

2013-14
SCHOOL DISTRICT #8
SCHOOL PLAN TO STRENGTHEN LEARNING

Name of School – Prince Charles Secondary School

Mission Statement - To help all students:

- have a positive experience
- improve their reading, writing and math skills
- be resilient
- be prepared for work or post secondary schooling after grade 12
- feel empowered, confident, and that success is possible
- communicate and listen effectively
- enjoy learning
- be healthy
- be responsible, active citizens who care for the world around them
- experience the consequences for their decisions and take responsibility for those decisions

Goal 1: If we target instruction to structural writing in grade 9, will student writing improve?

Objectives –

- Use common terms throughout the school on types of sentences.
- have all departments, where able, have formal expectations around writing.
- in grade 9 specifically, use cross curricular projects whereby students will glean information in one subject and use that information to practice their writing skills in English with both teaching areas using the one final product for department specific evaluation.
- post common conjunctions and sentence types, with examples, in each classroom.
- use a standard essay graphic organizer when researching information in all subject areas.

Goal 2: If we target instruction and activities to support resiliency and citizenship will our students be better citizens, more resilient and more successful academically and socially?

Objectives –

Resiliency

- Identify a clear path of support options to meet student needs
- Identify students with 'weak' school connections and focus efforts to forge relationships with at least one adult.
- Reestablish peer mediation and peer mentorship programs
- Research ways to evaluate resiliency either through self-evaluation or through external evaluations. Begin using evaluation with students

referred to office and counseling.

Citizenship

- Have students define what citizenship looks like in the classrooms, the hall, the school, the community etc.
- Hold regular assemblies regarding citizenship
- Honour volunteering as part of the term celebrations
- Hold a school-wide volunteer afternoon with students signing up to Staff-directed service opportunities
- Create a regular spot to view volunteer opportunities for students to initiate their own involvement
- Connect with the Creston Rotary Club to identify a student of the month using volunteerism and citizenship as criteria
- Clearly post and discuss school behavior expectations via rights/responsibility format

Evidence-Based Rationale

- Weak writing assessment scores in addition to overall perception of teachers that structural writing skills are weak.

Assessment tools and processes to assess progress on goals and objectives (measures and targets and trends over time)

- Satisfaction survey, additional questions, increase the % of students who are able to identify an adult in the school who cares about them
- establish baseline data on volunteer hours served and number of students who complete hours each term
- track and compare data of the number of referrals to external counseling support services Increased numbers will not necessarily mean the strategies are failing but may indicate students are more aware of services and feel comfortable accessing the services.
- Pre and post writing evaluation (grade 9)
- compare grade 8 write results with grade 9 final write results

Structures to be implemented to impact goal (2-3), which may be worded as an action research question.

Resource allocation:

- Staffing provided to keep the learning center open full time and maintain LAC time from previous year
- Counseling time to be maintained
- Aboriginal money to be used for 1+ staffing and cultural programs

Plans for staff development and collaborative work:

- School based Pro D to discuss Teenage brain when development hampered by early trauma (Javier Gonzales). How to effectively deal with a child in crisis, how to disengage, how staff can protect their own

- resiliency etc. (Julie Miller, Jean Thomas-Mitton)
- Staff reading of 'Resiliency into Action' book study group.
- Staff reading 'Boy Smarts'

Parental and community involvement strategies

- 2 - ½ days to be out in the community on citizenship activities
- Creston Rotary Club, citizen of the month program
- Identifying volunteer opportunities and needs in the community and disseminating the information to students consistently throughout the year

Communication Strategies (students, staff, community)

- Assemblies
- Newsletters
- PAC meetings
- PCSS Voice

****Monitoring Dates Plan**

- Opening assembly begin discussion regarding citizenship and resiliency
- Opening week begin discussion regarding citizenship in classes
- Where appropriate, include citizenship and resiliency tie-ins to announcements over the PA
- Within first month of school have volunteer board in place and tracking sheets available.
- By end of September to have information in the local paper supporting our goals.
- Third week of September to begin planning ½ day citizenship activities
- ½ day activity to occur before end of October
- Prior to next planning day re-survey the students with additional Satisfaction Survey questions
- Track visits to support services such as D&A counseling, mediation, counseling, medical services, Health Nurse etc.

School Plan Contributors:

- School Staff
- School Planning Council and Pac executive – Heather More, Joanne Gailius, Trudy Huscroft, Bev Pommier, and Kathy Fenrick.
- Community members – Allison Masters, Phil Thomas

How will you support your most vulnerable learners?

- Learning Center to remain open
- Learning assistance to continue running in same way established in 2011
- Continuation of remedial Math 8/9 and Math 7/8 to better transition weaker Math students to A & W 10
- Support Dr. Guthrie and other community professionals to provide support onsite for students in need.

One thing you are going to do to enhance the health status of students in your school.

- Maintain enrollment in the Breakfast for Learning program and Healthy Snacks
- Provide numerous fitness opportunities through teams, clubs and access to the weight room and gym outside school hours

One thing you are doing to help with the implementation of the Aboriginal Enhancement Agreement and improve the performance of aboriginal students.

- Continued expansion of our cultural program
- Continued support for our Student Pow Wow
- Continued full time (+) staffing in the First Nations room