

Annual Report to the Community

September 2013 – June 2014

Dr. John C. Wickwire Academy



A note from the Principal

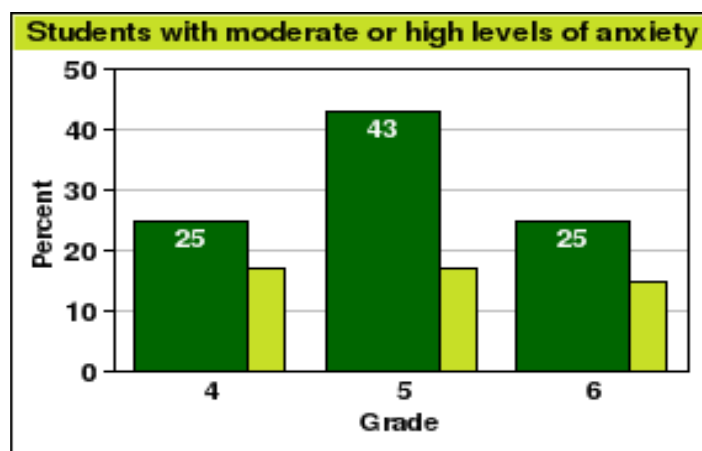
First, I would like to take this opportunity to extend a sincere thanks to all parents / guardians and your children for another successful year at DJCWA. As you know, 2013-2014 was our first year of amalgamation following the closure of Milton Centennial School and as a Primary to Grade 5 school. It certainly was a busy year for everyone as we supported each other through many changes.

The intent of this report is to communicate to you how our students are doing and, equally as important, to mention what we are doing now to plan for further growth. Given this year's amalgamation with Milton and next year with Mill Village Consolidated School, this provides a logical starting point as a baseline for data analysis to support our goals. As you move forward in this report you will find more information about the data that was used to collaboratively develop our goals with staff and your SAC.



Data and Results

One source of data that schools look at more closely lately is from the national *Tell Them From Me* survey. For example: the chart below informs us that our students (dark shade) have levels of anxiety that are quite higher than the Canadian average (light shade).



Professional Learning

We organize our professional learning time to ensure that the time is used wisely in order to have the most positive impact on student learning, achievement and school culture.

One area where teachers concentrated a lot of the efforts last year was in student learning and achievement in writing. The November 2013 inservice day was dedicated narrowing our focus around the writing curriculum for each grade level. This work led to studying, analyzing and creating curriculum maps to match grade level outcomes in writing. Another initiative was to identify and use writing prompts appropriate for each grade level.

Continuous School Improvement

Continuous School Improvement (CSI) is a process whereby a school identifies areas of focus for a set amount of time to improve student learning and achievement. The choice of focus for a particular school must originate from data indicating a specific need for improvement in order to make positive changes. For the second year in a row, the South Regional School Board provided our school with 14 early dismissal embedded time afternoons. During that time, teachers met in Collaborative Learning Teams (CLTs) to work on the following initiatives:

- New Nova Scotia mathematics curriculum implementation
- Meeting students' needs
- Student engagement and the use of technology
(lower and upper elementary teams)
- Social emotional learning
- Student leadership

School Goals for 2013

Our first goal was identified after examining the results from our SELL and EXSELL language arts data, which indicated the overall percentage of students meeting or exceeding their grade level in writing had increased at two of the five grade levels from the years 2008 to 2012. It should also be noted that only two of the five grade levels scored at or above the SSRSB average for their grade levels during the same time period. There our first goal is: **There will be an increase at each grade level (gr. 1-5) in the percentage of students meeting or exceeding SELL/EXSELL writing expectations.**

Our second goal was identified after examining the 2012-2013 *'Tell Them From Me'* data, as a staff and the school advisory council level. In response, our second goal is: **The number of students reporting moderate or high levels of anxiety will decrease, according to the data collected from the TTFM surveys.**



Dr. John C. Wickwire Academy

<http://www.djcwa.ednet.ns.ca/>

311 Port Mouton Road Liverpool, NS

B0T 1K0

Telephone: (902) 354-7660