

2022-23 Annual School Development Report



Burgeo Academy Mission Statement

It is the mission of Burgeo Academy to prepare students for the future by assisting in the development of their growth emotionally, physically, intellectually, socially, and morally. This will be achieved by providing a stimulating environment that fosters pride and encourages mutual respect, safety and equality in a modern world

Strategic Issue: To improve student belonging and connection to their school community by focusing on social emotional learning

How did you know this was a Strategic Issue? What evidence did you have?

This was a strategic issue from reviewing the various pieces of data that we have at our school: school development surveys, PMR data, report card data, from discussions at various staff/PLC/SDT/divisional meetings, and just from informal conversations with staff and students.

Also, along with various emails and meetings with school board personnel, we felt that as a staff, we needed to review where we were to in how students felt a sense of belonging to our school. While Covid was very unsettling for us all, for many reasons, it did provide us the opportunity to step back and look at what/how our students were connected to Burgeo Academy. For a few years Covid made life at school too structured. There were so many rules and protocols in place, which were needed, but then we witnessed our students not wanting to come to school and not able to participate in the awesome activities we had pre-Covid.

After meeting with teachers one-on-one and at various meetings, we felt as a staff that we needed to focus more on SEL for our students and staff. We were also very confident that pre-Covid we did a good job with having that connection with students/staff/school. We needed to bring those ideas back and to improve on how we interact with all stakeholders. This was a full school decision – not from administration. Teachers took ownership of their need to improve in these areas. I am very pleased to say that we were successful in just that – improving in having our students feel welcomed and having a sense of belonging and connection to each other, to us and their school.

Year-end Summary of Progress. What evidence do you have to support this progress?

Recent school development surveys and after reviewing report card data, having formal and informal conversations with

staff, parents and our students, we felt that we have achieved this strategic goal. We were successful in the following:

- Teachers provided all students with a list of possible SEL activities.
- Teachers met at the beginning of each month to plan SEL activities for the end of each month. These activities included: Movie afternoon/night; Zumba; Scavenger Hunt; Gym Activities; Outdoor Activities (for example, Winter Frolics, Snowshoeing); arena activities (skating, board games, darts, a game of hockey).
- Each class was a feature of the month. An area of the school in front of the main office was used to showcase students from that class.
- Every student and staff member spent one hour reading on Mondays. Everyone stopped what they were doing and spent the hour reading with no electronics, no school related reading material, they chose a novel/magazine/comic etc. from our library or brought one from home.
- Our student body actively participated in town ideas i.e. town clean up, Christmas Parade, Remembrance Day event(s), etc.
- Burgeo Academy hosted a Christmas dinner on Wednesday, December 21 for all staff and students. Our snack ladies helped with the meal. There was music and Santa made a visit!
- We held a sports day at the playground next to the school. This included various activities as well as lunch was provided (water, pop, barbecue hotdogs, hamburgers and there was a cake).
- Staff went out of their way to make personal connections with students on a daily basis (meet and greet in front of the school and/or hallway, engage students with topics of their interest, pose random questions etc.).
- The school purchased a new stereo for the gym. Music was played during morning sports, recess time, gym classes (when applicable), etc. This was very well received and there were lots of activities occurring, especially during recess time.
- Student council continued to plan events throughout the school year and for special occasions: last day of school for Christmas break and Easter break (events: water balloon fight, pie in the face, fear factor, various games, etc.).
- Staff continued with our PBS Program (passing out tickets/tokens for positive behavior). The token store was opened for K-6 on 3 occasions throughout the school year; 7-12 students were involved in the action auction towards the end of the school year.
- We obtained funding for out of town trips for the following: our grade 8-12 students toured the College of the North in the Fall, our grade 6-12 students spent a day at Marble Mountain skiing during March, while our grade K-5 students

had a day swimming in Stephenville in June.

- **Students and staff took part in Education Week activities.**

Next Steps...

After reviewing recent data (listed above), we, as a staff, felt that we have reached this strategic goal. Again, from looking at recent data, we felt our focus now must be on improving academics through teachers as learners. Our strategic issue for this school year is improving academic engagement and motivation through teacher engagement in professional learning, reflection, practices and collaboration. The following are the action plans that we will be working on this school year:

- **Teachers will avail of PL opportunities**
- **Teachers will use their curriculum guides to write “I can” statements for a minimum of one unit of work**
- **Teachers will use the progression pilot to assess and meet the needs of diversified learners**
- **Teachers will provide multi-modal forms of assessment for evaluation (student choice) (such as oral presentation, visual representation, project based, interviews, Show me how...K-12 etc.)**
- **Teachers will share in best practices at staff meetings**
- **Teachers will continue to recognize efforts and accomplishments (both academic, non-academic, levels of motivation, school spirit, school and community involvement, etc.)**
- **Teachers will be encouraged to avail of the 15-minute admin conference during one prep per cycle as a means of self-reflection**
- **Teachers will occasionally incorporate AI when developing lesson plans and assessments and share experiences with the staff**
- **Continue with SEL activities developed last year as a means to motivate students**
- **Teachers will encourage student independence (modeling, teaching problem solving, encourage trial and error, encourage learn by doing, teacher feedback, encourage seek and share with others, etc.)**
- **To improve the distribution of technology access within the school (i.e.: booking or use of the chromebooks)**
- **Explore ways to update and resource technology within our school. (i.e.: school iPads are dated)**

- **Encourage use of alternate spaces within the school**
- **Teachers will look for opportunities to bring outside professionals for curricular related topics (ex. voltage, current and resistance bring in electrician or finance unit in math 3201 can utilize a bank worker)**
- **Staff PL to learn how to effectively use Google forms in their classrooms**
- **Staff created Google form that collects information from students to help staff learn how to make their lessons more engaging and relevant**
- **Staff created Google form that collects information from parents regarding how they would like to be more involved or informed with school life**
- **To continue to link learning to real life (careers, career fairs, college programs, college fairs, etc.)**