Copper Ridge Academy

Annual School Development Report

2017-2018

9 Columbus Drive
P.O. Box 430
Baie Verte, NL
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Mission Statement:

The Mission of Copper Ridge Academy is to prepare our students to take their place in a changing global society by providing challenging educational opportunities in a safe, caring environment, expecting the highest possible individual performance and recognizing the diversity of learners.

Message from the Principal and School Council

Principals Report:

During the 2017-2018 school year, Copper Ridge Academy embarked upon a new School Growth and Development plan. Copper Ridge Academy was excited to be a part of the new pilot for this process. The focus of this plan was around two broad goals – one on the area of academics and another in safe and caring. From these two goals action plans were developed to set the course for Copper Ridge Academy over the next four to five years.

For our academic focus Copper Ridge Academy will focus upon the utilization of internal and external data to inform instruction, enhancing our instructional and assessment practice for all teachers across subjects and grade levels, and increasing collaboration between and amongst all teachers, in school. In the area of safe and caring, the focus will be in two areas: enhancing physical and mental wellness within the school community and building a positive, safe and caring culture where students have a sense of belonging and engagement in the school community.

Copper Ridge academy remains very proud of its extra curricular program, and all those who make personal sacrifices for such a program to exist. It is a very busy time with activities occurring daily. Once again, the Drama group had another exciting year with great performances at the dinner theatres during Christmas and Easter. The highlight of the year was their involvement at the provincial and Atlantic levels, in PEI. Our extra curricular sports program had a banner year, with the school competing in all available sporting events. Again, the school remained at the Gold level in the SSNL program.

I would like to extend thanks to all stakeholders, parents, school district, school council for all the help and assistance over the past school year. Due to such involvement, the school has once again offered a sports program, second to none, a drama program, choir, band and other wonderful extracurricular activities. Thank – you to all who made it possible.

Christopher Mills,
Principal

School Council Chair:

We had a very productive year as a School Council. Our council met for 6 times throughout the year and business proceeded; such as:

1. Kids eat smart. This program with the help of volunteers became very successful. There were also some donations that came in for this program.
2. Review of the new SGD pilot for CRA. Input for action plans.
3. Review of fundraising plans for 2017-2018. Suggestions given on frequency and targets.
4. Fundraising approval for Leadership conference in the fall of 2018
5. Student leadership trip.
6. Various polices were reviewed.
7. High school graduation.
8. Review of Digital Citizenship.
9. Review of the schools PBIS program.
10. Discussion of school hydroponic plan/project.
11. Student involvement with council.

Kimberley Quigley,
School Council Chair
Copper Ridge Academy

Overview of School

Our School Community:

Copper Ridge Academy is part of Newfoundland and Labrador English School District (NLESD). NLESD operates 259 schools with five alternate sites that serve approximately 67,000 students. NLESD employs over 8000 employees to service the students of our province.

Copper Ridge Academy currently has an enrolment of 300 students and offers grades K through Level III, with an average class size of 17.2 students. Copper Ridge Academy serves the communities of Baie Verte, Coachman's Cove, Fleur de Lys, Ming's Bight, Pacquet, Seal Cove, wild Cove, and Woodstock. Approximately eighty-five percent of our student population are bussed to school.

Copper Ridge Academy has a total of 21.75 full-time educational staff which includes 14.50 classroom teachers, 3.25 special services teachers, 1.25 administrative unit, 1.0 guidance, LRT 0.30 unit, and 1.75 units as specialist teachers in the areas of music, physical education and learning resources. In addition to our educational staff the school has 5 student assistances, 1 secretary, 1 maintenance/bus driver, and 2 caretakers. The school also has the service of a regional maintenance person who is responsible for all eight schools on the Baie Verte Peninsula.

Program Provided:

Copper Ridge Academy offers the provincially prescribed curriculum in grades seven through nine. At the high school level, 38 courses are offered, with Math 3207, Math 3205, Art Technologies 1201, Canadian History 1201, World History 3201, Chemistry 2202/3202 and Physics 2204/3204 being offered through the CDLI program.

Key Highlights/Special Projects:

Copper Ridge Academy is extremely proud of the efforts made in Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, anti-bullying, and our extracurricular programs. In Language Arts we promote competitive writing. Copper Ridge Academy had students involved in public speaking . On a special note, this year marked our very first musical for the music team, it was a great performance with many excellent reviews. We hope to build on this success in the coming years.

In Drama, our students successfully competed at the provincial and Atlantic regionals in PEI.

The funding for the Playground was completed and now the school awaits the tendering and completion phases.

Partnerships:

Our school is involved in two key partnerships. That is with the Baie Verte Peninsula Scholarship Committee who oversees several scholarships for the Baie Verte Peninsula schools. At various times throughout the year we worked with various groups, such as the "masons" and local businesses to raise monies for our first playground.

Our second major partnership is with the Kids Eat Smart foundation, whereby CRA can serve 100 plus for breakfast each morning. The generous funding from KES foundation has allowed this to happen.

Extra-Curricular:

The extracurricular program offered by Copper Ridge Academy is a major push for our school, the school endeavours to offer a dynamic program that offers the chance for all students to become involved. The school is very active in sports, drama, fine arts and with our student leadership program.

Internal Assessment Data (synthesis of report card data to report trends)

The following is a synthesis of 2017-2018 June results:

- From June results there are a lot of our primary students who are struggling with reading and writing task. For the 2018-2019 Copper Ridge academy will be a part of the phase 1 schools for the new RTL initiative by the government. This should result, with time, an improvement in the performance of our primary students in reading and writing.
- From June results the trend of poor performance in reading and writing continues. In addition to struggling in the areas of reading and writing, the grade 6 students struggle in Math. Copper Ridge academy will be a part of the phase 1 schools for the new RTL initiative by the government. This should result, with time, an improvement in the performance of our primary students in reading and writing. In addition, our grade 7 teachers will have to increase the supports in math for the current grade 6 students.
- From June results our grade 7 and grade 9 students are struggling in math and ELA. Greater effort and focus will be needed in this area for next year.
- From June results our senior high students did well in their courses. For our public exam courses our students were at or above the provincial average. Students also performed well with our school-based assessments. One area of concern is the number of students doing general courses. The school will focus more in the junior grades and level I to help address the number of students selecting general courses.

Report on School Development Plan for Previous Year

Internal Assessment Data

Copper Ridge Academy continues to work towards aligning internal academic assessment data with external sources. From our internal sources of data there are indicators that Copper Ridge Academy needs to continue to focus in three key areas of reading comprehension, demand writing and numeracy.

When looking at behavioral data there are evidence that many Junior high and Senior high fail to pass in assignments and project work. This year a greater emphasis has been placed upon student interventions. However, there are many pieces of assessments not submitted by our students. This is a factor that is negativity affecting internal assessment data.

While the school has been using Review 360 for two years now, there is still some work to complete for full staff usage. SWPBIS program has been put in place and used by all staff. This has resulted in fewer behavioural referrals to the office.

For primary and elementary, literacy in particular reading for grades 1 and 2 continues to be an area of concern.

What do these results tell us?

Students who struggled with external assessment have struggled with internal assessments has well. It is evident that internal assessments practiced here is in line with acceptable provincial standards. With a focus upon the academics, student achievement and data analysis of internal results, the school has moved forward with aligning our student's results with that of the province.

These results tell us that our internal assessments are matching external assessments in item complexity and overall design. The results also allude to the fact that teachers are scoring their pieces of internal assessment at similar scoring levels as that of external assessments. The efforts over the past four years have seen growth whereby our internal assessments are aligned with acceptable provincial standards. While in some areas Copper Ridge Academy has made improvements, from last year's data there seems to be a slip in the performance of our students on all assessments. Last year was an anomaly for Copper Ridge Academy has some 27% of our teacher staff was out and replacement with less experience was hired. This occurred in keys areas of grade 1, 6, 9 and our high school academic English and Math.

Teachers will use divisional meetings that will have a focus to improve the academic performance of our students. The goal of these meetings will be to move more students from academic to honours and from general to academics – while maintaining our graduation rates.

For Copper Ridge Academy, the results have indicated that a stronger focus upon core literacy and numeracy has become the focus of the staff. From internal assessments, the staff has noticed

a small decrease in the literacy proficiency of our students. While the decline is small, this will be a focus of the curriculum support teacher for grade 1 to 3. The story in the area of numeracy is not so good. The school, especially at the Junior High level consistently demonstrates a need for intensive supports for our students to increase their literacy and numeracy abilities.

Report on School Development Plan for Previous Year

For the 2017-2018 school year much of the focus of the staff has been upon creating a new school development plan that will move Copper Ridge Academy forward over the next five years.

Goal 1. To improve student achievement across the curriculum in an inclusive environment.
Objective 1.1: Enhance the utilization of internal and external data to inform instruction.
Evaluation 1.1 Teachers continue to work with developing SMART goals in response to learning needs. Teachers will work to identify students who are at risk early in the school year and work collaboratively to address learning concerns identified from data.
Objective 1.2: Enhance instructional and assessment practice for all teachers across subjects and grade levels.
Evaluation 1.2 Teachers will continue to work with establish communication with all stake holders, via email, google classroom, grade book etc., the expectations for learning. Teachers will work with developing optimal learning environment that will include skills for generation next. This will involve the learning strategies and assessment tools.
Objective 1.3: Increase collaboration between and amongst all teachers, in school and across school.
Evaluation 1.3 Teachers will continue to reflect upon best practices for their instructional areas and seek out leadership opportunities available.

Goal 2. To improve student safety within a safe and inclusive school culture.
OBJECTIVE # 1: To increase individual student confidence and acceptance through the implementation of inclusive supports
Evaluation 2.1 Work continues with the use of speech to text using Chromebook and headsets. Student have found this useful in developing independence with assessments. The school continues to work with our SWPBIS program, this has resulted in fewer office referrals. The school has moved forward with teachers focusing upon digital citizenship and restorative justice. More work is needed in this area. Success has been made with changing the school towards an more inclusive one with various student groups working towards awareness for all around some societal issues.

Goal 2. To create a safe, caring, healthy and collaborative learning environment.
Objective 1.1: Enhance physical and mental wellness within the school community.
Evaluation 1.1 Teachers continue to work with providing opportunities for daily physical activities, and instruction in healthy eating. Opportunities to engage students in the area of mental health education will be provided for the students.
Objective 2.2: Build a positive, safe and caring culture where students have a sense of belonging and engagement in the school community.
Evaluation 1.2 Teachers will continue to work with establishing opportunities for involvement and leadership of students, and their families in the school. Areas such as sports, student leadership and various school trip will be explored. Greater opportunities to reach at risk students and parent engagement will be explored.

Operational Issues for 2018

Operational Issue	Intended Action
Scheduling common preps	Provide time for collaboration among teachers
Development of social media sites	Increase home/school communication opportunities.

Placement of water coolers	Reduce the lost of instructional time.
Investment in technology	Increase the availability of technology integration.
Financial support for external PD session	Increase in PD opportunities for staff
Financial support for safe and caring	Reduction in review 360 incidents
Financial support instructional areas	Increase student learning

Actions for Change

Goal 1. To improve student achievement across the curriculum in an inclusive environment.		
Objective 1.1 Enhance the utilization of internal and external data to inform instruction.	Objective 1.2 Enhance instructional and assessment practice for all teachers across subjects and grade levels.	Objective 1.3 Increase collaboration between and amongst all teachers, in school and across school.

Actions for Change 1.1	Actions for Change 1.2	Actions for Change 1.3
- Students will participate in meaningful learning opportunities (Deep Learning and the 6 C's) to improve student engagement and promote global citizenship. - Share classroom created 'pass along' stories to expose students to individual creativity amongst peers and increase shared writing opportunities. - Utilize TLA, Reading Specialist and LRT to help improve reading levels. - Organize classroom library and Individual classroom baggies both in reading levels, interest and genres - More exposure to higher order thinking assessment items. - To increase opportunities to engage in hands on learning (Deep Learning Competencies - 6 C's) - Use prior grade pre-test to determine prior knowledge to guide instruction (currently ongoing in grade 7). - Allow students to develop character by taking responsibility of their learning. This can be accomplished by providing a guide which students will use to detect errors and rectify the mistakes.	- Teachers collaborate to develop assessment practices based on curriculum outcomes. - Use of assessment-for-learning data to develop effective, timely, lesson plans to promote deep learning - To increase the use of outdoor learning spaces in primary grades. - Students using technology (chromebooks, iPads, spheros, bee-bots) for different forms of writing. - Utilize spheros & bee-bots to create code writing, procedural writing, creative writing. - TL Meetings to share exemplars to highlight expectations of student work. - Utilize Outdoor Learning Space & play-based learning/self-directed learning. - Increase co-teaching between Classroom teachers, RS, IRT, LRT & TLA to create high interest learning opportunities.	- Increase collaboration with teacher librarian to create more co-teaching opportunities. - Use monthly Teaching and Learning meetings to allow teachers to present/share lesson ideas with a focus on Deep Learning competencies. - Use monthly Teaching and Learning meetings to allow teachers to present/share lesson ideas with a focus on Deep Learning competencies. - PLCs created using Google Team Drives in order for regional teachers to share and collaborate.

Actions for Change 1.1	Actions for Change 1.2	Actions for Change 1.3
• Connect students selected topics to real world issues that can be expanded to global issues. • Group students together based on areas of interest (i.e. similar genre-based discussion) to allow for collaboration. • Ensure the use of assistive technology is available for those students that are struggling writers.		

Goal 2. To create a safe, caring, healthy and collaborative learning environment.	
Objective 2.1 Enhance physical and mental wellness within the school community.	Objective 2.2 Build a positive, safe and caring culture where students have a sense of belonging and engagement in the school community.
Actions for Change 2.1 • To provide "Go-To-Teacher" classroom resources in the Grade 9 Health program. • To increase mental health awareness, including training and education for teachers for their own mental wellness and condition, i.e. taught coping strategies (2018-2019) • To incorporate a "Grab and Go" initiative for Jr/Sr High students as part of KES, which will include free fruit, yogurt and breakfast bars.	Actions for Change 2.2 • PBIS Program needs to be revisited for 7-12 • Creating more opportunity for students to be leaders in physical activities (ie. junior sports teams). • To seek student volunteers to lead Rockin' Readers, Library prefects.

School Development Plan for Current Year

One Year School Development Plan
School Development Plan 2018 - 2019

Goal 1: To improve student achievement across the curriculum in an inclusive environment.		
Objective 1.1: Enhance the utilization of internal and external data to inform instruction.	**Objective 1.2**: Enhance instructional and assessment practice for all teachers across subjects and grade levels.	**Objective 1.3**: Increase collaboration between and amongst all teachers, in school and across school.
Strategies: **1.1.1**: Develop SMART Action Plans in response to identified learning needs. **1.1.2:** Establish effective ongoing communication and early identification with respect to academically at-risk students. **1.1.3:** Establish a collaborative process to review and respond to data.	**Strategies**: 1.2.1 Establish meaningful communication with students and parents around Expectations for Learning. 1.2.2 Develop learning skills for generation next to enable students to communicate effectively with different forms of writing. 1.2.3 Create optimal learning environments for teaching and learning, K-12. 1.2.4 Establish more effective assessment for learning strategies.	**Strategies:** 1.3.1 Provide opportunities to engage teachers in ongoing reflective and collaborative practices. 1.3.2 Provide opportunities to develop Instructional Leadership among teachers.
Indicators of Success: 1.1.1 Smart action plans completed 1.1.2 early identification of at-risk students and communication occurring. 1.1.3 Team meetings working together to review and respond to data.	**Indicators of Success:** 1.2.1 Ongoing communication with stake holders on expectation at CRA 1.2.2 Focus on generation next reading and writing skills 1.2.3 Changing learning environments to meet the learning needs of K-12 1.2.4 Assessment and learning strategies are modern, relevant, and effective.	**Indicators of Success:** 1.3.1 Teachers are working collaboratively that involves the reflection on practices in the classroom 1.3.2 Teachers engaged in leadership roles within the school.

Goal 1. Support Plan	
Financial	**Professional Development/Time Required**
1.1.1 $500 for classroom libraries; $400.00 for hands on science learning materials 1.2.1 $400.00 for shovels, containers, magnifying glasses, gardening tools, tweezers, bug kits, butterfly nets, gloves etc 1.2.3 $4000.00 for chromebooks, Benchmark Reading Resources for K-6 classrooms ($1000.00) 1.2.4 $500.00 for level reading books for K-6	1.1.1 0.5 day for math daily 3 PD 1.2.2 One day for coding PD 1.3.1 1 day for collaboration

Goal 2: To create a safe, caring, healthy and collaborative learning environment.	
Objective 2.1:	**Objective 2.2**:
Strategies: 2.1.1 Promote and provide for healthy eating and physical activity during the school day. 2.1.2 Bring awareness and education to mental health concerns for youth.	**Strategies**: 2.2.1 Develop teacher opportunity and ability to reach at-risk students. 2.2.2 Expand leadership opportunities for students and families. 2.2.3 Engage parents/guardians in their child/rens education.
Indicators of Success: 2.1.1 Trend towards more physical activity and students are eating healthier 2.1.2 Mental health training opportunities for staff and students	**Indicators of Success:** 2.2.1 Meeting times provided to work with at risk students 2.2.2 More students/families involved in leadership opportunities in the school 2.2.3 More communication with families around student education

Goal 2. Support Plan	
Financial	**Professional Development/Time Required**
2.2.3 $2500.00 for PBIS	2.1.1 Quality Daily Physical Activity PD – 1 day

Operational Issues for 2018 - 19

Operational Issue	**Intended Action**
Scheduling common preps	Provide time for collaboration among teachers
Development of social media sites	Increase home/school communication opportunities.
Placement of water coolers	Reduce the lost of instructional time.
Investment in technology	Increase the availability of technology integration.
Financial support for external PD session	Increase in PD opportunities for staff
Financial support for safe and caring	Increase student learning
Financial support instructional areas	Budget change.