

Annual Report
June 2014
Hantsport School



Principal's Message

2013-14 has been an exciting year at Hantsport School. Our students worked hard and have seen achievement in their academic studies.

Beyond the classroom it has been an eventful year. Here are some highlights:

- Grade 3-5 trip to Grand Pre World Heritage site
- Elementary trips to Ross Farm and Prescott House
- Monthly Grab 'n Go breakfasts; School Turkey and Ham Dinners
- Terry Fox Run, Running Club at the Valley Fun Run and the Bluenose Marathon children's run
- Learn to Fish; Swim to Survive; SMILE
- WE Day
- Helping at the Food Bank
- Citizenship Group
- Winter Carnival
- Concerts, Band Festival, Band Trip to Berwick to play for seniors
- Sports teams
- Science Fair and Heritage Fair
- Peter Pan play: Hook vs. Pan (ARRRRR!); Puppetry Workshops
- Grade 6/7 trip to Kingswood Camp
- Roots of Empathy for grade 7
- DARE for grade 5
- Beginning of renovations: exterior cladding, new sewer, storm drain and electrical lines to school.

Hantsport School has an excellent staff that is committed to the education and well-being of our students.

Staff members moving on to new schools are Mr. Pinch, Mrs. Babin, Ms. Parker, Mr. Bond and Ms. Thompson. We wish you all the best! Mrs. Doucette is moving to grade 4/5 and we welcome Ms. Graves to grade 6.

I wish everyone a restful summer and hope you return to school in the fall recharged and ready for new challenges.

Thanks,
Mr. Chase

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Renovations have begun!

Student Achievement

Hantsport School has started a new phase of Continuous School Improvement by identifying the following goals:

Goal 1: Writing Goal

A % of students in each class will independently apply Grade level appropriate writing conventions by the end of the CSI cycle as per the Learning Targets; Conventions of Writing P-8 document.

- Teachers will assess 3 writing pieces per year (Fall, Winter, Spring)
- Baseline data (assessment of writing sample in Fall 2014, student reports Final 2014, and Provincial Assessments) will determine % of students we will be looking to have meet expectations.
- Grade Level checklists will be used to determine if students are meeting expectations

Goal 2: Math Goal

A % of students in each class will meet Grade level mental math expectations (based on P-8 Mental Math document) by the end of the CSI cycle.

- Teachers will assess Grade Level Mental Math Assessments 3 x per year (Fall, Winter, Spring).
- Students will be assessed on their grade's mental math expectations, and previous grade's expectations- ex) Grade 4 students will be assessed on the Multiplication Facts to 9 x 9 (Grade 4 expectation), and Subtraction facts (Grade 3 expectation), and Addition facts (Grade 2 expectation), etc.
- Grade Level Assessments will be created (Fall 2014)
- Baseline data (Grade Level Assessments of mental math facts in (Final Assessments 2014) will determine % of students we will be looking to have meet expectations.

Stay up to date. Visit the school web site:

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

School and Community

During the 2013 - 2014 school year, there were approximately 154 students registered in Grades P-8. There were 13 teachers, 6 Educational Assistants, 1 secretary, 3 custodians, and 1 Principal. We are very proud of our 14 Grade Primary students who had an excellent beginning to their school experience. We wish all the best to the 16 Grade 8 students who will be off to Horton in the fall. Their contribution to the Horton school community will be substantial in terms of academic achievement, participation on sports teams, membership in clubs and the bands and overall strong leadership. Our graduates will represent this school well!

Thanks

Thanks to all of the volunteers, parents and local businesses, in particular the Lion's Club, Victory Credit Union and Hantsport Baptist and United Churches who have given time and money to Hantsport School over the past year to support our students. Your contributions have been invaluable in making the past year so successful.



Professional Learning for Staff

Early Dismissal time is created when we add instructional time to the school day. This banked time is then used to allow the school to have eight early dismissals during the school year.

What goes on during those Early Dismissal days?

School staff participated in a variety of Professional Development activities. Staff spent two afternoons with AVRSB Technology Mentor Bill Doucet learning new computer and tablet applications in movie making and robotics.

Math Mentor Brad Pemberton and AVRSB Math Consultant Novadawn Oulton worked with teachers on math instruction in preparation for the new P-3 math curriculum which was implemented in fall of 2013.

Literacy mentor Beth Lamb-Hamilton worked with teachers in Reading and Writing Instructional Practice.

Our students continue to perform very well on the grades 3,4,6 and 8 Provincial Assessments. This, and other classroom data is used to drive our CSI goals and to improve instruction.

We paired with the LE Shaw School staff to have a guided tour of the facilities and grounds at Grand Pre National Historic Site. This allowed us to highlight the Acadian heritage which is so important to the Valley.

Educational Assistants and some teachers received training in NVCI (Non-violent Crisis Intervention) and First Aid.

There was also a variety of staff initiated professional development including conferences in Autism, Masters level courses, Mental Health First Aid, Go To training, and Peer Mediation.

The Hantsport School staff members are committed to improving their skills and knowledge in order to meet the needs of their students.



Pinwheels for Peace

Safe and Caring Environment

Hantsport Students show respect for themselves, each other, and the staff by knowing and following a PEBS Matrix. This is an agreed upon standard of conduct framed in positive language. Students are taught the expectations and learn about their responsibility and importance in being a participant in the creation of a respectful, safe school.

Race Relations, Cross Cultural Awareness and Human Rights (RCH) Initiatives

Over the past year students have had many opportunities to experience other cultures and see their importance to our school. We work to represent a diversity of cultures in the curriculum so that students 'see' themselves reflected in the daily life of the school.

We have had classroom presentations on Mi'kmaq culture and tradition by the native Student Advisor Vince Blanchard.

There have been presentations to Middle Level students by members of the LGBTQ community.

Students in grades 3 - 8 participated in the school Heritage Fair with strong representation at the Regional fair!

Student Involvement and Successes

Sports Teams

We are a small school that enjoys strong participation in a wide variety of sports teams for both boys and girls: Cross Country Running, Soccer, Basketball, Track and Field and Running Club. Coaches are volunteers from both the school staff and community.



Music Program

The school band finished the year with a trip to Berwick to play at a Senior Citizens' Residence. The December and June Concerts filled the gym and the development of the young musicians was notable. Mr. Taylor continued a grade 4/5 strings group as a noon club. The students also took a recruiting trip to LE Shaw School to play for the student body and to generate some excitement for taking Band in the Middle School.



Art Club

Ms. Doucette held an Art Club at lunch time. Students from the middle school helped elementary students with art creations and developed their leadership skills.

Student Mentorship

Students took many opportunities to take on leadership roles in the school. Middle School students had elementary book buddies, helped teach physical education classes, and helped on the playground.

Citizenship Group

Ms. Brothers' Citizenship Group participated in local and international projects. Pajamas were given to other children in need and shoeboxes were filled with needed items for children in other countries.

The group sang Christmas Carols with local seniors and helped clean the shelves at the Food Bank. This group participated in We Day in the November at the Metro Centre.



Student Leadership

The Dance and Spirit Committee, under the direction of Mrs. Warren, put on several successful dances this year. Food items were donated for the food bank.

Home & School Association

Home and School is a great way to get involved in the life of Hantsport School. One big project that took off this year is a playground fundraising drive to replace the structure at the front of the school. Parent volunteers can support the school by being classroom volunteers, helping with the spring fair and book fair, and by participating in fund raising (Frenchy's Night, TAN Coffee Sales) which is used for classroom events and resources.

The meeting times are on the school calendar which will be posted on the school web site.