

OLIVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL PLAN 2009-2010

OLIVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL MISSION

The mission of the Oliver Elementary School is to enable learners to develop their potential within a caring and stimulating environment.



OLIVER ELEMENTARY SCHOOL BELIEFS

Education is the shared responsibility of students, staff, parents and the entire community.

- Learning is the major purpose of our school
- Everyone has the right to meet their needs in positive ways.
- Everyone has the right to be treated with dignity and respect.
- Everyone has the right to work in an emotionally and physically safe environment

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DEVELOPING THE SCHOOL PLAN

Process and Procedures Summary

- September, 2008 - Review goals and progress with P.A.C. and staff.
- October 29, 2008 - Goal Group progress report/planning at staff meeting
- November, 2008 - School Plan Goal Groups Review/Planning Meetings
- November 26, 2008 - School Plan Goal Group Discussions re SPC process at Staff Meeting
- January/Feb, 2008 - Initial plans and review discussed at staff meetings.
- Jan 14, 2009 - School Plan Goal Groups working session – review and planning
- Feb 13, 2009 - Goal Group meetings – review goal progress and initial planning for 2009/2010 for staff/SPC
- April 9, 2009 - Staff Meeting - review and identification of students at risk, additional support necessary.
- April 8 - 33, 2009 - Review progress and goals and recommendations with School Leadership Team (Growth Plan Goal Group Leaders). Formulate goal recommendations for staff.
- April 22, 2009 - Joint SPC / Staff Meeting - - School Plan Goals review, and recommendations for 2009/2010 presented to staff meeting – SPC parent members involved in meeting discussions and goal presentations
- April 22 – May 13 - Goal group meetings to organize input and discussion from April 22 Mtg – final proposals to staff and SPC for May 13, 2009
- May 13, 2009 - Joint SPC / Staff Meeting – Completion of Draft School Plan, 2009/2010 for adoption.
- May 19, 2009 - Presentation of School Plan by Goal Group Leaders and SPC to the Board of School Trustees.
- June , 2009 - Final School Plan approved by Board

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School Goal:

N.B. This is the first year in the last twelve years that we haven't had the topic of literacy as the focus of one of our school goals. We have worked hard as a staff over this time providing coordinated staff development, consistent instructional programs, organizational structures, and ongoing assessment to provide strength and continuity to our literacy programs. We believe the topic of literacy is still a very important one and will continue to maintain and monitor our student's progress in the areas of reading and writing.

To help ensure that students continue to get a consistent and balanced literacy program, the curriculum goal group this year produced a plan for support and mentoring of staff new to the school, and also developed a resource binder for 'guided reading' for both primary and intermediate grades. This resource will be used as a basis for the mentoring and assistance of new teachers coming to our school, and as a resource for all staff in terms of the planning, processes, and materials for quality reading instruction.

This year, we felt it was necessary to take one more year to provide school-wide coordination and support in a curricular area, this time numeracy, especially with a new math program, the Nelson Math Focus program being implemented at all grades in our school, and with the staff development on Power of Ten with Trevor Caulkins most staff have been involved in. As part of the curriculum committee, our two trained facilitators, Georgina Dell and Connie Thomson, and group leader Karen Newson, will work with staff to support the implementation of the new program and instructional strategies with our students.

Curriculum Goal: To improve student achievement in numeracy.

Rationale:

Numeracy continues to be a focus of OES. To ensure maximum student learning and the development of positive student attitudes towards math, we will continue to use common math instruction strategies such as consistent math vocabulary and problem-solving strategies. Due to the purchase of the Nelson Math Focus program, we also feel it is important to support the implementation and development of this program.

Objective #1: To support implementation of the Nelson Math Focus program with all teachers at all grade levels in the school. In intermediate, this will be the primary resource for teachers' use, and will build on the work already started with the Trevor Caulkins training and workshops. In primary, this will be a major resource, used in conjunction with our already well developed processes of numeracy instruction.

Objective #2: To help students become more numerate and to improve achievement in problem solving at each grade level. Students will continue to learn and be able to use the language of math, to learn and use a variety of processes for problem solving, and to learn and demonstrate a variety of mathematical strategies.

Objective #3: To encourage and foster a positive math attitude in students.

Indicators of Success:

Improved Student Achievement: Classroom assessment for and of learning with a focus on process and accuracy.

Reflection of attitude: an increase in positive individual responses on self-assessments (available through Math Focus program for each grade level)

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Strategies and Activities

- support numeracy goal by teaching/recognizing literature of math and language of math
- instruct common math vocabulary, processes and strategies
- continue to use problem-solving resources such as “Power of Ten” and Problem of the Day, and provide regular integration of problem-solving strategies into daily math activities
- to provide grade-level in-service and mentorship to support the implementation of the Math Focus program for staff
- to offer additional summer Pro-D opportunities in regards to the Math Focus program
- encourage the administration of Math Focus self-assessments

Responsibility - Curriculum Goal Group: Jacqueline Khodarahmi, Karen Newson, Georgina Dell, Tammy Dionne, Cindy Bearman, Connie Thomson

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School Goal:

Healthy Living: To demonstrate improvement in students' healthy lifestyle and nutrition choices, and to increase students' physical attributes through school-wide implementation of daily physical activity (DPA).

Rationale:

Students need to become more aware of healthy nutrition choices, become more fit, and more involved in healthy living activities. (based on staff / parent observations and concerns)

Setting the Stage: Our active focus on the attributes of healthy living began four years ago when Oliver Elementary School became a member of Action Schools B.C. The staff adopted a daily activity schedule for all students to ensure more physical activity each day. Our school now has three Action B.C. trainers on staff, a fully utilized gym schedule, equipment to support classroom fitness activities, as well as a new games/fitness room accessible for non-gym scheduled times.

Three years ago Oliver Elementary adopted a school wide Active Living Goal to ensure the commitment of staff, resources and time to improve the health and fitness of all K-7 students.

Two years ago we undertook two major initiatives to support healthy living outcomes. We moved away from the extra-curricular team athletic program for the few elite athletes and adopted a more inclusive lunch hour Intramural program that accommodated over 100 students in active lunch hour games such as soccer, volleyball, handball and basketball. Our second initiative last year was our participation in the Healthy Schools Network of Performance Based Schools and the completion of our 07-08 case study on school nutrition.

Last year, Oliver Elementary School applied and was successful for a \$35,000 grant to implement a Farm to School Salad Bar Program in partnership with the high school. This initiative was to further support the goal of providing students with healthy food choices, as well as to promote the importance of eating local food.

2008/2009 Focus Question Was:

After two years of a school-wide focus on healthy eating habits, will 65% of the student population choose to purchase a healthy lunch if offered with financial barriers removed for at-risk students?

Strategies

Much of the instruction of the nutrition unit was completed using the strategy of "Kids Teaching Kids" where students were the "Owners of their Own Learning".

Kids Teaching Kids Projects

- School-Wide Food Compost Program– classroom presentations
- Worm Compost Demo Classes
- School-Wide lessons given concerning plants, worm composting, and importance of eating locally

Focus on Formative Assessment – F2S Salad Bar Survey

- **Post-test** – a Primary and Intermediate post test was given to salad bar users to determine understanding and awareness of the importance of developing healthy eating habits. it was determined that 57% of the student population had tried the program, and 93% of the students wanted in to continue next year.

Objectives for 2009 / 2010: (These are the same as 08/09 with some additions)

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- To increase the frequency of physical activity for all students in school.
- To increase students' participation in physical activity and lifetime recreational activities both at school and at home – and to therefore increase levels of physical fitness.
- To increase knowledge and application of healthy nutrition choices
- To develop School Policy on healthy nutrition and food choices
- To implement Farm to School Salad Bar Program
- Continuation of games room and develop a circuit training/lesson plans component
- Use the “Meet the Teacher” night or special parent salad bar day as an opportunity to showcase the Salad bar Program to parents
- Continue the school-wide composting program in the fall

Indicators of Success

- Increase in student knowledge of active living and healthy nutrition via the Salad Bar Program and post survey
- Increased level of student of student physical activity, as evidenced report card comments (DPA).
- an increase and stability of students participating in the salad bar program.

Strategies and Activities

- Continues implementation of school-wide Action-Schools B.C. program of daily physical activity for all students. (DPA).
- Involvement in school programs such as Terry Fox Run, Jump Rope for Heart, Marathon Challenge
- Involve more students in noon hour intermural activities and implementation of games room.
- Continue implementation of school wide P.E. program scope and sequence with emphasis on movement, fitness, participation.
- Continuation of school-wide community recreation programs: Skating, swimming, downhill skiing, xcountryside skiing.
- improvement of student involvement in physical activities, both in and out of school, as measured by student satisfaction survey (grade 4 - 7).
- continued involvement of Healthy Living Goal Group in the provincial ‘Healthy Schools Network’, working with community partners and health professionals.
- To develop community/school partnerships in the implementation and maintenance of the Farm to School Salad Bar Program.
 - to increase the number of students involved in the program
 - to provide an opportunity of hands on experiences for students on local farms pertaining to the growing, processing, and harvesting of local produce.
 - implementation of a composting program
- to continue to participate in the Fruits and vegetable Program
- implemented and altered the opportunity for healthy snacks according to the Healthy Schools Food guide lines and Fine Arts activities.

Structures:

- maintenance and use of salad bar equipment for both OES and SOSS
- continuation of composting program in conjunction with the Oliver Community garden (building community partnerships)
- structured plan for classroom daily P.E. requirement

Responsible: Healthy Living Goal Group, L. Kunz, M. Basso, M. Safek, Lori Martine, J. Thompson

School Goal:

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Culture / Climate

To promote the concept of respect for self, others and our environment, with a focus on positive, respectful relationships as a basis for decisions we make.

Rationale:

We have recognized over the past number of years a significant shift in many aspects of our school-community culture which could increasingly affect student success. This goal has been developed to help us understand these changes, recognize how they affect what we do in the school and in the classroom, and to help us work more effectively with our parents and students to support maximum learning. The issues range from the increasing disparity of kindergarten readiness, to cultural/racial segregation, students with severe behavior issues, more challenges to effective parenting, changing family structures / values, and increasing need for family financial and social supports. We have also felt that the value and respect of families and students for learning and education seems less strong than it has previously.

In a changing and stressful world, we want to arm children with the most successful tools to help them when faced with life challenges and adversity – a strong sense of self-esteem, self confidence and respect. Our emphasis for this goal is to help children see and develop strengths and talents rather than focusing on their challenges and weaknesses.

Objective 1 :

- To maintain high levels of student safety and respect as perceived by students, staff and parents and as measured by discipline records and school community surveys:
 - increase in positive student conflict resolution –less inappropriate language & aggressive behaviour
 - increase in student interpersonal and problem solving skills
 - increase in the level of respect for school and learning, in the level of cooperation, and in a sense of community and school spirit.
 - increase in sense of care for our environment

Indicators of Success

- Decrease in student behaviour interventions or referrals for inappropriate language and aggressive behaviour.
- Continuation of organization and implementation of major programs at set grade levels, as part of Social Responsibility classroom programs. e.g. DARE, GO Program, Roots of Empathy, Friends, CARE Kit, Fins Friends, class meetings, etc.
- Student and parent survey - over 90% 'safe' and 'very satisfied'
- More opportunities for student leadership involvement - classroom and school level
- Assembly Survey data
- Increased awareness of school beliefs

Strategies and Activities

SCHOOL

- STING: Continue with school wide acronym--STING to remember and reinforce expectations for students.
- BUDDY CLASSES: Develop a more structured, school-wide buddy system to nurture positive relationship building behaviours . Re-examine buddy class set-up in Sept. to ensure all divisions are

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included and well matched. Brainstorm some ideas for each season so that buddy classes have a variety of ideas of meaningful activities to do together.

- **MONTHLY ASSEMBLIES:** A.O.'s will present rules to students in September in two separate assemblies (primary & intermediate), continue with monthly assemblies led by AO's with current format retained (students enjoy the slideshow of pictures so we need to ensure pictures are being taken of school activities)
- **BEHAVIOUR IMPROVEMENT CENTRE:** Re-establish a noon hour 'behavior improvement centre' to help students learn and demonstrate positive caring behavior. We need to implement this for students with ongoing issues and have them do a behavior plan as part of their restitution. Centre manned by EA's. Train all EA's perhaps at a Pro-D day so they can all be involved in consistent positive support for the students and their plan.
- **SOCIAL RESPONSIBILITY:** Continue to implement school wide Social Responsibility program based on Social Responsibility Performance Standards (i.e. Fins Friends K-3, Go!, class meetings, student helpers – shed, primary lunches, salad bar, library, office...)
- **STUDENT LEADERSHIP:** Continue student Leadership Groups i.e grade seven leaders and playground leaders. Look into the Action schools BC tri-mentorship workshops and playground leadership program model (highschool students train intermediates who then work with the primaries).
- **COMMUNITY SERVICE:** Continue with school-wide classroom community service volunteer projects.

PAC

- To provide increased opportunities for parent leadership and involvement in PAC activities.
- To assist in building a positive school community by providing support for school spirit and co-curricular activities (ie Terry Fox run, marathon medals, senior dance...).

THIS YEAR'S ACCOMPLISHMENTS

- increased school spirit, school pride and sense of responsibility through monthly assemblies , special events and PAC sponsored events
- established a school belief structure and behavioral code (STING)

Responsible: Culture/Climate School Goal Group, Shari Anderson, Roxie Lee, Chere Plante, Liz Fairbrother, Ted Allen, Chris Shannon Miller, Parent Advisory Council rep

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