

St. Catherine's Academy

P.O. Box 150,
Mount Carmel, NL, A0B 2M0

2017-18 School Development Report



Our Mission

The School Community of St. Catherine's Academy is committed to "Pursuing Excellence from here to Eternity" through the development of the whole person in a nurturing and supporting environment where individuality is recognized and the rights of others are respected.

Message from the School Principal

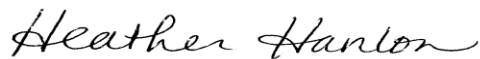
As Principal of St. Catherine's Academy, I am pleased to present our annual School Development Report for the 2017-2018 academic year.

This report presents an overview of the programs and services offered at St. Catherine's Academy, as well as an analysis of student achievement. We celebrate student success and thank our dedicated staff for their ongoing efforts to ensure a quality education for our student body. While we are proud of our students' accomplishments, there are areas we have identified that need greater attention. Those areas will comprise the objectives of our School Growth and Development Plan for the 2018-19 school year. In addition to our academic objectives, we are as equally concerned with providing students and staff with a safe, caring and socially just learning and teaching environment.

We are so privileged to have such a supportive school community at St. Catherine's Academy. Thank you to all staff, parents, families, community organizations, local businesses and volunteers for their continued commitment to the students of St. Catherine's Academy. I extend sincere appreciation to our entire school community, especially to our School Council, for their involvement in our school development process as we move forward with a collective vision for St. Catherine's Academy.

Please take time to examine the information presented in this report. We value your input and welcome the opportunity to discuss the contents of this report.

Sincerely,



Heather Hanlon, B.A., B.Ed., M.Ed.
Principal

Message from the School Council

I am pleased to bring greetings on behalf of the St. Catherine's Academy School Council. To begin, I would like to thank the members of council for their dedication to St. Catherine's Academy for the 2017-2018 academic year:

Ms. Jennifer Bonnington, Parent Representative
Ms. Heather Hanlon, Administrative Representative
Ms. Lauren Harnum, Teacher Representative / Assistant Principal
Ms. Marilyn Linehan, Parent Representative
Ms. Maureen Linehan, Secretary and Teacher Representative
Ms. Donna Power, Community Representative

Over the past year, the school council has worked with the administration and staff to help meet the goals set out in the School Development Plan. Increased student achievement and maintaining a safe, caring and socially just school environment are key objectives at St. Catherine's Academy. Throughout the year, we discussed performance standards, graduation statistics, school surveys and both internal and external indicator reports.

We worked closely with school staff to celebrate student achievement through the fourth annual Red Carpet Day and a Student Volunteer Dinner. Our third annual Craft Fair was a huge success and plans are already underway for November 2018. Council operated the school's recycling program and assisted with the organization of the Shave for the Brave event, Literacy Day and various activities to provide social activities for students with varying interests.

On behalf of Council, I would like to extend a sincere thank you to the staff, volunteers and community partners who worked together to create a positive educational experience for our students.

We look forward to continuing to support our administrative team and all staff to achieve the goals identified in the annual School Growth and Development Plan, and to contributing to the school's overall success through the building of partnerships.

I would like to wish our students continued success in their endeavors, both curricular and extra-curricular, as you represent St. Catherine's Academy. Finally, I would like to thank our school community for the continued support they show us in so many different ways.

Sincerely,



Tracy Williams
Chair

Overview of School

Our School Community

St. Catherine's Academy is located in St. Catherine's, St. Mary's Bay. We serve the communities of Admiral's Beach, O'Donnell's, St. Joseph's, New Bridge, Forest Field, St. Catherine's, Mount Carmel, Mitchell's Brook, Harricott, Colinet, North Harbour, Deer Park and Salmonier Line. St. Catherine's Academy opened in 1993, following the amalgamation of schools on the north and south sides of Salmonier Arm. We have a current population base of 73 projected for the 2018-19 school year. Our homeroom configurations are as follows: Kindergarten to Grade 3, Grades 4-6, Grades 7-9, Level I/II and Level III. This year, we do not have any students enrolled in Grade 8. We offer a single stream English program with all courses required for students to successfully complete a High School Diploma. We also offer numerous senior high school courses via CDLI (Centre for Distance Learning and Innovation). Secretarial, maintenance and custodial services are provided, as well as district itinerant services, where needed.

Key Highlights/Special Projects

Learning Commons

During the 2017-18 school year we began a project to transform our Library into a true learning commons. The reconfiguration of this space included new furniture, the addition of technology in the form of computer stations and a team board and various centers.

Breakfast Club

We are very proud of our Breakfast Program at St. Catherine's. Through this program, we provide a nutritious breakfast to all students every school day. This program continues to be very successful, thanks to our staff volunteers and generous donors. We also use this program as an opportunity to educate our children about the importance of proper nutrition and the long term benefits of a healthy diet. We host special days, such as fruit and vegetable days, when we highlight the benefits of such foods. Funding for this program is provided through Kids Eat Smart.

Thanksgiving Personal Care Product Drive / Operation Christmas Tree

In our efforts to encourage empathy in our school community, each year students collect personal care products during the Thanksgiving season to donate to groups/ agencies who care for those in need. Each Christmas, the Student Leadership Team collects non-perishable food items and prepares Christmas hampers for needy families within our school community.

Partnerships

At St. Catherine's Academy, we value the importance and benefits of building partnerships. Over the past few years, we have actively promoted the establishment of partnerships and once again, this year, we are reaping many benefits from our partnerships. Our current partnerships include:

- **Knights of Columbus, St. Mary's Bay Council**
 - Sponsor various student activities throughout the year, including drug awareness and substance abuse poster contests, Basketball Free Throw event, hockey blast event, annual essay competition, etc.
 - Volunteer for various activities, such as clean-up for our Annual Christmas Community Breakfast.
 - The Knights work with our student leadership team to organize donations for their annual food drive.
 - This group also donates annually to our scholarship fund.

- **Health and Community Services/RCMP Detachment Holyrood**
 - DARE and Junior/Senior High Anti-Drug initiatives.
 - Assist with the defining of our safe and caring school and healthy living initiatives, including our Lockdown and Secure School Protocols.
 - Providing various supports, including assistance with our Safe School Plan and presentations (ie. Bullying awareness)
 - The RCMP also conduct an annual Bike Rodeo for our students.

- **Good Shepherd Parish**
 - Support the school through involvement in various activities, such as the annual Senior Graduation, annual Christmas Tree Lighting Assembly, etc. The parish also supports the school in our fundraising efforts and communication with the school community by posting school messages in the weekly church bulletin.

- **S.C.A. Ladies Fitness Group**
 - Sponsor of our School Breakfast Program.

- **Riverview Restaurant**
 - The owner and staff of Riverview Restaurant assist us with all major events at the school by loaning us tables, etc. This year the owner also donated a set of basketball uniforms to our Boys' Team.

- **Ryan's Valufoods**
 - This company donated a set of basketball uniforms for our Girls' Team.

- **Kids Eat Smart**
 - Sponsor of our School Breakfast Program.

- **The Telegram**
 - Provide daily copies of The Telegram through their Newspapers in Education Program which are used in our classrooms and LRC.

- **Mount Carmel Building Supplies**
 - Monetary and supply donations to various special projects at the school.
 - Help with transporting recyclables to the Depot in Riverhead.
 - Donation of uniforms and choir shirts, as needed.

- **Royal Canadian Legion, Branch 62**
 - Attend and participate in our annual Remembrance Day Ceremony.
 - Sponsor their annual poster and essay contests.

- **Canadian Red Cross, Newfoundland and Labrador Region**
 - Provide support to our Beyond the Hurt Youth Facilitators, through the Respect Ed Program.
 - Provide training through the Red Cross Babysitting Course
 - Training, provision of resources and professional support.

- **S.C.A. Retired Teachers Group**
 - Volunteer to help in any way possible (Library, coaching, graduation, etc.)
 - Serve as judges for our various fairs.

The building of partnerships has contributed greatly to St. Catherine's Academy and will continue to be an ongoing school initiative.

Summary Report on the School's Most Current Data

Internal Assessment Data (synthesis of report card data to report trends)

Grades K-6

Number of Students Performing at Level 1 or 2 in Math:

Term 3, 2017-2018- 5 students
Term 3, 2016 - 2017 – 3 students
Term 3, 2015 - 2016 – 6 students
Term 3, 2014 - 2015 – 8 students
Term 3, 2013 - 2014 – 4 students
Term 3, 2012 - 2013 – 4 students
Term 3, 2011 - 2012 – 8 students
Term 3, 2010 - 2011 – 7 students

Number of Students Performing at Level 1 or 2 in Language Arts Term 3:

Term 3, 2017-2018- 7 students
Term 3, 2016 - 2017 – 9 students
Term 3, 2015 - 2016 – 11 students
Term 3, 2014 - 2015 – 9 students
Term 3, 2013 - 2014 – 3 students
Term 3, 2012 - 2013 – 4 students
Term 3, 2011 - 2012 – 9 students
Term 3, 2010 - 2011 – 8 students

Grades 7-12

Number of Students Receiving less than 50% in Math in June:

Term 3, 2017-2018 - 0 students
Term 3, 2016 - 2017 – 2 students
Term 3, 2015 - 2016 – 1 student
Term 3, 2014 - 2015 – 2 students
Term 3, 2013 - 2014 – 1 student
Term 3, 2012 - 2013 – 2 students
Term 3, 2011 - 2012 – 2 students
Term 3, 2010 - 2011 – 2 students

Number of Students Receiving less than 50% in Language in June:

Term 3, 2017-2018 – 0 students
Term 3, 2016 - 2017 – 0 students
Term 3, 2015 - 2016 – 0 students
Term 3, 2014 - 2015 – 0 students
Term 3, 2013 - 2014 – 1 student
Term 3, 2012 - 2013 – 0 students
Term 3, 2011 - 2012 – 1 students
Term 3, 2010 - 2011 – 2 students

What do these results tell us?

The number of students experiencing difficulty with English Language Arts in K-6 remains a concern. We are observing those students closely and are implementing academic interventions based on their individual needs. Through team teaching and IRT support, we will also implement class-wide interventions where necessary. We are hopeful that the addition of the support of a Reading Specialist will make a significant difference to this trend. The school development plan for 2018-2019 includes objectives and strategies specific to improving reading comprehension.

Through observation and analysis, it is evident that for our students who experience difficulties in Mathematics, we can often directly relate the issue to their literacy skills.

Our School Development Plan continues to be centered on improving student achievement in a safe and caring and socially just learning environment. While our data is evidence that most of our students are performing well academically, we need to continue to reach those who are not realizing their maximum potential in this regard. Likewise, we need to ensure that we are challenging those students who are meeting grade level expectations in achieving their fullest potential. Essentially, we need to be cognizant that meeting grade level expectation is not enough, as most students' ability is much greater than this identified standard. We will also continue to focus on providing opportunities for our students to continue to develop into socially aware citizens.

Report on School Development Plan for Previous Year

School Development Plan 2017 – 2018

Goal 1. To increase student achievement at all Grade Levels in an inclusive school environment.			
Objective 1.1	Objective 1.2	Objective 1.3	Objective 1.4
Improve student Literacy skills throughout the K-12 curriculum	Improve student responsibility, accountability and ownership of academic success	Utilize assistive technology to support student learning and assessment	Improve fundamental student Numeracy skills throughout the K-12 Mathematics curriculum
<p>Evaluation 1.1: Teachers are commended for embracing the Literacy Block structure. Internal data demonstrates an improvement in reading comprehension for many students in K-6 who were experiencing difficulty in this area. In high school classes, teachers were pleased to note an improvement in the area of the analytical essay.</p>	<p>Evaluation 1.2: Students gained responsibility through the implementation of the new evaluation and attendance policies. Fewer students miss assessments without a valid reason. They are also aware that they have to take responsibility for earning second chance opportunities. Staff is commended for their work in rolling out the new policies.</p>	<p>Evaluation 1.3: All students who require the use of assistive technology have been trained to use Word Q/Speak Q. Our Service Delivery Team has also implemented a system for testing where each student has individual flash drives and headsets which can be used for testing. Staff members were trained in the use of this technology along with the Surface Pros that students use in class.</p>	<p>Evaluation 1.4: Teachers implemented Math word walls and Math competitions. The Math Block was implemented in Grades 4 and 5, with other teachers having the opportunity to observe these classes.</p>

Goal 2: To foster a safe and caring school environment that promotes personal well-being and social justice for all.		
Objective 2.1: Complete and consistently use a new SWPBIS program	Objective 2.2: To begin empathy and acceptance education	Objective 2.3 To continue to educate students on the importance of proper digital citizenship.
Evaluation 2.1: The new SWPBIS system is up and running. It was well received by students. There was an improvement in the recording of incidents in Review 360.	Evaluation 2.2: Students had the opportunity to participate in many presentations and workshops geared towards acceptance of many different people from all walks of life. We have seen a shift in climate in our school to one that is more accepting of people's differences.	Evaluation 2.3: Digital Citizenship lessons were delivered through our Health classes. All staff members continue to discuss the importance of Digital Citizenship in all classes. We have seen a decline over the past number of years in the number of incidents reported to administration concerning improper use of technology.

Operational Issues Report 2017-18

Issue	Action	Evaluation
Need for more student computer stations	To work with District Staff to install more computer work stations in both the senior high computer lab and the learning resource center.	New stations have been installed.
Library Restructuring	To complete the library revitalization project that was started last year.	The library has been transformed into a more user friendly environment with access to necessary technology. Further work is needed to replenish the library with current reading materials.
Leaky roof over gym	To advocate for new roofing over the gym area.	While some patching was completed, this issue is currently unresolved.

Actions for Change

Goal 1. To increase student achievement at all Grade Levels in an inclusive school environment.			
Objective 1.1	Objective 1.2	Objective 1.3	Objective 1.4
Improve student Literacy skills throughout the K-12 curriculum	Improve student responsibility, accountability and ownership of academic success	Utilize assistive technology to support student learning and assessment	Improve fundamental student Numeracy skills throughout the K-12 Mathematics curriculum
<p>Actions for Change 1.1: While there were great strides made in the area of Literacy Blocks, as a staff we need to be consistent in the delivery of the blocks. Reading comprehension remains to be an area of concern. We hope to make more progress in this area with the addition of a Reading Specialist to our staff and the use of targeted interventions.</p>	<p>Actions for Change 1.2: A periodic review of the policies is needed to keep students on track. It is also essential that all staff consistently follow the policy. The tutoring program is still underutilized even with a concerted effort to encourage students to avail of the tutoring for tuition program. While the location of our school may be a factor, we must continue to promote the value of this program both to possible tutors and those in need of tutoring.</p>	<p>Actions for Change 1.3: While we are very proud of how far we have come in the area of assistive technology, it will remain an area of focus. Even with all of the exposure to assistive technology, some students remain resistant to using it, preferring to have a teacher read or scribe for them. More effort is required to promote the benefits of using technology to these students. As well, we have to explore the use of more up to date technology.</p>	<p>Actions for Change 1.4: Moving forward, teachers need to have PL opportunities where they can visit other schools to observe the Math Block in practice. We also plan on creating greater student interest through more Math competitions.</p>

Goal 2: To foster a safe and caring school environment that promotes personal well-being and social justice for all.		
Objective 2.1: Complete and consistently use a new SWPBIS program	Objective 2.2: To begin empathy and acceptance education	Objective 2.3 To continue to educate students on the importance of proper digital citizenship.
<p>Actions for Change 2.1:</p> <p>We have to make the conscious effort to plan reward activities for the various teams on a regular basis. Further work can also be done to engage the high school students in the program.</p>	<p>Actions for Change 2.2:</p> <p>Now that the foundation has been laid in this area, we must continue to promote acceptance and understanding through student lead initiatives.</p>	<p>Actions for Change 2.3:</p> <p>While the number of incidents reported to administration have decreased, this is a topic which is constantly evolving with the introduction of new technologies. As a staff, we must continue to encourage students to be mindful of their online presence.</p>

One Year School Development Plan

School Development Plan 2018 – 2019

Goal 1. To increase student achievement at all Grade Levels in an inclusive school environment.		
<p>Objective 1.1 Improve student Literacy skills throughout the K-12 curriculum</p>	<p>Objective 1.2 Improve Numeracy skills throughout the K-12 Mathematics curriculum</p>	<p>Objective 1.3 Improve student responsibility, accountability and ownership of personal success.</p>
<p>Strategies:</p> <p>1.1.1. Continue to incorporate Literacy Blocks in all K-6 classes / Introduce in Grade 7</p> <p>1.1.2. Provide exposure and experiences to enhance students’ ability to make personal, worldly and textual connections in literacy</p> <p>1.1.3. Encourage and provide opportunities for reading for pleasure</p> <p>1.1.4. Increase students’ reading comprehension in all curriculum areas</p> <p>1.1.5. Provide opportunities for all students to avail of the resources in the Learning Commons</p> <p>1.1.6. Foster a Professional Learning Community for all staff involved in the Phase I Literacy Initiative</p>	<p>Strategies:</p> <p>1.2.1 Implement Numeracy Blocks in all K-6 classes.</p> <p>1.2.2 Increase students’ personal connection to Math in real world situations.</p> <p>1.2.3 Increase students’ mental Math skills.</p>	<p>Strategies:</p> <p>1.3.1 Consistently utilize assistive technology to support student learning and assessment.</p> <p>1.3.2 Increase student independence when completing class work</p> <p>1.3.3 Consistently follow the district attendance policy.</p> <p>1.3.4 Consistently implement the PBS program.</p>
<p>Indicators of Success:</p> <p>1.1.1. Literacy Blocks are the primary method for Language instruction in K-6</p> <p>1.1.2. Students demonstrate the ability to make connections when analyzing materials cross curricularly.</p>	<p>Indicators of Success:</p> <p>1.2.1 Numeracy Blocks have been implemented and consistently used in K-6 classrooms.</p> <p>1.2.2 Students can identify the use of Math in real world situations.</p>	<p>Indicators of Success:</p> <p>1.3.1 Students and staff consistently use assistive technology for learning and assessment</p> <p>1.3.2. Students demonstrate the ability to complete tasks independently</p>

<p>1.1.3. Students actively use time and resources provided for this initiative.</p> <p>1.1.4. Evidence of increased scores on comprehension questions across the curriculum.</p> <p>1.1.5 Dedicated Library periods and a schedule of sessions provided by the Teacher Librarian</p> <p>1.1.6 Formation of the group with scheduled meeting times and evidence of a true PLC.</p>	<p>1.2.3 An increase in Math scores and mental Math skills.</p>	<p>1.3.3. Powerschool data reflects an increase in attendance.</p> <p>1.3.4. The number of Hogwarts cards distributed have increased and team challenges occur on a monthly basis.</p>
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Goal 1. Support Plan	
Financial	Professional Development/Time Required
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Budget for furnishings for Library ● \$200.00 for supplies for PBS challenges 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● PD for teachers to observe Numeracy Blocks in action

Goal 2: To foster a safe and caring school environment that promotes personal well-being and social justice for all.		
Objective 2.1: To facilitate awareness and education around mental health practices.	Objective 2.2: To continue to deliver empathy and acceptance education.	Objective 2.3 To deliver a comprehensive digital citizenship program to all students.
Strategies:	Strategies:	Strategies:
2.1.1 Explore the possibility of a staff member	2.2.1 Continue to deliver acceptance and empathy	2.3.1 Deliver a digital citizenship program to

obtaining Mental Health First Aid training. 2.1.2 Implement mindfulness practices throughout the school for both staff and students' well-being.	training to students using a variety of approaches. 2.2.2 Promote social justice within the school.	all divisions as developed by the NL English School District
Indicators of Success: 2.1.1. Selected staff member will have received Mental Health First Aid training. 2.1.2 Resources are purchased and implemented in classroom activities.	Indicators of Success: 2.2.1. Student sessions and presentations are completed; resources are purchased. 2.2.2 The Student Leadership Team will have participated in and delivered social justice activities.	Indicators of Success: 2.3.1. Students demonstrate an understanding of the importance of the program delivered.

Goal 2. Support Plan	
Financial	Professional Development/Time Required
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● \$200.00 for materials required for mindfulness sessions ● \$500.00 to cover the cost of presentations for empathy and acceptance education 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Mental Health First Aid Training PD for teachers

Operational Issues for 2018 -19

Operational Issue	Intended Action
Leaky roof and windows	Advocate to district for roof repairs
Damaged gym floor	Advocate for replacement of gym flooring

Team /SMART Board hardware adjustments	Contact district personnel to request adjustments to problematic board installations
Library Remodeling	Acquire furnishings for Learning Commons