
Directions Newsletter Regular Meeting of the Board – August 2015

Math Monitoring Report

Presented by Ed Varjassy, Curriculum Coordinator

In 2011 Chinook decided to focus on improving our math results and a math committee developed a four year Math Momentum plan that the Board approved. Baseline data was collected by assessing all grade 3, 6 and 9 students using the Vancouver Islandnet Math Assessment and a Division goal was set.

Chinook Math Momentum Goal: *It is our intention that all students in Chinook will be meeting or exceeding Chinook expectations in math on Chinook division wide math assessments over time. In the immediate future we will measure the cohorts in Gr. 3, 6, and 9 with Chinook Assessments; our target is for 25% more students meeting or exceeding Chinook expectations in math by June 2015.*

The Math Momentum plan included the following supports for teachers in grades k-8:

- Professional development for all math teachers
 - First Steps in math
 - Numeracy Nets
 - Guided Math
- Math coaches providing coaching and support to teachers directly in their classrooms

We have seen great growth over the past four years and have surpassed our goal.

Overall Math Scores - Grades 3, 6, 9

- We now have 76% of our students in grades 3, 6 and 9 meeting or exceeding expectations in math.
- We have surpassed our 25% improvement goal and now have 29% more students meeting or exceeding expectations.
- The 29% increase means that we have 349 more students meeting or exceeding expectations in grade 3 6 and 9 math than we had in 2011!
- There were a total of 1240 students assessed this past spring.
- We have shown significant gains across all areas of the assessment.

- There are 17.6% fewer students that are red since 2011. This means that we have 218 fewer students needing support.

Overall, the Math Momentum initiative has been very successful. We now have 29% more students meeting or exceeding expectations than we did in 2011 and have surpassed our target of 25% growth in that time. The practice of coaches working with teachers in their classroom has proven to be effective at providing teachers with professional development and improving teaching and learning.

The Math Momentum maintenance plan will be implemented in the 2015-2016 school year, with two math maintenance coaches utilized to continue to support teachers. The maintenance plan will include the introduction of a math intervention program for all schools, with professional development and coaching support for new teachers of grade k-8 math to help establish effective guided math classrooms. Chinook is considering spring assessments to include other available grade levels beyond 3, 6, and 9.

Literacy Monitoring Report

Presented by Kathy Robson, Curriculum Coordinator

Balanced Literacy Maintenance Goal: *By June 2020, 90% of students in Chinook School Division will be meeting or exceeding expectations in reading, based on selected school division-wide assessments.*

2014-2015 Results:

- Grade 3: 83 % Meeting or Exceeding Expectations (52% of those students are exceeding)
- Grade 6: 78 % Meeting or Exceeding Expectations
- Grade 9: 78 % Meeting or Exceeding Expectations
- 88% of French Immersion students are Meeting or Exceeding Expectation
- Overall 80% of Chinook Students are meeting or exceeding on selected assessments
- This is a 3% decrease from last year
- 17% improvement since the Literacy Initiative began in 2009
- Levelled Literacy Intervention (LLI)
 - 97% of students in Grade 1 that completed LLI were reading at grade level
 - 78% of students in Grade 2 that completed LLI were reading at grade level

What does this mean?

- We have maintained our grade 3 results but will need to increase at higher levels to reach our 90% goal.
- Our success levels in grade 2 LLI this year have dropped. On analysis, 20% of our grade 2 students are one level below grade level. Our LLI teachers will be providing additional lessons at this level to bring our students to grade level

expectations. We have significantly more students in LLI this year and some of those students are beginning at lower levels than in past years.

- Our grade 6 and 9 students are not showing the same amount of growth as our grade 3 students and seem to be hitting a plateau in middle years.
- In order to increase our levels we will need to focus on instructional strategies and student learning in grades 6 to 9.

Moving forward, Professional Development will focus on implementing “Saskatchewan Reads” K-6 with focused coaching at grades 3 and 6. Chinook will continue to offer PD sessions and coaching to new teachers for Kindergarten to grade 5.

Safe & Caring Schools on Website

Chinook School Division is committed to providing safe and respectful school environments, and therefore has added a section called [“Safe & Caring Schools”](#) on the division website. This area will be dynamic with content added ongoing. The section includes information on Anti-Bullying resources and initiatives, as well as the Violence Threat Risk Assessment (VTRA) protocol for Southwest Saskatchewan.

Ashley Park & Oman School Facilities

Subject to Ministerial approval and in accordance with the *Education Act, 1995*, Chinook School Division is signing an agreement with the City of Swift Current to the transfer Oman and Ashley Park school sites to the City for community development purposes effective December 31, 2015 and June 30, 2016 respectively. The agreement has a provision to provide space for Chinook to construct a commemorative marker stone for Oman School.