

Annual Report to the Community  
September 2015— June 2016

# Trenton Elementary School



## School and Community Context

Trenton Elementary School is made up of grades Primary to four. We have a total student population of 133 students, with 13 full and part-time teachers, and 4 Educational Assistants.

As a town school, many of our students are able to walk to school, though some students are bused in from farther distances.

The majority of our students stay at school for lunch and take part in some of the lunchtime activities that are

provided, such as the Guitar Club and the Ballet Club. We also have a Recycling Club with a number of student volunteers who assist with this very valuable program each day.



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## School Advisory Council

Here at Trenton Elementary School we are fortunate to have a joint School Advisory Council between Trenton Middle Schools. We have representatives of administration, teachers, and community members from each of the schools. During these meetings we have the opportunity to not only hear from the above members, but we engage in dialogue with our elected Board Member about the issues at hand that affected Trenton Elementary.

The School Advisory Council has been helpful as acting as a sounding board to issues and concerns as they have come up throughout the school year. Trenton Elementary School would like to welcome interested community members to join the School Advisory council, which meets a total of six times a year. Please contact the school at 755-8460 for more information.

## Safe & Orderly Environment

Trenton Elementary is a PEBS (Positive Effective Behaviour Supports) school. Our Students and staff follow our school matrix of Respect for Self, Others, Learning and the Environment. When students are found to be following the matrix, students receive "Gotchas" and are recognized monthly for their efforts to keep the school safe and respectful. Other ways we help keep the school safe is by the use of our Occupational Health and Safety committee, and the use of playground supervisors during the lunch

## Provincial and Board Assessment Results 2014-15

<b>Reading/Writing Gr. 3</b>	<b># of Students</b>	<b>Trenton Elementary</b>	<b>CCRSB</b>	<b>Nova Scotia</b>
Reading (Overall)	22	45	70	68
Writing Ideas	22	82	77	76
Writing Organization	22	55	62	60
Writing Language Use	22	55	67	64
Writing Conventions	22	43	54	53

  

<b>Math Gr. 4</b>	<b># of Students</b>	<b>Trenton Elementary</b>	<b>CCRSB</b>	<b>Nova Scotia</b>
Math (Overall)	26	69	75	74

### Classroom Assessment

Assessment at Trenton Elementary School is an on-going process that takes place in the classroom every day. It continually provides teachers with information about students' learning that enables them to plan lessons that best meet the learning needs of all students. Our goal is to provide timely intervention that will support students to make consistent progress in their learning. Classroom assessments also helps us to identify additional materials needed in classrooms and to determine area for future professional development.

Classroom assessments are a very important part of the portraying a complete picture of student academic performance. Classroom assessments give students the opportunity to show what they know in a variety of ways. There are many assessment strategies teachers may use throughout the course of a school year:

- Conversations/conferencing
- Observations
- Products (tests, quizzes, presentations, etc.)
- Rubrics
- Writing samples
- Peer/self-assessments
- Oral reading records
- Checklists

At the lower elementary level, students requiring support may have been seen by the Early Literacy Support teacher for an intensive intervention that is structured to their needs. Program Support teachers also work with students at all grade levels to support students who need more extensive support. Adaptations or an Individualized Program Plan (IPP) is implemented when required.

## Student Engagement– Highlights of the Year

Student success is celebrated regularly here at Trenton Elementary School. Each month students are recognized for their “Random Acts” through our PEBS program of Respect for Self, Others, Learning and the Environment. One student per class is invited to a special lunch with the teachers and administration in recognition of the good deeds they do. During the school year, the

Arts and Physically Active Lifestyles have been celebrated. An Art Club created wonderful displays in our hallways each month, each class taking a turn. Of course we held our annual Christmas Concert in December at Trenton Middle School.

## Professional Development

At Trenton Elementary School there was a concentration on Restorative Approaches through our Professional Development this school year. All Grade Primary to Four teachers participated in this PD opportunity. Power School and TIENET were other professional challenges this year for our staff.

Teachers began tracking student achievement in Power-School and in TIENET, Student Services documentation was practiced. We also continues to work on Literacy in the classroom and how to incorporate technology into our lessons.

## Additional School Support

In addition to our School Advisory Council, Trenton Elementary School is supported by Home and School. This group of parent volunteers have spent countless hours inside and outside of our building making school life memorable to our

student population. They have held a Fall Fair, Spring Fling, Family Dances, and monthly Pizza Days. They have funded our class trips at the end of the school year. This is just a few things they have done to help out Trenton Elementary. We thank you for all your support!



“It’s not that I’m so smart, it’s just that I stay with problems longer.”

Albert Einstein



## Continuous School Improvement

The school Performance and Achievement Goals have been completed at Trenton Elementary School. The data indicates that we have made progress in both areas. In the fall of 2015 we will develop two new goals and make a formal presentation to the Chignecto –Central Regional School Board . Thank You to all the staff for the time , effort and commitment to the CSI process.

Goal #1: By June 2015, there will be an increase in awareness of matters related to cross-cultural understanding of those world cultures which are reflected in our own school community.

Goal #2: By June 2015, to increase the number of students meeting expectation in reading by 7% as measured by school-based and provincial assessment.

### Goal#1

Work began in January 2013 to increase cultural awareness in our school. Some of the activities and learning experiences that were a focus at Trenton Elementary School during the past two years.

-The students were actively involved in celebrating Mi'Kmaq, African, and Asian Heritage months through presentations, art work, dance, stories, reader's theatre, and classroom activities.

-Students also explored various countries through the eyes of our guests from the Multicultural Association of Pictou County. Keith Mullins introduced our students to instruments from around the world. We have also enjoyed two cultural performances from Razzmatazz.

-Students also took part in creating art from diverse cultures through our afterschool art club.

-Last year, our holiday concert featured songs from various countries and our holiday tree featured student-made decorations from various countries.

-Students joined with the world in celebrating the 2014 winter Olympics.

-In January of 2015, the students celebrated Martin Luther King Jr. Day with classroom activities and a birthday party. They also cheered on the MORE run.

-Students enjoyed a TaeKwon-Do presentation by our two Korean students.

### Goal #2

We began by looking at our data wall and provincial testing results and then we identified our need; to increase our students meeting CCRSB reading expectations. Using available resources we targeted those students not meeting reading expectations with extra PST and Early Literacy Support. As part of our PLC we discussed guided reading and Records of Oral Reading to ensure consistency and to offer solutions. We sent home extra information and ideas to support parents. We focused on no-excuse words and enriching vocabulary. In January 2014, we celebrated Family Literacy Day by having an assembly and having students reflect and share about their favorite book. Community members attended and spoke about the importance of literacy.