

Lakeview Consolidated Elementary



[HTTP://LAKEVIEW.EDNET.NS.CA](http://lakeview.ednet.ns.ca)

School and Community Context

Lakeview/West Chezzetcook is located on the Eastern Shore of Nova Scotia, about 20 kilometers from Dartmouth. Our school consists of two buildings which are approximately five kilometers apart. Our Grade Primary and Grade 1 students are housed in West Chezzetcook Elementary and the Grade 2 through Grade 6 classes are housed in Lakeview Elementary (in Porter's Lake). The enrollment of the whole school is approximately 360 students.

Lakeview Consolidated currently has 16 classes and is part of the Eastern Shore District High feeder system. Our students attend Gaetz Brook Junior High for Grade 7-9.

We provide a full range of programs including French, music, physical education and library services. We provide resource, Reading Recovery, and Learning Centers at each school. Students receive the services of a speech-language patholo-

gist and a school psychologist. We have the Excel Program (after school) and lunch supervision is provided for all students

Our school is a green school and practices ecology with the leadership of our green team, who actively recycle paper, containers, and wet garbage and a parent supervised after school eco-club. We have a regular intramural and choir programs for the Grade 4-6 students. Our students have participated in several track and field meets, and we are presently "Walking to Vancouver" for the 2010 Olympics. Our school has an active web page with over twenty thousand hits each year. We are now in the process of planning for our new school. A site has been finalized and preparation of the site has started. Construction should be completed by 2010.



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Family and Community Involvement

The partnership with parents and community is crucial. We are proud to say that several parents and grand parents were recognized this year with Golden Apple awards and a new playground was constructed for our West Chezzetcook site, due to the effort of devoted parents. As indicated on our survey results, 90% of parents feel they are usually or always appreciated by staff when they help. Ninety-five percent of our parents feel welcome in the school.

Safe and Orderly Environment

Our survey results indicate that 90.7% of our students genuinely feel that they are not treated differently than other students. An active RCH coordinator and staff have contributed to many cultural awareness activities for students, staff and community members. Eighty-five percent of students have indicated, "My teacher really cares about me." This is certainly evident in the culture of the school and community

and is seen not only in the classroom, but in the hallways and playgrounds. Our survey also identifies that 75% feel that there is an adult they can go to when they need to talk to someone. Our staff promotes a positive climate in our schools with the help of peer mediators and helpers. We have adopted the Positive Effective Behavioural Support (PEBS) program.

Provincial and Board Assessment Results

Halifax Regional School Board (HRSB) students participated in provincial and board-wide assessments. The information gained through these assessments will help us determine our next steps in improving student achievement in literacy and mathematics. Please note that the percentages used throughout this report are rounded to the nearest whole number.

* French Immersion students completed the assessment in French.

Literacy Assessments	School Results: Percentage of students meeting expectations	Board Results: Percentage of students meeting expectations
Grade 2 HRSB Literacy Reading	English Program Accuracy: 76% English Program Fluency: 76%	English Program Accuracy: 74% English Program Fluency: 67%
Grade 3 DOE Literacy	Reading: 85% Writing (Information) : 71% Writing (Narrative) : 79%	Reading: 80% Writing (Information) : 80% Writing (Narrative) : 87%
Grade 5 HRSB Literacy	English Program Reading: 90%	English Program Reading: 82%
Grade 6 DOE Literacy	Reading: 88% Writing: 94%	Reading: 88% Writing: 94%
Mathematics Assessments	School Results: Percentage of students meeting expectations	Board Results: Percentage of students meeting expectations
*Grade 2 HRSB Mathematics	95%	95%
*Grade 3 DOE Mathematics (June 2008)	80%	71%
*Grade 5 HRSB Mathematics	90%	84%

At Lakeview Consolidated we are pleased to report that our students are performing quite well in both reading and writing in both the Halifax Regional School Board and the Department of Education literacy assessments. However, we feel that reading should be our focus due to scores which are consistently lower. The emphasis will be on fluency, accuracy, and comprehension of content.

In mathematics, after examining Halifax Regional School Board and Department of Education student scores, it was evident that our students still needed to improve in number operation at all grade levels. Our emphasis will be on addition and subtraction for all students.

Teachers will have professional development which will focus in the curriculum areas described for both literacy and mathematics.

Classroom Assessment

Focus on reading and writing

Teachers have been collecting reading, writing, and spelling samples in October and May for the past three years. In the past year we have again noted improvement at all grade levels in all aspects of literacy, but we still feel that reading levels, should become the focus at all grade levels with an emphasis on accuracy and fluency.

Focus on mathematics (number operation)

Teachers have been collecting scores from grade level assessments in number operation in January and May over the past two years. We still feel there should be improvement in this area and that teachers must continuously address number operation in their daily program delivery, with an emphasis on the five representations in math.



Student Engagement

We have made a big effort in keeping students engaged in a variety of activities: skipping club, yoga class, art club, intramurals, green team and eco club, peer helpers/mediators, choir and band, track and field, cross country running, school sign volunteers, assembly organizers, sound system, student school photographers, and morning announcers. We have student recognition in High 5 assemblies, student STAR awards. We also encourage healthy active living through our run/walk to the Olympics program. Ninety-three percent of our students say they have fun learning.

Time to Learn

All schools in the Halifax Regional School Board follow the Time to Learn policy set out by the Department of Education. This means that each course or subject has a required number of minutes. It is noteworthy that 92% of our teachers agree that we take time to plan so that all students can meet provincial curriculum outcomes. For the past two years we noted that 75% of teachers agree that parents/guardians are provided with information on Nova Scotia's curriculum and learning outcomes. Ideally, we will strive to reach more of our parents with this important information in the future.

Professional Development

Our teachers at Lakeview Consolidated are always learning and meet on a regular basis in grade levels, and in curriculum teams as progressive professional learning communities (PLCs).

The Halifax Regional School Board supports our efforts in professional development through the provision of a literacy coach and a math coach. The coaches are here to advise our teachers on a weekly basis.

This year our school based professional development focused on our plan for improvement which is curriculum goal setting in math and literacy. The plan has been drafted for our school to follow for the next four years.

Our staff continued to concentrate efforts in healthy active living with our PEBS program.

Additional School Supports

At Lakeview and West Chetzetcook we have a number of additional school supports to improve student achievement:

- speech language pathologist
- two learning center teachers
- psychologist
- two resource teachers
- severe learning disability teacher
- math coach
- literacy coach
- education program assistants
- lunch monitors
- Reading Recovery teacher
- library support specialist
- two secretaries



Planning for Improvement

At Lakeview and West Chezzetcook we constantly monitor assessment data to support student progress and success. Throughout the past four years we have been able to improve our curriculum delivery and have realized greatly improved scores in student assessments. The Halifax Regional School Board's Planning for Improvement process helps us to identify where our students are doing well and what areas need further attention. In the past four years we have been focusing our literacy efforts on improving reading and writing. Our data shows that our effort should focus on reading at all grade levels with a focus on accuracy and fluency.

In mathematics, our focus will be on number operations, with an emphasis on addition and subtraction.

Our school improvement plan is presented in more detail in the section below. An explanation of the strategies our teaching staff will use to achieve our goals is included.

School Goals

Literacy Goal

Within a year each individual student will show growth in their reading development.

Strategies:

- Teachers will ensure that:
 - a reader's workshop model is used for instruction and ongoing assessment to ensure individual needs are being met
 - mini-lessons on fluency are taught regularly, using resource materials provided
 - students are increasing their fluency levels to a 3 or 4 by increasing their phrasing, expression, and intonation
 - students are choosing and reading "just right" books (according to accuracy levels)
 - students will demonstrate comprehension of reading material
 - students are showing balanced use of reading strategies (meaning, syntax and visual cues)
 - students are engaged in the books they are reading
 - parents are involved in the reading goals by teaching staff

who supply parents with tips on reading fluency and accuracy and invite parents to participate in the Reading Workshop Process.

Data Sources:

- observation, conferencing, questioning, interviews, oral and written responses (Data collection will be ongoing and will be collected by teachers).
- classroom reading logs
- reading records/oral reading records (Data collection will be ongoing by the teacher and submitted to the office twice per year)
- fluency rubric (Data collection will be ongoing by the teacher and submitted to the office twice per year)
- school board and provincial literacy assessments- as mandated

Mathematics Goal

We will improve student achievement in whole number operations with a focus on addition and subtraction in grades primary to six.

Strategies:

- Teachers will develop a common understanding of operation outcomes across the grade levels.
 - Teachers will create, implement, and analyze data from common assessment tools for assessing student understanding of operations at their grade level.
 - Teachers will develop a common understanding of the use of the five representations (contextual, concrete, pictorial, symbolic, and verbal) in communicating understanding of number operations.
 - Teachers will develop a common understanding of the three part lesson model of teaching and will implement this in their classroom teaching.
- Data Sources:
- use of in-school common assessment data for tracking students' progress in October and May each year by classroom teachers, resource and Learning Centre teachers
 - HRSB Math assessment results and analysis to track students' progress re: operational sense.



Every Student Can Learn. Every School Will Improve.

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