and for students and families to discover the joy of learning math.</p>	<p><u>Actions for Change</u></p> <p>Added an objective that has as its focus encouraging teacher growth and collaboration. The objective recognizes that continued focus on teacher self-reflection and pursuit of best practice is critical to teacher growth and student achievement.</p>

Objective 2.1	Objective 2.2	Objective 2.3
<p><u>Actions for Change 2.1</u></p> <p>Continuing to focus on increasing positive interactions among students and between students and teachers.</p> <p>Character education program for elementary students.</p> <p>Teachers to experiment with Restorative Justice principles</p>	<p><u>Actions for Change 2.2</u></p> <p>Healthy lifestyles to focus on mental and emotional well-being in addition to just physical activity. A reference to self-regulation activities</p>	<p><u>Actions for Change 2.3</u></p> <p>A new outcome speaking to the need for improving communication between home and school and showcasing the many good things that are occurring in the school community.</p>

One Year School Development Plan 2017-18

Goal 1: To improve student achievement across the curriculum within an inclusive environment		
Objective 1.1: Increase student proficiency in reading and writing across a variety of text forms.	Objective 1.2: Increase student achievement across core Mathematics skills.	Objective 1.3: Increase teacher knowledge and collaboration across all subjects.
<p>Strategies:</p> <p>1.1.1 Utilize interactive reading software programs. eg. Reading Eggs</p> <p>1.1.2 Expand the use of the Leveled Literature (LLI) initiative in the Primary Grades</p> <p>1.1.3 Re-emphasize the importance of Nightly Reading Logs</p> <p>1.1.4 Use Benchmark Assessment System (BAS) kits as a teaching tool</p> <p>1.1.5 Use Guided Reading on a consistent basis grouping by instructional need where appropriate</p> <p>1.1.6 Expand the use of school wide writing initiatives that involves small group, mixed grade writing opportunities</p> <p>1.1.7 Continue to showcase student writing both at school and online to motivate students to write for the love of writing.</p>	<p>Strategies:</p> <p>1.2.1 Utilize interactive Math Software Programs, games and sites. (eg. Dreambox Learner, Math Seeds)</p> <p>1.2.2 Implement Guided Math Sessions</p> <p>1.2.3 Host a variety of whole school Math activities and theme days.</p> <p>1.2.4. Share best practices related to problem solving instruction among staff members.</p>	<p>Strategies:</p> <p>1.3.1 Increase teacher knowledge of the latest research on effective teaching.</p> <p>1.3.2 Increase teacher engagement in reflective practice</p> <p>1.3.3 Increase opportunities for instructional leadership</p> <p>1.3.4 Increase teacher collaboration</p>
<p>Indicators of Success:</p> <p>1.1.1 Improved student performance on all internal and external achievement measures</p> <p>1.1.2 Increased student confidence and motivation</p>	<p>Indicators of Success:</p> <p>1.2.1 Improved student performance on all internal and external achievement measures</p> <p>1.2.2 Increased student confidence and motivation</p>	<p>Indicators of Success:</p> <p>1.3.1 Increased teacher competency and capacity</p> <p>1.3.2 A more collaborative learning environment</p>

Goal 1. Support Plan

Financial	Professional Development/Time Required
<p><u>1.1.1/1.21</u> Purchase of instructional Software Subscriptions (Reading Eggs, Dreambox Learner, Math Seeds) \$ 700 Continued Investment in Technology Hardware (computers, headphones etc.) \$1500</p> <p><u>1.3.1</u> Renew subscriptions to professional literature eg. <u>Educational Leadership</u> \$200</p>	<p>1.1.1 Professional learning (PL) opportunities for Dream box, G-Suite, Leveled Literature etc.)</p>

Goal 2: To provide a safe, caring and healthy school environment in which all are motivated to reach their full potential.		
Objective 2.1: To increase the number of positive interactions among students.	Objective 2.2: Develop healthy and active lifestyles within the school community	Objective 2.3: Improve communication/cooperation between home and school.
Strategies: 2.1.1 Implement Restorative Justice principles throughout the school 2. 1.2 Enhance focus on school wide PBIS 2.1.3 Implement Character Education program in Grades 4- 6	Strategies: 2.2.1 Implement daily self regulation routines 2.2.2 Increase opportunities for students to be physically active throughout the school day. 2.2.3 Enhance and increase the number of school wide healthy living initiatives. 2.2.4 Improve eating choices of all students.	Strategies: 2.3.1 Create opportunities for family involvement in learning (eg. guest readers, math/literacy day) 2.3.2 Improve emergency and non-emergency communication to home. 2.3.3 Utilize school council to increase parent/guardian involvement in school life and the learning process
Indicators of Success: 2.1.1 Fewer and less serious incident reports recorded in Review 360. 2.1.2 Improved school climate as measured by PMI Safe and Caring. 2.1.3 Increased student confidence and motivation	Indicators of Success: 2.2.1 Fewer and less serious incident reports recorded in Review 360. 2.2.2 Improved school climate as measured by PMI Safe and Caring. 2.2.3 Increased student confidence and motivation	Indicators of Success: 2.3.1 Increased student attendance 2.3.2 Improved student performance on all internal and external achievement measures 2.3.3 Increased student confidence and motivation

Goal 2. Support Plan

Financial	Professional Development/Time Required
<u>2.1.2</u> PBIS Student Incentive \$500 <u>2.2.4</u> Investment in healthier Canteen snacks \$500	<u>2.1.1</u> Professional learning (PL) opportunities around Restorative Justice

Operational Issues for 2017-18

Operational Issue	Intended Action
Relocate Public Library/Enhance School Technology Area	Consult with public library and district staff (technology and maintenance) staff to facilitate move.
Paint all Interior doors	Make request to district maintenance staff
Improve Walkway at Front of Building near middle entrance	Make request to district maintenance staff
Improved shelving through School	Make Request to district maintenance staff