

School Education Plan and Results Report
2012-2015
December, 2013



Elk Island Public Schools



School Profile and Foundation Statements

School: Ministik Elementary (K-6)

Principal: Bill Suter

Introduction

We are proud of the heritage of our school, what it represents, and what has been accomplished in establishing a solid educational foundation upon which our students can continue to build.

Ministik School has a 'family' atmosphere where everyone is important, where everyone is accepted, and where we all look out for one another. Situated twenty minutes from Sherwood Park, we offer an idyllic country location.

Parent volunteers are welcome in the school and are involved in a variety of ways. Our School Council, along with our staff and parent volunteers, organizes family dances, hot lunches, special days, the Christmas Store, Ministik Munchies and much more.

Motto

Our motto is 'Small in Size – Huge in Heart'. Our goal is to partner with families to develop and maintain a safe and respectful school environment, and to encourage students to be fully engaged in the learning process.

Philosophy & Beliefs

We believe that we can best help children achieve academic, personal, and social growth not only by creating a positive and supportive learning environment, but also by caring for the whole child. This includes cultivating appropriate attitudes towards others so that each individual is respected, valued, and supported. As well, we encourage all students to place a high priority on their own learning and the learning of others and to focus on the development of virtues such as respect, helpfulness, courage, empathy, and responsibility.

We believe that a close partnership with the home is essential in helping our children develop intellectually, emotionally, socially, creatively, and physically. As educators, we are committed to providing a quality educational experience, one in which all students have every opportunity to learn and experience success. Close and open communication is vital. Having a supportive community involved with an excellent staff has resulted in consistently providing an ideal learning environment for our students. Ministik School mixes warmth and caring within an engaging learning atmosphere. We challenge and cherish every child, every day.

School Goals

Goal 1 Ministik School students are engaged thinkers and ethical citizens who manifest an entrepreneurial spirit.

Goal 2 Ministik School students use technology to learn, to innovate, to collaborate, to communicate and to discover.

Goal 3 Ministik School students speak their truth calmly and clearly, they listen with empathy and they collaborate with others to ensure a safe environment.

Elk Island Public Schools Guiding Principles:

- We provide our students with access to high quality education.
- We make decisions in the best interests of our students.
- We make decisions that reflect our core values and align with division and school goals.
- We make decisions based on equity of resources and opportunities.
- We are accountable to our students, our communities, and our division.
- We meet students' needs through cooperative efforts in the design and delivery of effective programs.
- We share responsibility for creating and nurturing relationships that respect diversity and community uniqueness.
- We form relationships based on trust, confidence, respect, and open communication.

Elk Island Goals:

- Students have engaging and collaborative learning experiences that prepare them to be active, creative, and knowledgeable participants in our global society.
- Students have engaging and collaborative learning experiences that prepare them to be critical thinkers and problem-solvers.
- Students are global citizens who respect and value diversity.
- *All* students have their individual needs met within inclusive learning environments.

Provincial Goals:

Goal 1: An excellent start to learning

Children are reaching emotional, social, intellectual and physical development milestones and are ready for school.

Goal 2: Success for every student

Students achieve Alberta's student learning outcomes and demonstrate citizenship, entrepreneurship, and proficiency in literacy and numeracy. The achievement gap between First Nations, Métis and Inuit (FNMI) students and all other students is eliminated. Student learning needs are supported.

Goal 3: Quality teaching and school leadership

Teacher preparation and professional growth focus on the competencies needed to help students learn. Effective learning and teaching is achieved through collaborative leadership.

Goal 4: Engaged and effective governance

The education system demonstrates collaboration and engagement with Aboriginal communities, business, industry, and the public. Students and communities have access to safe and healthy learning environments.

School Based Professional Learning Day	Topic and brief description of plan (1 to 2 sentences)	Linked to School Goal
November 01	<p>Restorative Justice Practices A workshop to introduce the principles and practices of Restorative Justice. This will be an investigation of using sharing circles and caring circles to develop communication skills and community conferencing to resolve issues.</p> <p>Discovery Education and Genius Hour This workshop will introduce Discovery Education to staff members and show them how this resource can be used to enhance student learning. Genius hour is being used by two of our staff members to engage students in pursuing knowledge in areas of self-interest. For more information go to YouTube and search for Genius Hour.</p>	Goal 3 Goal 2
April 11	<p>Everyone’s an Artist with Charlene Folkinga This professional learning opportunity takes place in the middle of our Artist-in-Education experience with Mrs. Folkinga. Charlene will be working with all of our classes and our staff will be creating art alongside of the students. The workshop will re-enforce and extend what staff have be learning about creating and teaching art.</p>	Goal 1
May 16	<p>Restorative Justice Practices Part Two ACTS, Alberta Conflict Transformation Society, personnel will be on site to take our staff and some of the Fultonvale staff (who are new and missed the training over the past two years) to the next level in understanding and applying community conferencing practices.</p>	Goal 3

School Goal

Ministik School students are engaged thinkers and ethical citizens who manifest an entrepreneurial spirit.

Strategies

Ministik School students are given tasks that require them to find information, to seek to understand the information, to check it for accuracy, to create new knowledge based on the information and to communicate their discoveries. They work both independently and cooperatively in these endeavors. They are attuned to the world around them and they evaluate the impact that their actions may have on themselves, the people around them and the world in general. Ministik School students are learning that they are responsible for their own success and they take pride in their accomplishments.

Performance Indicators

- Accountability Pillar
- Tell Them from Me Survey
- Parent Council Feedback
- Student Focus Groups

Accountability Pillar Overall Summary		Current Result 2013	Previous 3-yr Average
Survey Results			
Overall teacher, parent and student satisfaction with the opportunity for students to receive a broad program of studies, including fine arts, career, technology, and health and physical education.	Ministik Elementary School	93.8	93.9
	Province	81.5	80.7
Overall teacher, parent and student satisfaction with the overall quality of basic education.	Ministik Elementary School	93.6	86.1
	Province	89.8	89.3

School Education Results Report (2012/2013) (completed October, 2013)

As the Accountability Pillar results indicate, our clientele are pleased with the quality of education that is being delivered by the committed staff at Ministik School. Our School Council has concurred often with these sentiments, as have our parents over and over again in informal discussions.

The Tell Them from Me Survey results also indicate that our students feel motivated to do well in school and that they are well supported in this by staff.

School Goal

Ministik School students use technology to learn, to innovate, to collaborate, to communicate and to discover.

Strategies

Ministik School students use SmartBoards, iPads, the computers in the lab and library and laptop computers to further their understanding of concepts, to demonstrate their learning and to communicate with each other. They do group projects using Google Docs which gives them the opportunity to work collaboratively on their projects at home and at school.

To enhance the excellent use of technology that is already in evidence at Ministik School our Parent Association is applying for a matching funds grant to provide a \$100 000 upgrade of the school's technology resources.

Performance Indicators

- Tell Them from Me Survey
- Parent Council Feedback
- Student Focus Groups

School Education Results Report 2012/2013 (completed October, 2013)

The Tell Them from Me Survey results showed that our students enjoy working collaboratively and learning through the use of technology. They use technology more than the national average and would like to spend even more time learning this way.

Our Parent Council is very pleased with the extensive use of technology in learning at Ministik School. This explains why the parents were so eager to support the grant application and spend a good portion of their financial reserves on the Technology Upgrade Project.

School Goal

Ministik School students speak their truth calmly and clearly, they listen with empathy and they collaborate with others to ensure a safe environment.

Strategies

We are pleased to say that Ministik School is going around in circles: sharing circles, caring circles and community conferencing circles. We have adopted the principles and practices of Restorative Justice. Our students are learning to listen with empathy, to articulate their thoughts and feelings and to resolve their problems with helpful words.

Performance Indicators

- Accountability Pillar
- Tell Them from Me Survey
- Parent Council Feedback
- Student Focus Groups

Accountability Pillar Overall Summary		Current Result 2013	Previous 3-yr Average
Survey Results			
Percentages of teachers, parents and students who are satisfied that students model the characteristics of active citizenship.	Ministik Elementary School	81.7	85.8
	Province	83.4	82.0
Percentage of teacher, parent and student agreement that: students are safe at school, are learning the importance of caring for others, are learning respect for others and are treated fairly in school.	Ministik Elementary School	84.5	90.1
	Province	89.0	88.1

School Education Results Report 2012/2013 (completed October, 2013)

These Accountability Pillar results are not acceptable. This is one of the reasons that we are implementing Restorative Justice practices at Ministik School.

Learning these important life lessons cannot start too early, in fact, the earlier the better. This is why all Ministik students are learning how to be assertive. This will give them the self-confidence to handle difficult people and difficult situations.

Accountability Pillar Overall Summary		Current Result 2013	Previous 3-yr Average
Provincial Achievement Tests			
Overall percentage of students in Grades 3, 6 and 9 who achieved the acceptable standard on provincial achievement tests.*	Ministik Elementary School	69.0	84.1
	Province	79.0	79.2
Overall percentage of students in Grades 3, 6 and 9 who achieved the standard of excellence on provincial achievement tests.	Ministik Elementary School	17.2	37.0
	Province	18.9	19.9

Provincial Achievement Tests Detailed Results		Current Result 2013		Previous 3 year Average	
		Acceptable	Excellent	Acceptable	Excellent
Elementary					
English Language Arts 3	Ministik Elementary School	86.7	26.7	79.6	10.9
	Province	81.5	17.8	81.8	19.2
Mathematics 3	Ministik Elementary School	80.0	26.7	84.3	30.3
	Province	76.5	25.5	77.1	25.8
English Language Arts 6	Ministik Elementary School	**	**	75.7	41.4
	Province	82.5	16.3	83.0	18.4
Mathematics 6	Ministik Elementary School	**	**	80.0	20.0
	Province	73.0	16.4	74.2	17.2
Science 6	Ministik Elementary School	**	**	79.3	51.4
	Province	77.5	25.9	76.9	26.5
Social Studies 6	Ministik Elementary School	**	**	72.1	32.9
	Province	72.7	19.0	71.8	18.1

**The percentages achieving the acceptable standard include the percentages achieving the standard of excellence Results are based on all students registered in that grade. Students who did not write the achievement test (excused from writing or absent) are included in the calculation of the results.*

School Education Results Report 2012/2013 (completed October, 2013)

** Alberta Education policy states that the results are not be made public because less than six students wrote the exam.

The Grade 3 results were excellent, exceeding the provincial results in every category.

Additional Accountability Pillar Survey Results

Accountability Pillar Overall Summary		Current Result 2013	Previous 3-yr Average
Overall teacher and parent agreement that students are taught attitudes and behaviours that will make them successful at work when they finish school.	Ministik Elementary School	85.7	58.7
	Province	80.3	79.9
Overall teacher and parent satisfaction with parental involvement in decisions about their child's education.	Ministik Elementary School	100	88.4
	Province	80.3	79.8
Overall percentage of teachers, parents and students indicating that their school and schools in their jurisdiction have improved or stayed the same in the last three years.	Ministik Elementary School	86.4	79.6
	Province	80.6	80.0

School Council Involvement and Communication of Plan

PAT and Accountability Pillar results and the results from the *Tell Them From Me Survey* were shared with the Parent Council and all parents through the school newsletter. The Parent Council was also provided with a draft of the revised (fall 2013) Ministik School Goals. There was a unanimous acceptance of the new goals, as there had been from staff.

The parents at Ministik School are highly engaged in their children's education and activities held at Ministik School. Our parents are very knowledgeable about instruction, assessment and learning concepts promoted at Ministik School because of their involvement in the school and their strong support of their children.¹

1. On the Accountability Pillar survey results *Overall teacher and parent satisfaction with parental involvement in decisions about their child's education* received a score of 100%.

Additional Information

A complete class size report for each school in EIPS may be viewed at <http://www.eips.ca/planning-and-results>.

Please refer to the supplemental data package at <http://www.eips.ca/documents> for detailed school, jurisdiction and provincial results.