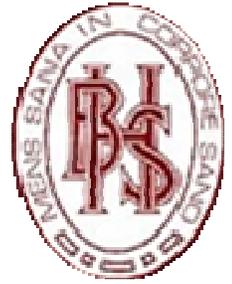


# Annual Report to the Community

September 2013 - June 2014

# Bridgewater Junior Senior High School



## A note from the Principal

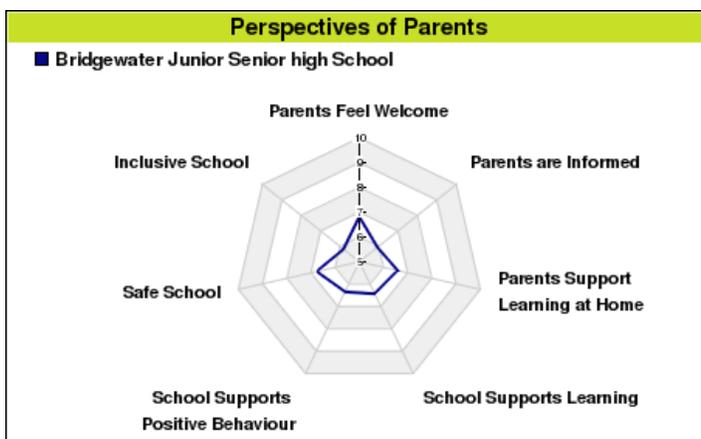
The mission statement of Bridgewater Junior Senior High School reads as follows: Bridgewater Junior Senior High School is committed to developing confident, life-long learners in an atmosphere of mutual support and respect. Intellectual, physical and social growth will be encouraged within a positive and challenging environment.

Bridgewater Junior Senior High School is an exceptional place of learning for your child. During the ten months of this school year I witnessed creativity and caring from students and staff. We welcomed 30 International students from 13 different countries into our classrooms. We connected with our community—during the blood drive, participating in the parade, singing holiday songs at the South Shore Regional Hospital and taking part in other community events. We also hosted Canadian Astronaut David Saint-Jacques as we participated in a Guinness World Record attempt for the World's largest Science lesson. We welcomed His Honour, Lieutenant Governor J.J. Grant and Mrs. Grant to present the Lieutenant Governor's Awards in May.



## Data and Results

This year we were pleased to offer the Tell Them From Me Survey to Parents and Staff. The information collected from these surveys is used to help us plan for the future. Families told us that they want open lines of communication and increased connections between the school and the community. We will use your feedback to help us plan for the 2014-2015 school year, and we welcome your input at any time.



## Professional Learning

The introduction of embedded time this year gave staff an opportunity to collaborate, to learn new skills, and to improve their instructional practices to meet the demands of a fast-paced society.

Embedded time allowed school staff to maintain the same number of instructional minutes as in years past, but to bank time for staff professional development on selected Wednesday afternoons.

In Collaborative Learning Teams, our staff had the opportunity to meet and review student progress, to learn about improving student literacy, numeracy and engagement and how to use technology to enhance educational opportunities among other topics.

## Continuous School Improvement

Continuous School Improvement is a process designed to help the school focus on positive change: ensure that we include all students in school change, identify what we need to do differently for positive change, and ensure that we are on track.



## School Goals

During the 2013-2014 school year, Bridgewater Junior Senior High School identified two goals as part of their continuous school improvement plan:

***Goal # 1: Student academic achievement and engagement will measurably improve by May 2014.***

***Goal # 2: The positive learning environment will measurably improve by May 2014.***

Our focus was on strategies to support these goals. We made programming decisions based upon increasing achievement and engagement and how to make school a place where students want to be.

Goal One was supported by strategies including increased opportunities for Inquiry Based Learning (IBL), the introduction of the TELP (Technology Engagement and Learning Project) and the increased usage of deeper and higher-level questioning strategies. We continued to offer a variety of programs — including Advanced Placement, French Immersion, and Options & Opportunities.

Goal Two was supported by strategies including the continued use of Viking Spirit Groups for co-curricular activities, the implementation of a restorative approach in our daily interactions, and continued strategies to reduce/eliminate anti-social behaviours such as bullying. Students in Minga promoted social justice through activities to raise awareness. Locally, Minga focused on hunger, and globally they focused on clean water. These students also attended WE DAY Atlantic through their commitment to create change.

We danced, we sang, we ran, we watched, we learned, we performed in and out of our classrooms. We experienced success in a wide variety of places. We challenged other schools in the South Shore Regional School Board to do the "Happy" dance - and our "Happy" dance was viewed over 11, 600 times.

We listened to students, families and staff and were flexible in our implementation of strategies to support our goals. We depended on our families and volunteers to support us through all of our learning experiences.

We recognize that being engaged in learning in a challenging and safe environment is the foundation for happy students and staff at school. We will continue to promote positive opportunities for students to learn and achieve.

**Bridgewater Junior Senior High School**

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