

Annual Report to the Community

September 2013 - June 2014

Hebville Academy



A Note from the Principal

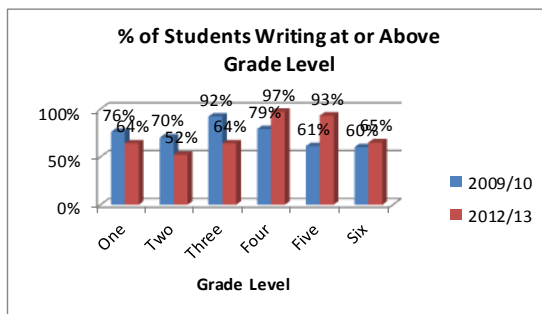
Hebville Academy is a rural P-9 school located about five kilometres outside of Bridgewater, Nova Scotia. It is divided into two separate buildings. The smaller P-5 building opened in 1968, houses about 180 students, and the larger 6-9 building opened in 1997 houses approximately 360 students.

Hebville Academy is a well-respected P-9 school throughout the Maritimes as we are strong both academically and in extracurricular activities. We offer a Grade 6 Intensive French Program, a Grade 7-9 French Immersion Program, and many of our graduates go on to pre IB programs in senior high school. We offer over sixty teams, clubs, and activities. And many of our students are involved in a variety of these every year.



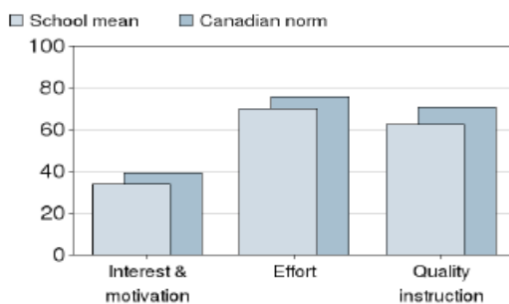
Data and Results

By June 2015 we will improve writing by 5% in Grades P-6. The writing goal was identified through looking at the measurements of our SELL/EXSELL data as well as the ELLA scores.



By June 2015 Hebville Academy students in Grades 7 and 8 will report an increase in intellectual engagement (interest and motivation).

Figure 4: Percentage of students intellectually engaged at Hebville Academy



2012-2013 TTFM Results Graph

Professional Learning

Action plans for the Student Achievement Goal include three strategies. The first two strategies are to provide PD with a focus on unit planning through backward design and to have Grades P-6 students experience all the Department of Education required writing genres. These strategies will be accomplished by exploring and developing a yearly writing plan at each grade level P-6 which reflects Department of Education genres and forms for writing, and exploring units of focus for writing workshop paralleling these units to reading workshop. Resources will include a PD day with Erna Fraser and Judy Dauphinee on April 26, 2013.

Resources are the AVRSB annual writing plan and the SSRSB SELL/EXSELL writing exemplars/rubrics.

Professional Learning (continued)

The third strategy in the action plan for the student achievement goal is to tailor the Grade P-6 writing plan to meet the class configuration for Hebbville Academy's school year. This strategy includes considering the class configurations to develop a yearly writing plan at each grade level P-6 which reflect Department of Education genres and forms of writing, as well as exploring units of focus for writing workshop paralleling these units to reading workshop along with the grade level writing exemplars. Resources include reference to the AVRSB annual writing plan and the SSRSB SELL/EXSELL writing exemplars/rubrics.

The action plan for the school performance goal includes the strategy of providing inquiry based learning (IBL modules) to our grade 7, 8, and 9 students. This strategy will be supported by implementing and developing modules within subject areas and providing opportunities for teachers to explore the incorporation of Destination Imagination into current practices. Resources will include mobile technology devices and raw materials for IBL productions. Professional Development through Professional Learning Communities, Assistive Technology training with Barb Welsford, and in house collaborative learning teams using their embedded time next year to contribute towards meeting the two goals for our Continuous School Improvement Plan.

Continuous School Improvement

The transition this year away from school accreditation to a learning community approach for school improvement is great for Hebbville Academy. This allows for a more meaningful and tailor-made plan for improvement, which is specific to the context of our school community. Given the unique structure of our P-9 school, two separate buildings; the Elementary for P-5 students and the Junior High for 6-9 students, we feel this has lent itself to having a plan consisting of two goals; the student achievement goal to address the P-5 students and the school performance goal specific to the 6-9 students.

School Goals

The student achievement goal is to map and streamline our elementary writing outcomes. Specifically, Hebbville Academy will implement a P-6 yearly writing plan to allow students to experience all of the Department of Education required writing genres/forms of writing. Based on the Department of Education's provincial document on the required forms of writing across the elementary curriculum, we developed a "Writing Map". This map integrated units of study across grade levels from Primary through six and included the writing exemplars for our school board's SELL Program. It was agreed that this would eliminate redundancies in forms of writing between grades and enable our students to meet with greater success on the writing component of provincial literacy assessments. For the sake of clarity, this goal will be referred to henceforth as Hebbville's CSI Achievement Goal.

The school performance goal is to increase Grade 7, 8, and 9 student engagement via a shift away from some of the more traditional modes of curriculum delivery to a more progressive, self-directed model of inquiry-based learning. We piloted the Board's Project-Based Learning initiative with our Grade 9s in the 2011-2012 school year. This was a successful endeavour in that this shift in curriculum delivery seemed to increase student engagement in their academics and also acted to remedy increasing absenteeism amongst the Grade 9 population. Next year, our extending this model of curriculum delivery to Grades 7 and 8 is intended to increase both their interest and motivation.

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