

Elizabeth Park Elementary

2010-2011

School Report



80 Ellesmere Drive
Paradise, NL
A1L 0R7



Eastern School District Vision Statement

To challenge and develop the learning and achievement of each student in a safe, caring and socially just learning environment.



OFFICE OF THE DIRECTOR

*Chair: Milton Peach, B.A., B.A.(Ed.)
C.E.O./Director of Education: Ford Rice, B.A., B.Ed., M.Ed.*

Message from the Director of Education

In June 2011, Eastern School District concluded a three-year strategic planning process which centered on developing our schools as caring, professional and purposeful places of learning and excellence. This school report for 2010-2011 highlights the activities of your school and your efforts to achieve your school-based goals, in keeping with the District's mission and its vision for the future. The information provided is very helpful as we continue to pursue excellence for our District through a planning process which emphasizes continued professional growth and development.

I would like to take this opportunity to congratulate each school on the success achieved to date as evidenced by this report. I acknowledge, with gratitude, the efforts of our teachers, administrators, support staff, parents and community representatives, particularly through schools councils. By working together, we can achieve the best possible learning environment for our students. I encourage you to dialogue with our stakeholders on this document and on our District objectives.

As we move forward with our new Strategic Plan (2011-2014), I look forward to your continued support and cooperation. Keep up the good work!

**FORD RICE, B.A., B.Ed., M.Ed.
C.E.O./DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION**

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Messages from the Principal and School Council Chair

It is with great pride that I present you with Elizabeth Park Elementary's first School Report. Our school has already begun to create a culture that promotes life-long learning and spirit of community. Teachers, Parents, and Support Staff have worked hard to ensure that we are student focused. Professional Development for our teaching staff has centered on meeting the individual needs of all diverse learners in today's classrooms and we are proud of our inclusionary practices.

This 2010-2011 School Report outlines our transitional school development plan and celebrates the successes we have already attained in each of our goal areas. This report also provides all stakeholders with current information regarding student achievement at Elizabeth Park Elementary. The current 2011-2012 school year will see the initiation of a new 3-4 year plan that will address our school's own unique goal areas.

In closing, I would like to say thank-you to all members of the Elizabeth Park School Community. The support we have received has exceeded expectations and I am truly humbled to be a part of it. It is my hope that our school will continue to move forward by showing increases in student achievement and offering a caring, nurturing environment for our young students along the way. I'm confident that Elizabeth Park Elementary will, as our school song says, *guide us along a path to a future that is bright and new!*

Elizabeth Churchill, Principal

2010-2011 was an amazing year for Elizabeth Park Elementary, as both our inaugural year and the first opportunity to see, touch, and feel our new home. The year began in September in our temporary home at the former Newfoundland School for the Deaf, and we would like to thank all the staff and students at that facility for making us feel at home and for the hard work at developing synergies with us during the time we spent there. It was greatly appreciated and made a tough situation that much better for our staff and students. Our Staff and Administration did a wonderful job at getting the facility ready under shortened time constraints for the beginning of the school year, and yet again worked tirelessly during the move to our new home to make the students feel at home and to prepare for the curricular aspects of our programming. We had the pleasure of welcoming "Squawk" to our school, he is a greatly appreciated staff member and rallies our students to make every event filled with spirit and personality.

Our School Council banded together to work very hard on behalf of the students and our school community as a whole, and really developed the sense of community that is so important to the development of a new school. Staff, students, and Parents alike worked together to develop a real community spirit as well as striving for the excellence required for a total school product. Thank you all for your tireless efforts we look forward to 2011-2012 with much anticipation.

Des Whelan, 2010-2011 School Council Chair

Overview of School

Our School Community

Elizabeth Park Elementary is situated in Paradise and is part of the eastern region of the Eastern School District. Our school has an enrolment of 430 and offers grades K to 6. We have a total of 31 professional teaching staff. This includes 22 classroom teachers and 3 Special Services Personnel. Elizabeth Park Elementary also has a Guidance Counselor and 3 Specialist Teachers in the areas of Music, Physical Education and Learning Resources. Our student population enables us to have the support of 5 Student Assistants. Support Staff also includes the services of Secretarial and Maintenance Personnel.

The Eastern School District itself is the largest district in our province. In addition to the staff based at the school, we are fortunate to have the services of District Office Staff including an Educational Psychologist, Speech Language Pathologist and Itinerant Teachers.

Programs Provided

Elizabeth Park Elementary offers the entire provincially prescribed curriculum in Kindergarten through Grade Six. Our school also offers the option of French Immersion (currently to grade five) and Intensive Core French at the grade six level.

Key Highlights/Special Projects

Elizabeth Park Elementary came together as a school community in September 2010. At that time, we were very fortunate to have the former Newfoundland School for the Deaf campus as our home. The highlight of our year was the move to our very own brand new facility on Ellesmere Drive in Paradise. We held an *Open House* the evening prior to our opening and you could feel the excitement throughout our crowded hallways.

Most students attending Elizabeth Park live close by, setting the ideal stage for a truly "community school". This excitement and spirit came through during our **Grand Opening** week (April 11th -15th, 2011). The following briefly outlines this memorable celebration at our school:





Monday - Walk to School, Flag Raising and Launch of Breakfast Program.

Tuesday - School based Student Activities (Eagle Egg Hunt, Eagle Egg Relay).

Wednesday - School Council Community BBQ.

Thursday - Terry Kelly "We Can Do Anything" School Performance for Students.

Friday - Official Opening Ceremony including Mascot Reveal.

It is our hope to build on this great, fresh start and continue to create a culture that, while focusing on academics, allows each student to learn and grow in an engaging, meaningful way.

Elizabeth Park Elementary is very proud of its Physical Education and Music programs.

Our Physical Education program focuses on enhancing the physical, social and emotional well being of students. This program encourages all students to participate in physical activity to achieve an appreciation for a healthy and active lifestyle. Activities include lunchtime *intramural sports* for grades 3 – 6. *Extra-curricular activities* for Grade 4-6 including MUN Track and Field and Badminton Provincials. *After school programs* including volley ball, badminton, basket ball and track and field.

Elizabeth Park Elementary encourages students to engage in a wide variety of activities. As students pass through different grade levels they are exposed to skating, skiing and snow shoeing, swimming and outdoor activities like archery, orienteering and shelter building. As well, throughout the 2010-2011 school year there were a number of other special, fun days including Healthy Halloween, Guinness World Record Cup Stacking Day and Hockey Day in Canada. Our year ended with a fabulous *Sports Day* at the Dianne Whelan Soccer Complex. The weather cooperated and our students enjoyed numerous games and activities!



Congratulations to Ms. Wade and all of our students/staff for receiving a *Gold 2010-2011 School*

Recognition Award for a Quality Physical Education Program. This award is given by Physical and Health Education Canada and, as you can see, well deserved.

“*Oliver Twist*” was our 2010-11 musical drama production. Our elementary students put off a wonderful performance with a great sounding chorus. As 2010-2011 was our first year together, all students performed in a Christmas concert held at Elim Tabernacle. There were performances of choirs, hand bells and our beginner bands. Throughout the school year, all of our grade levels also get the opportunity to present their musical talents by hosting an assembly. We have begun



to create a **Musical Memories** wall to celebrate all of our musical presentations and look forward to creating a school culture where artistic talents are valued and appreciated.

Other programs provided by the school during 2010-2011 include:

- Breakfast Program
- Recycling Program
- DARE (Drug Awareness Education: Grade Six)
- Junior Achievement (Business Basics: Grade Six)
- Grade Six Brother Brennan Environmental Experience

Partnerships

Elizabeth Park Elementary is very fortunate to be supported by the community. A key partnership exists with the Kids Eat Smart Foundation. All students can avail of breakfast (free of charge) three mornings a week. Breakfast items may include cereal, toast with a variety of spreads, pancakes, waffles, a variety of fruit and apple or orange juice. This program has been a huge success thanks to Kids Eat Smart and our parent volunteers who worked to get the program up and running and continue to support it.

Our new school has already begun to build a wonderful volunteer network. We get great support in the areas of instructional material preparation, library assistance, Kiss n' Ride Program and, as mentioned above, the Breakfast Club. It is because of those who so generously give their time that we can offer such programs and opportunities to the students of EPE.

Thank-you to the Newfoundland School for the Deaf, our very first home, and to the Town of Paradise who has been eager to support us whenever called upon.

Elizabeth Park Elementary is thankful for the generosity of our entire school community and we look forward to building partnerships with other organizations and groups in the Paradise area.

Report on EPE Transitional Year Plan (2010-2011)

Elizabeth Park Elementary opened its doors in September 2010 at the Newfoundland School for the Deaf site. At this time, students and staff came together to form a new school family. We will formally begin the School Development process in the 2011-2012 school year. The following tables report on the areas that were worked on during our transitional year and are currently continuing. It also follows the Eastern School District strategic plan and sets direction for the development of Elizabeth Park Elementary's own unique culture and climate. Objectives under each goal area are broad, and reflect the needs characteristic of a new school.



Goal Area 1: Student Achievement (Numeracy/Literacy)

<p>Objective 1.1 Students will utilize an increased variety of modes to represent their mathematics knowledge (i.e. manipulatives, pictorials, graphics, etc.).</p>	<p>Objective 1.2 Teachers will avail of more varied assessment tools (internal and external) to inform instruction and monitor student achievement.</p>	<p>Objective 1.3 Classrooms and Learning Resource Centre will begin to build a mathematics-based literature collection.</p>
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Goal 1 (continued)

<p>Commendations 1.1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Inventory of all school materials completed and needs identified • Classroom visuals (posters) to support learning purchased and displayed • "SMART" Board technology was introduced across the curriculum. • "SMART" Boards purchased and installed in all elementary classrooms and one in each primary grade level • A Numeracy/Literacy action team was formed at EPE (teaching professionals) • Professional Development provided in the areas of differentiated instruction and use of technology 	<p>Commendations 1.2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Professional Development provided in the areas of <i>differentiated instruction</i> and use of <i>technology</i> • Professional articles distributed and grade level discussion on assessment practices • Parental Feedback from Conferences, Curriculum Night and Reporting Periods was positive • Evidence of mathematical integration displayed around school • Assessment for Learning practiced as at-risk students were identified each reporting period and strategies developed for intervention • Teachers availed of the mathematics rubric to inform instruction and monitor student achievement 	<p>Commendations 1.3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Literature with a mathematical focus was purchased for new Learning Resource Centre (French and English) • Bulletin Boards displayed numeracy/literacy integrated concepts • Literature was purchased for all classroom libraries • Learning Resource Centre displays on mathematical concepts (e.g., <i>Books to Count On!</i>) • Two Scholastic Book Fairs held to start building our resource collection
<p>Recommendations 1.1</p> <p>1.1.1 This objective continue into 2011-2012</p> <p>1.1.2 "SMART" board technology will be completed with the installation of "SMART" Boards in every classroom</p> <p>1.1.3 Professional Development with interactive white boards</p> <p>1.1.4 A focus on "Learning for the 21st Century" will be included in our new School Development Plan</p> <p>1.1.5 Numeracy/Literacy Action team to explore some school wide activites (eg. hold a "Math Day"</p>	<p>Recommendations 1.2</p> <p>1.2.1 This objective continue into 2011-2012</p> <p>1.2.2 Professional Development in the area of 21st Century Learning and Assessment</p> <p>1.2.3 To increase the use of the student conference and other varied assessment practices across the curriculum</p>	<p>Recommendations 1.3</p> <p>1.3.1 Resource collection is ongoing as we build a new Learning Resource Centre</p>

Goal Area 2: Safe and Caring Schools/Culture and Climate

<p>Objective 2.1 To increase programs that promote positive student interactions.</p>	<p>Objective 2.2 To build an “inclusive” culture where all students feel accepted and valued.</p>	<p>Objective 2.3 To continue and increase school-wide events that promote and celebrate an active, healthy lifestyle.</p>
<p>Commendations 2.1</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • PBS (Positive Behavioral Supports) matrix posted in english and french • Behavior tracking system developed (forms) • Safe and Caring Action Team formed to organize "Eagle Feather Program" for 2011-2012 • Announcements celebrating those students who have "been caught" acting respectfully • Student conferences held for discussions on various situations and how their actions affected the outcome • Roots of Empathy Program introduced to grades 3 and grade 5 	<p>Commendations 2.2</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Scheduling considerations for more "in-class" support time • Professional Development on <i>differentiated instruction, team teaching</i> and the <i>inclusive classroom</i> • Special Services Team meeting scheduled within the 7-day cycle to discuss/address student programming in a timely manner • EPE school crest designed by student (contest). Crest concept: <i>Friendship, Community, Learning</i> • EPE school mascot "hatched", student held school wide election to decide name • Creation and recording of Elizabeth Park Elementary school song. • Eastern Education Grant applied for and received to purchase musical instruments 	<p>Commendations 2.3</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • School Recognition: Gold Award Quality Physical Education Program (Physical & Health Education Canada) • Kids Eat Smart "Breakfast Program" initiated at EPE • Many healthy, active fun days held (e.g Guinness World Record Cup Stacking, Hockey Day in Canada) • Intramural Program offered Gds. 3-6 • After School Program (various activities and grade levels throughout the year) • Extra-curricular activities (MUN Track and Field, Badminton Provincials) • Professional Development in "<i>Active Schools</i>", teachers received resource kit for classroom activities • New Sports Equipment received to support Physical Education Program
<p>Recommendations 2.1</p> <p>2.1.1 Introduce new “Eagle Feather Program” Program and Random Acts of Kindness month</p> <p>2.1.2 Build on school-wide activities that focus on improving student self esteem (e.g. Assembly Celebrations)</p> <p>2.1.3 Continue with discussions around what good behavior "looks like" in different settings</p>	<p>Recommendations 2.2</p> <p>2.2.1. Inclusive philosophy be the foundation/culture of EPE (to continue)</p> <p>2.2.2. As we are a new school, <i>culture</i> be considered as a key goal area</p>	<p>Recommendations 2.3</p> <p>2.3.1 Continue with and build on school-wide activities that focus on active, healthy living</p>

Summary Report on Elizabeth Park's Most Current Data

This section overviews our school's current achievement data. The data shows how the students of Elizabeth Park Elementary performed on the 2010-2011 Provincial Criterion Referenced Assessment and the Primary Language Arts Assessment. It reflects where we currently are and helps identify areas that we need to improve. Our teaching staff and the school development team review this data, in conjunction with other means of internal assessment.

Criterion Referenced Tests: Elizabeth Park Elementary Student Achievement Data

Criterion Referenced Tests (CRT's) show how well students are doing in certain areas of the school curriculum compared to others in the province. Data is collected at the school, district and provincial levels and analyzed for the intended purpose of improving teaching/learning in the classroom. As part of the school development process, staff reviews our areas of strength and weakness and set action plans.

In the spring of 2011, both our Grade 3 and Grade 6 students were administered Criterion Referenced Tests in Language Arts and Mathematics. As the charts indicate, these tests were made up of subtests that focused on different aspects of the curriculum. Using a rubric, the tests are scored by levels. The levels range from Level One (very limited) to Level Five (outstanding). The provincial goal is for 85% of students to obtain a level three or above. The results presented are based on the percentage attaining level three or above, as this is the standard or benchmark for analysis purposes.

Grade Three Summary Data Analysis

To truly get a picture of how we are doing and to see trends in our student's achievement, we will need further data. The 2010-2011 is the first data collection year for our school as indicated by the NA's in the table.

We are encouraged by our results in Language Arts, as Elizabeth Park students have consistently performed above the province in all areas but one. Working with informational text and other critical literacy forms will be a focus for us, as we see that only 65.0% of our grade three students are performing at level three or better. Also, as part of a new School Development Plan, the integration of various technologies across the curriculum should result in even stronger student achievement results.

Results in the area of Mathematics indicate that this area is a challenge at the school and provincial levels. Our internal data also shows Mathematics to be an area to focus on particularly in mathematical reasoning and problem solving. We feel that if we can support students in developing a numeral literacy or "*talk math*", we can better understand their thinking and make

more informed instructional decisions. Students need to be able to explain how they reached an answer, even if it is an incorrect one. Emphasis should be as much on process as product. This is an area we will work on and we will closely monitor how we are doing.

Grade 3 Language Arts									
	07-08		08-09		09-10		10-11		
	School	Province	School	Province	School	Province	School	Province	
Multiple Choice:									
Reading	#N/A	88.5%	#N/A	88.3%	#N/A	92.1%	77.6%	79.7%	
Listening	#N/A	85.0%	#N/A	95.4%	#N/A	80.9%	90.0%	88.0%	
Constructed Response: Percentage of students achieving Level 3 or above									
Demand Writing	#N/A	72.6%	#N/A	74.9%	#N/A	73.9%	90.8%	71.9%	
Poetic	#N/A	56.1%	#N/A	68.8%	#N/A	71.5%	82.5%	77.9%	
Informational	#N/A	70.8%	#N/A	55.1%	#N/A	63.6%	65.0%	52.8%	
Listening	#N/A	70.2%	#N/A	70.5%	#N/A	59.9%	76.2%	68.9%	
Grade 3 Mathematics									
	07-08		08-09		09-10		10-11		
	School	Province	School	Province	School	Province	School	Province	
Multiple Choice:									
Number Operations	#N/A	76.0%	#N/A	85.0%	#N/A	76.0%	70.0%	74.5%	
Number Concepts	#N/A	76.3%	#N/A	73.5%	#N/A	77.3%	70.7%	77.9%	
Constructed Response: Percentage of students performing at Level 3 or above									
Reasoning	#N/A	65.7%	#N/A	54.3%	#N/A	62.1%	45.1%	61.2%	
Communication	#N/A	59.8%	#N/A	54.2%	#N/A	61.6%	43.1%	60.6%	
Connections & Representations	#N/A	61.3%	#N/A	69.0%	#N/A	68.2%	56.9%	65.3%	
Problem Solving	#N/A	76.2%	#N/A	68.8%	#N/A	68.3%	76.5%	77.2%	

Grade Six Summary Data Analysis

Our elementary CRT results for 2010-2011 in Language Arts are pretty well on par with the province. Work with informational and visual text forms continues at Elizabeth Park Elementary and, as indicated earlier, we look forward to seeing some achievement trends with more annual data. It is very worth celebrating that 88.7% of our elementary students scored level three or above on the demand piece of writing. Here, as the name suggests, students are given a set time period to produce a piece of writing on a predetermined topic.

In Mathematics, one area worthy of note is problem solving where 73.9% of our students are performing at level three or above. While we still need to work on this, the results show this area to be a challenge right across the province. Results also show that students are performing better in the multiple choice sections of the test compared to the constructed responses. Again, this is continuing to be addressed in our literacy development objectives where we look at the constructed response critically and ask questions like: what is a good answer, what supporting information is needed?

In conclusion, it is important to note that this is the performance of one group of students, on one assessment, at one specified time. This data, however, is invaluable in helping us see trends (future years) and red flag areas of concern. Our students guide our instructional practices and as educators we are continually revisiting school development plans. As part of an ongoing process we celebrate our successes and strive to improve areas of need.

Grade 6 Language Arts									
	07-08		08-09		09-10		10-11		
	School	Province	School	Province	School	Province	School	Province	
Multiple Choice:									
Reading	#N/A	84.8%	#N/A	87.1%	#N/A	81.0%	81.6%	79.5%	
Listening	#N/A	92.0%	#N/A	87.7%	#N/A	86.7%	66.0%	67.0%	
Constructed Response: Percentage of students performing at Level 3 or above									
Demand Writing	#N/A	85.1%	#N/A	78.7%	#N/A	81.4%	88.7%	74.7%	
Poetic	#N/A	81.2%	#N/A	69.6%	#N/A	69.9%	67.4%	66.2%	
Informational	#N/A	78.9%	#N/A	68.0%	#N/A	68.4%	47.6%	58.7%	
Listening	#N/A	62.6%	#N/A	47.4%	#N/A	66.7%	59.0%	51.8%	
Grade 6 Mathematics									
	07-08		08-09		09-10		10-11		
	School	Province	School	Province	School	Province	School	Province	
Multiple Choice:									
Number Operations	#N/A	78.0%	#N/A	77.1%	#N/A	72.3%	65.0%	67.5%	
Number Concepts	#N/A	70.0%	#N/A	67.1%	#N/A	76.9%	72.0%	75.0%	
Constructed Response: Percentage of students performing at Level 3 or above									
Reasoning	#N/A	48.4%	#N/A	36.5%	#N/A	54.9%	57.1%	52.3%	
Communication	#N/A	42.0%	#N/A	30.6%	#N/A	46.5%	42.8%	44.3%	
Connections & Representations	#N/A	41.3%	#N/A	36.1%	#N/A	44.0%	35.7%	35.2%	
Problem Solving	#N/A	55.4%	#N/A	42.5%	#N/A	55.8%	73.9%	68.1%	

PRIMARY LANGUAGE ARTS ASSESSMENT

Grade 1: Percentage of Students Performing At or Above Provincial Benchmark

07-08		08-09		09-10		10-11	
School	Province	School	Province	School	Province	School	Province
N/A	63.5%	N/A	65.0%	N/A	62.6%	55.0%	63.7%

Grade 2: Percentage of Students Performing At or Above Provincial Benchmark

07-08		08-09		09-10		10-11	
School	Province	School	Province	School	Province	School	Province
N/A	68.9%	N/A	72.4%	N/A	72.6%	80.8%	73.5%

Section V: School Development Plan for 2011-2012

This current year will see the formal initiation of the Department of Education School Development Model. We will lay out a new plan that will set direction for our school and focus on building a strong, community centered climate and culture.

This past spring a session was held with staff where we closely examined our school and, through collaboration and consensus, outlined our values and vision for Elizabeth Park Elementary. Fall 2011 saw the formation of our School Development Team. This group of teaching professionals will be instrumental in leading the school development process at Elizabeth Park.

We are now ready to move into the internal review phase of the model. Data collected from a wide range of sources will help us establish goals and direction for the coming years. Our staff will divide into analysis teams and identify areas of strength and challenge at Elizabeth Park Elementary. ***We will receive input from all levels of our school community.***

Elizabeth Park Elementary looks forward to presenting our own school development plan that will be student focused and address areas that come forward from the review process. This new plan will provide a means of direction for Elizabeth Park Elementary and, after being validated by an external review team, will be presented to our school community.

Appendix A: Summary of Elizabeth Park Elementary 2010-2011 Fundraising

Event	Approximate Money Raised
Fish Cake Fundraiser (Fall 2010)	\$7000.00
Breakfast Club Fundraising (Ticket Sales)	\$1500.00
SMART Walk-a-thon (Spring 2011)	\$13,000.00