

Sprucewood Academy 2021-2022



Annual School Development Report

The logo for the Newfoundland & Labrador English School District is located in the top right corner of the graphic. It features a stylized 'N' and 'L' in blue and green, with the text "Newfoundland & Labrador English School District" to its right.

Sprucewood Academy, in partnership with home and community, will provide a safe and caring learning environment that fosters respect, responsible citizenship, and high academic achievement.

A vertical stack of five icons is located on the left side of the graphic. From top to bottom: a Mathboard icon, an ABC icon, a Google icon, an email icon, and a P icon.

Strategic Issue:

Strategic Issue: How do we ensure that our teacher practice promotes engagement and well-being?

How did you know this was a Strategic Issue/Objective? What evidence did you have?

Evidence used to identify the strategic issue:

PMF Indicator 2.1 Positive School Climate - Student

How positive or negative is the energy of the school? (24.1% had no opinion or felt that it was negative in some way)

Overall, how respectful do you think students are to the staff? (29% slightly respectful, 58.1% somewhat respectful)

PMF Data Indicator 2.2 Positive School Climate - Staff

From a staff perspective, over half of the staff feel that the staff are not respectful.

Overall how respectful do you think staff are to the students? (6.5% not at all respectful, 6.1% slightly respectful , 32.3% somewhat respectful)

Year end Summary of Progress. What evidence do you have to support this progress?

Celebrate & Support Success of Colleagues

- Notify staff when there are staff family issues (deaths, illnesses, pregnancies, accomplishments)
 - You've been "mugged" - recognize a co-worker on a piece of paper (mug)
 - Staff appreciation shout outs from students
 - "Staff of the week" - People contribute stories and thank you's to that member

District Involvement/Itinerant Support

Safe and Caring School Itinerant has scheduled block sessions for teachers interested. These sessions have been ongoing.

SEL

- Increased duty has improved teacher rapport with students
- Ms. Rowsell has been doing Art SEL activities with students
- Mr. Stacey & Mr. Williams has been doing the Sprucewood Stars/Read Alouds
- School Wide activities (Dart Outdoors, Eggstrvangza)

Fantastic Fridays

Fantastic Fridays at the end of every month have received positive feedback. Students engage in school-wide activities such as Read Alouds and Deep Learning Art Projects in a virtual environment in the absence of assemblies. We also recognize students, we call them "Sprucewood Stars" and each Fantastic Friday we highlight different students. Highlights do not have to be academic and can be something they excel at outside of the school.

T-Shirts

T-shirts have been sized and ordered for all permanent staff. The t-shirts will contain the 6 C's of Deep Learning and we will designate days for staff to wear these shirts and highlight Deep Learning initiatives.

Weekly Student Shout Outs

This is a great idea and students love it! They see that everyone is getting recognized for a positive trait. It is an inclusive practice and we feel that it helps establish a sense of belonging.

School Culture - Creating a Welcoming Environment

Greeting Students:

- Continue with music playing as students enter the building. Students are met on the parking lot by admin and at the door of their classroom by their teacher every morning.

Next Steps:

Student Voice

Create student leadership opportunities and investigate what students would like to see to support engagement and wellbeing.

District Involvement/Itinerant Support

- Sessions from Safe and caring schools Itinerant needs to focus on internet safety
- Roots of Empathy

Next steps: Student leadership initiative:

- Read out a piece of their own writing
- Announce Birthdays
- Highlight any accomplishments in extra curricular activities
- Form a "Spruce it up" Committee
- Spruce it committee can use the hallway monitor (tv)
- Engaged in social media announcements (Twitter, Facebook)
- Recommendation that announcements be made before recess or after lunch
- More sharing of student writing
- Extend Leadership beyond Grade 6

SEL

- Staff are looking for more PL on SEL. . How do we target individual students? Who will provide SEL for these students? Staff are seeking more resources in classrooms
- Research a list of SEL resources and purchase.
- Create a library of SEL resources for staff to sign out.
- Determine budget for purchasing resources.
- Cards & Games: Yoga Pretzels, Mindfulness, Mindful Kids

- Read Alouds: The Mindful Turtle, Beath Like A Polar Bear
- The Mind Up Curriculum (Have Separate Schedules for Makerspace and Computer lab to enhance project base learning.
- Continue with a variety of whole school activities to enhance school climate.

Weekly Wind Down

- Send a Google survey in the Fall to gage teacher response.

Family Newsletter

- This action has not been started and we feel that it is a valuable action to begin in the new school year.

Weekly Student Shout Outs

- Involve students in creating positive words and phrases for the other students.
- Use a google form to collect student names and highlights.

Strategic Issue:

Strategic Issue: How do we create conditions that foster Collective Efficacy and promote student involvement in the

learning environment. How do we create conditions that foster “excitement” in our classrooms and school?

How did you know this was a Strategic Issue/Objective? What evidence did you have?

PMF Data Indicator 2.1: Positive School Climate - Student

How often do your teachers seem excited to be teaching your classes? (4.7% Almost never, 11.8% Once in a while, 21.1 Sometimes)

PMF Data Indicator 2.2: Positive School Climate - Staff

On most days, how enthusiastic are the students about being at school? (12.9% Slightly enthusiastic, 51.5% Somewhat enthusiastic)

When new initiatives to improve teaching are presented at your school, how supportive are your colleagues? (3.2% not supportive at all, 19.4% slightly supportive, 48.4% somewhat supportive)

PMF Data Indicator 3.1 School Engagement - Student

How many of your classes do you enjoy? (15.2% none, 23.6% few, 31.5% half of their classes, 19.9% most, 9.8% all)

How often do you get so focused on activities in your classes that you lose track of time? (4.7% Once in a while, 13.8% Sometimes)

What percentage of students are eager to participate in all of their classes. (30.7% are eager)

Overall, how interesting are the things that you learn in your classes? (11.3% Not at all, 14.8 Slightly interesting, 25.7 Somewhat interesting)

PMF Data Indicator 3.3 Teacher Efficacy Explanation: In Sprucewood Academy, 59.8% of the responses from teachers to questions in this scale were positive.

How thoroughly do you feel that you know all the content you need to teach? (11.5% feel somewhat thoroughly)

How clearly can you explain the most complicated content to your students? (11.5% somewhat clearly)

How confident are you that you can meet the learning needs of your most advanced students? (11.5 slightly confident, 57.7 somewhat confident)

How confident are you that you can help your school's most challenging students learn? (7.7 Not at all confident, 30.8% Slightly confident, 38.5% somewhat confident, 23.1% quite confident)

How confident are you that you can engage students who typically are not motivated? (7.7 slightly confident, 57.7 somewhat confident, 26.9 quite confident, 7.7 extremely confident)

Other Indicators:

- Staff have indicated that student engagement is low and that students are unmotivated to participate in their learning activities.
- Students are not excited to learn new things.
- Teachers feel that the curriculum needs to be addressed to allow more time for creative classrooms and lessons.

Year end Summary of Progress. What evidence do you have to support this progress?

Numeracy Initiatives

- To be ordered Fall 2021
- TL compile list of games/websites to share in Teacher Drive
- Common Google Classroom for subjects at Grade Level Ex: Grade 5 Math Google Classroom to add games, videos, etc.to support concepts in the curriculum.
- Kahootz PL

PI on Numeracy and Literacy Blocks

- Mr. Williams has worked closely with the Grade 4 and 5 teachers (Literacy Blocks) and will continue into September 2021-2022.
- Effective to support Universal Design.

Makerspace Initiatives/Brilliant Labs

- Students always seemed engaged in hands-on activities and were motivated to work collaboratively to solve problems.

Collective Efficacy

Research indicates that collective efficacy is the number one factor influencing student achievement, two times larger than feedback and nearly three times larger than that of classroom management (Hattie 2006)

- staff are seeking more practical PL
- Staff routinely recognize the efforts and hard work and accomplishments of peers
- staff engage in peer observations and seek and share constructive feedback on instructional practice, gaining
- confidence in their abilities and their peers' abilities to impact student learning
- staff participate in school-wide decisions and goal setting, and dedicate time

Collaborative Inquiry Group - Assessment Practice

- Challenges our thinking to allow change
- This is on-going and staff want to continue into the next school year.
- Effective conversations and great brainstorming.

School Wide Deep Learning Project - NPDL School Wide Initiative

- Exploring the 6 C's one C at a time.
- Building the 6C language in the school
- Used the cricket and decorated our lockers with 6C language
- Staff will all have shirts with 6C language
- Bee Project (School and Community Partnerships with KDJ, Canadian Tire, Dominion, Sobeys)
 - Interview with Tulk's Bee Farm, School Wide Art Projects and announcements, Classroom Based Activities, Painted 40 Bee Boxes, Educational Sessions on Bees and their importance to environment.

Read Alouds

- School wide read alouds that build student resilience, and allow the school to digitally connect to share and learn about common themes that focus on respect and building a positive school climate.

Next Steps:

Numeracy Initiatives

- To be ordered Fall 2021
- TL compile list of games/websites to share in Teacher Drive
- Checklist for subject area of ideas for all teachers to make contributions in shared Grade Level Google Classrooms to be

discussed at Divisional Meetings.

- Grade Level set of Chromebooks.

PI on Numeracy and Literacy Blocks

- Mr. Williams will support new teachers wanting to build strong Blocks in their classrooms.

Collaborative Inquiry Group - Assessment Practice

- Would like to see more sharing of resources in the group. We would like more people to join this group to explore different ways to effectively assess students and foster a stronger Universal design in our classrooms.

School Wide Deep Learning Project

- Continue the Bee Project and look at harvest, produce in stores and maybe use the honey produced in the Bee Boxes to make smoothies for the students.
- More community connections to promote Citizenship.
- Have more internal projects centered around the 6 C's.
- Use the 6 C's and use this language in the classrooms

Read Alouds - Focus on Respect and Success

- Read Alouds provide opportunities to discuss messages and themes in the book which in turn promotes critical thinking.
- Start this in Sept 2021.
- Take the Curriculum guides and pinpoint what key points are included and use Read Alouds that target these outcomes. These resources should be on the teacher's shared drive. It should include: books or youtube links, mentor text in a communal area for signing out, books organized by specific topics/genres (ie: simile, point of view, etc.)

Co-Worker Mentorship for new staff

- This will help new staff adjust to our school.

