



Oak River School

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Community Report 2010-2011

The staff and students at Oak River School have had a very busy and productive year. With all of the staff being new or fairly new to the school, we all needed to have some patience and understanding. A very special thank you to the parents, students and community for making us all feel comfortable and welcomed to the community. We had a great year and enjoyed every single minute of our time.

Here are our goals and success from 2010-2011

1. Balanced Literacy and Numeracy

Our goal was to make sure that at least 75% of our students were at or above grade level in Literacy and Numeracy. We have increased our time allotted to ELA and Math. We have met this goal this year but know that this goal is going to have to be ongoing. Literacy has been a top priority. The students are reading books that they are interested in and are giving time for students to be able to explore books on their own, with a partner and in small groups. The nursery school purchased Letterland for our Kindergarten and Grade 1 students to learn the letters in a very fun way. We continued on with guided reading, reading to self, reading to others, literacy groups, etc. The older students are doing TUSC presentations. We are using the new math program "Math Makes Sense" which is a more problem solving based approach to learning. It asks for students to explain their thinking and describe how they got the answer. We have also been using a program called SuccessMaker to help increase our grade levels. Our goals for the 2011-2012 is to incorporate a program called "Words Their Way" and in the elementary classroom a program called "The Daily 5".

2. Organizational Skills

This year we purchased a white board for our hallway. Daily announcements, current events and upcoming important dates are all written on this board. The students are better able to get themselves organized for the day by knowing exactly what is going to happen and what they may need to get ready to be successful. The students have also been using personal planners to help themselves and their family be organized. This has proved to be a great communication link between the parents and the school. We have encouraged parents to have their child write in their extracurricular or outside of school events to help them be successful at school. That way they can better organize themselves and be successful in their school work. This is a goal we need to continue on with the parents and students. We are going to work with the students on the reasons why these planners are important not only for the communication between teacher and parent but also to help themselves.

3. Divisional Resource and Student Support Personnel

The students at ORS have greatly benefitted from the specialists in our division this year. We have been using them to our greatest potential and we are very grateful to receive their support. The Division this year has given us a Resource Teacher to share with the colony schools. Mrs. Beaumont has been assessing some of our students so they are able to be successful in the school system. We have also received assistance from Mrs. Lisa Martin (Student Services Coordinator), Mrs. Rebecca Gray (Social Worker/Behaviour Specialist), Mrs. Andrea Playter (Speech/Language Pathologist), Mrs. Carol Wells (Physiotherapist), Ms. Amy Gerelus (Occupational Therapist) and Mrs. Elaine Bradley (Consultant, Blind and Visually Impaired). The saying "It takes a village to raise a child" stands strong in our school and community. This support will continue next year with our Resource Teacher being more involved in the classroom setting.

4. Healthy Active Students

Our students were able to use the gym very often this year. Grade 5-8's had the gym at noon hours on Mondays and Kindergarten to Grade 4 students on Wednesdays. We also held our extracurricular sports practices at noon on Tuesdays and Thursdays. We continued on with our Milk program and held monthly healthy lunch options for the students. The students could also purchase nutrition combos at lunch. We participated in IWALK Day, Terry Fox Run, Spirit Week activities and Jump Rope for Heart. We are an In Motion school and the students participated in skiing, cross-country skiing and snowshoeing. Next year, our goals are to start up a breakfast program and to have students participate in intramurals.

As you can see our little school has had many successful experiences this year and this is only the beginning. Our goals for next year are going to continue on with this year's goals. We felt that while we had many successes in our goals this year, we wanted to continue many of them as we still have work to do. We have already started planning activities for next school year.

I would like to thank Ms. Tia Willis for doing a great job with our Grade 5 to 8 students. She has spent a lot of time teaching our students to be respectful and contributing citizens to our society. She has also put in a lot of time into the students extracurricular sports. Thank you Ms. Willis! Also a big thank you to Mrs. Jacquie Gage for wearing multiple hats in our school. She is our Secretary, EA, Librarian, Speech/Language and SuccessMaker EA. She is teaching our students how to love books and how to choose one that is suitable. Thank you Mrs. Gage. Also thank you to our EA's who joined our school this year, Ms. Alicia Ottenbreit and Ms. Kylie Klassen. You have done a great job with all of our students.

Congratulations to Jordie Bates and Jeriah Wurtz. They will be moving on to Rivers Collegiate in the fall. Best of luck to you. It was great getting to know you better this year.

See you in the fall,

Kathleen Klemetski