

# Riverside Elementary School

## 2011-2012 School Development Report



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## **Message from the Director of Education**

In December, 2011, Eastern School District approved 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 2011-2012 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 in the achievement of the specific goals and objectives listed in this plan. Keep up the good work!

Sincerely,

**BRUCE VEY, PhD**  
**CEO/DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION (Acting)**

## **Message from Principal**

The 2011-2012 school year was a groundbreaking year for the students, staff and parents/guardians of Riverside Elementary. It was a year of great historical significance for our learning community as for the first time in the history of our community/surrounding area all students in grades Kindergarten to Grade Six would attend the same school together. This coming together was the result of school reconfiguration that saw the former students of Clarendville Primary School (K-3) and the Grade 4-6 students of Clarendville Middle School joining the K-6 students in Balbo Elementary to create the new learning community of Riverside Elementary.

Our first year together as a learning community was a steep learning curve for all. The adjustment to becoming a large school of approximately 670 students and a staff of fifty required a lot of cooperation, compromise, reflection, and flexibility on the part of all students, parents, and staff. Despite the challenges I feel our inaugural year was a great one with many milestones achieved. Due to the school reconfiguration we did not have a formal School Development Plan in place for the 2011-2012 school year. Despite the absence of a written plan the year was very much a year of school policy development for all capacities of school life.

Our results on the Primary Language Arts Assessment indicate a strong performance of skills when compared to Grade One and Two Students in the rest of the province. Our Primary Language CRTs indicate that as a school we performed lower than the provincial average. However, the difference was not significant. In Primary Math we scored above the provincial average in Number Operations multiple choice. In all other components we score slightly below the provincial average. In the Grade Six Language Arts we scored below the provincial average in all components. In Elementary Math we were pleased to have scored above the provincial average in three out of six components. Overall, our results have given us indications that we have work to do to improve our teaching and learning. However, it is important to recognize the impact that our new school environment may have had on our results this year. Due to the realignment of schools it is difficult to make an accurate statement regarding trending. These CRT results will be scrutinized as we move forward in developing a new School Development Plan for Riverside Elementary.

Our extracurricular program continues to grow and emphasize participation by all students who wish to partake. This has resulted in our students gaining valuable experiences in areas such as Physical Education, Music, Student Leadership, as well as, Community Service. We had after school clubs for cross country running, volleyball, basketball, ball hockey, dancing, track and field, arts & crafts, and choirs. We are especially proud of the number of our students who volunteer in our breakfast program each morning.

As a school community we hope to continue to improve on the social consciousness of our students as well as continually improving the atmosphere for students to learn in. As

part of their social consciousness we strived to have our students participate in activities that give back to the community. These activities have included participating in the Terry Fox Run, raising money for the Canadian Cancer Society, and having participated in our school's Christmas Wish Tree Project where we provide Christmas wishes for Families in need, and we also participated in Operation Christmas Child where we donated over 100 shoeboxes for distribution to Third World countries. We also participated, for the seventh year, in an Ocean Net Project where our Grade Five students cleaned our local beaches. For our environmental initiatives we had students recognized by Ocean Net for their art work on Environmental issues. Our school has also developed a partnership with the local conservation group "Friends of Shoal Harbour River." Our Grade One students also participated in an awareness day for Diabetes. As well our school also participated in the annual Janeway Day. We are very proud of the breakfast program we offer to all of our students at Riverside Elementary. We are happy to say that all of our students are able to get a healthy start to their school day.

Riverside Elementary has a devoted professional and support staff that continually work to improve our students education both academically and socially. Our school community is extremely supportive in giving of their time, money and expertise to benefit our students. We are especially proud of the funding sources we were able to tap into. Last year we received a \$1000.00 grant from School Health Grants which we used to help offset the cost of purchasing a Rock Climbing Wall for our students. As well we received a \$1000.00 grant from the *Eastern Regional Wellness Coalition* Community Grant which was used to purchase physical Education equipment for students to use during recess and lunch time on the playground/playing fields. Finally, we received a \$50 000.00 grant from the government of Newfoundland and Labrador to offer an after school program for our Elementary students where all transportation to and from the program is provided to all students at no cost.

Arthur Winsor  
Principal

## Message from School Council

### Riverside Elementary School Council

The 2011-2012 Riverside Elementary School Council consisted of School Principal Art Winsor, Chairperson Lana Park (Parent Representative), Secretary Janice Walsh (Teacher representative), teacher representatives Shelley Smith and Jill Monk (Assistant Principal), community representative Eileen Johnson, and parent representatives Howie Decker, Hasan Hai, Maureen Lymbruner, and David Harris.

School Council met monthly and discussed a wide array of topics pertaining to Riverside Elementary School pertaining to students, staff and overall school environment. This was the first time on Council for all Parent and Community Representatives. Most of the discussions were centered on the role of the School Council and becoming familiar with the running of our “new” school. The Council did receive School Council training from Mr. Whyte Horlick (SEO). Items that had been discussed by council include:

- Fee in lieu of fundraising policy
- School Development
- CRT results for 2008-2009 school year
- Technology
- Lockdown and Secure School procedures
- Eastern Active Schools
- Staffing allocation
- Awareness Days

Lana Park  
Chairperson

## **Overview of School**

### ***Our School Community***

Our school, Riverside Elementary School is part of the Eastern School District which has 122 schools with a total of approximately 40 000 students. At the end of the 2011-2012 school year Riverside Elementary had an enrolment of 665 students from grades Kindergarten to Grade 6.

Our school had a total of 41 full-time teachers and one half-time teacher who was hired in November. The breakdown of teachers was as follows: 28 classroom teachers and 6 instructional resource teachers. We have 2 guidance counselors on staff, 4 specialist teachers in the areas of music and physical education as well as the support of 4 student assistants. In addition, to staff based at the school, we have access to District office staff. The school also has the services of secretarial and maintenance personnel.

### ***Key Highlights/Special Projects***

This past year was a very successful year in terms of projects within our school. Throughout the year we were involved in numerous projects aimed at giving back to the community. These would include our annual Terry Fox Walk, Operation Christmas Tree, Riverside Christmas Wish Project, and Janeway Day. We planned and facilitated a Healthy Active Living Day for our students and facilitated a school skating program for students at our local arena. Once again this year our school participated in various initiatives to support our Local Legion and Lions Club.

Our Learning Community also embarked upon a special project with a focus on our student population with individualized special needs especially those diagnosed under the Autism Spectrum Disorder. We began the process to develop a Snoezelin Room for our school. In the community of Clarendville, NL, and other surrounding communities of the local area, there are limited resources for sensory integration for families with children who have been diagnosed with ASD. Since children diagnosed with ASD can be over stimulated by a school environment, a Snoezelen room will provide a safe environment to meet these sensory needs. This multi-sensory setting will offer a blend of visual, auditory, olfactory, tactile, and movement activities to stimulate hyposensitivity and reduce hypersensitive stress levels. Thanks to support from our local Lions Club we have begun the project. It is our hope that the project will be completed during the 2012-2013 school year.

In the Fall of 2011 our school was awarded a \$50 000.00 grant from the Newfoundland and Labrador government (Department of Tourism, Recreation & Sport) to develop and implement an after school program for our students in Grades 4 – 6 over a two year period. This program is an inclusive program and it provides transportation to and from the activities and rides home. The program is free. Thus, many of the barriers that would

prevent students from participating in after school activities. The program was extremely successful with approximately a 90% participation rate. Students participating the program were given the opportunity to participate in the following activities: Zumba, Fitness, Yoga, Bowling, Swimming, Skating, soccer, Downhill skiing and hiking. We were able to purchase \$2000.00 worth of Snow shoes through the program as well. Our Clarendville Area Recreation Association has partnered with us on this initiative.

Technology has also been a huge focus for our school. All of our classes are equipped with Smartboards or Teamboards. As well, we have invested in all of our classes to be equipped with 40" flat screen TVs. We have also begun purchasing iPads for our school. We presently have two class sets and intend to increase this number in the 2012-2013 school year. To help enhance technology in our school we also have a two day professional development session planned for teachers in the Fall of 2012 which will be facilitated by Apple Canada.

## **3-4 Year School Development Plan**

**\*\*Due to school realignment there was no written plan for the 2011-2012 school year. The School Development process for Riverside Elementary will begin in September 2012.**

## **Summary Report on the School's Most Current Data**

### **Primary Language Arts Assessment**

Our data indicates that our Grade One students scored 17.5% above the Provincial average with 75.8% of our students performing at or above the Provincial Benchmark. Our Grade Two students scored 22% above the provincial average with 87.3% of our students performing at or above the Provincial Benchmark.

### **Primary Criterion Referenced Test Results**

The 2011-2012 data indicates that our school performed below the Provincial average in all components of the Language Arts Assessment. In Reading multiple choice we scored 8.5% below the provincial average with a total score of 59.5%. In Demand writing 78.3% of our students achieved level 3 or above. These results were slightly lower (3.4%) than the provincial average. In Poetic Text our students were overall 7.6% below the provincial average with 40.3% performing at Level 3 or above. In Informational text again we were slightly below the provincial average (2.8%) with 61.7% performing at Level 3 or above.

In the area of Mathematics in Number Operations Multiple Choice our students scored 0.8% above the provincial average with a total score of 73.3%. Our students scored 8.6% below the provincial average in Number Concepts with a total score 70%. In the Reasoning Constructed Response 66.2% of our students scored Level 3 or above this was 5.8% below the provincial average. In the Communication Constructed Response 72.3% of our students scored level 3 or above this is 1.1% below the provincial average. In Connections and Representations Constructed Response 76.9% of our students scored level 3 or above this is 3.9% below the provincial average. In Problem solving 81.3% of our students scored a level 3 or above this was 1.3% below the provincial average.

### **Elementary Criterion Referenced Test Results**

The 2011-2012 data indicates that our school performed below the Provincial average in all components of the Elementary Language Arts Assessment. In Reading multiple choice we scored 5.5% below the provincial average with a total score of 66%. In



Demand writing 73.9% of our students achieved level 3 or above. These results were slightly lower (0.9%) than the provincial average. In Poetic Text our students were overall 6.8% below the provincial average with 43.6% performing at Level 3 or above. In Informational text again we performed below the provincial average (7.9%) with 50.6% performing at Level 3 or above.

In the area of Mathematics in Number Operations Multiple Choice our students scored 5.5% below the provincial average with a total score of 56.7%. Our students scored 5% below the provincial average in Number Concepts with a total score 62%. In the Reasoning Constructed Response 55.5% of our students scored Level 3 or above this was 3.4% below the provincial average. In the Communication Constructed Response 60.5% of our students scored level 3 or above this is 3.9% above the provincial average. In Connections and Representations Constructed Response 60.0% of our students scored level 3 or above this is 1.5% above the provincial average. In Problem solving 66.6% of our students scored a level 3 or above this was 1.0% above the provincial average. After reflecting on the above results we realize we still have major improvements to make in the area of mathematics. However, we do feel in scoring above the provincial average three out of four constructed response areas that we have made some significant gains in this area.

### **Summary**

As a Learning Community we must continue to work to improve our performance on the Criteria Referenced Tests. Due to the consolidation of three schools we do not have data to compare this year's results to. Thus, we are unable to make sound conclusions regarding trending. We will continue to work hard to bring our Primary and Elementary scores in line with the provincial averages.

### **School Development Plan for Current Year**

**\*\*In the process of developing a Plan for the 2012-2013 school year\*\***

## Summary Report on the School's Most Current Data

### PRIMARY LANGUAGE ARTS ASSESSMENT

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

08-09		09-10		10-11		11-12	
School	Province	School	Province	School	Province	School	Province
82.4%	65.0%	63.3%	62.6%	78.4%	63.7%	75.8%	58.3%

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

08-09		09-10		10-11		11-12	
School	Province	School	Province	School	Province	School	Province
87.2%	72.4%	87.5%	72.6%	81.8%	73.5%	87.3%	65.3%

## CRITERION REFERENCE TESTS

Grade 3 Language Arts								
	08-09		09-10		10-11		11-12	
	School	Province	School	Province	School	Province	School	Province
<b>Multiple Choice:</b>								
Reading	84.5%	88.3%	94.4%	92.1%	82.9%	79.7%	59.5%	68.0%
Listening	94.1%	95.4%	81.8%	80.9%	89.0%	88.0%	N/A	N/A
<b>Constructed Response: Percentage of students achieving Level 3 or above</b>								
Demand Writing	73.8%	74.9%	85.7%	73.9%	58.8%	71.9%	78.3%	81.7%
Poetic	75.6%	68.8%	67.6%	71.5%	69.3%	77.9%	40.3%	47.9%
Informational	41.5%	55.1%	68.6%	63.6%	36.7%	52.8%	61.7%	64.5%
Listening	76.2%	70.5%	84.6%	59.9%	66.0%	68.9%	N/A	N/A
Grade 3 Mathematics								
	08-09		09-10		10-11		11-12	
	School	Province	School	Province	School	Province	School	Province
<b>Multiple Choice:</b>								
Number Operations	84.1%	85.0%	81.3%	76.0%	81.8%	74.5%	73.3%	72.5%
Number Concepts	65.5%	73.5%	82.3%	77.3%	82.9%	77.9%	70.0%	78.6%
<b>Constructed Response: Percentage of students performing at Level 3 or above</b>								
Reasoning	41.5%	54.3%	65.8%	62.1%	62.5%	61.2%	66.2%	72.0%
Communication	43.9%	54.2%	65.8%	61.6%	64.6%	60.6%	72.3%	73.4%
Connections & Representations	51.2%	69.0%	76.3%	68.2%	72.9%	65.3%	76.9%	80.8%
Problem Solving	53.7%	68.8%	73.7%	68.3%	79.2%	77.2%	81.3%	82.6%

<b>Grade 6 Language Arts</b>								
	<b>08-09</b>		<b>09-10</b>		<b>10-11</b>		<b>11-12</b>	
	<b>School</b>	<b>Province</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Province</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Province</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Province</b>
<b>Multiple Choice:</b>								
<b>Reading</b>	88.8%	87.1%	71.2%	81.0%	79.1%	79.5%	66.0%	71.5%
<b>Listening</b>	89.4%	87.7%	86.1%	86.7%	63.0%	67.0%	N/A	N/A
<b>Constructed Response: Percentage of students performing at Level 3 or above</b>								
<b>Demand Writing</b>	91.3%	78.7%	85.7%	81.4%	70.0%	74.7%	73.9%	74.8%
<b>Poetic</b>	87.0%	69.6%	52.4%	69.9%	64.1%	66.2%	43.6%	50.4%
<b>Informational</b>	86.7%	68.0%	42.5%	68.4%	56.5%	58.7%	50.6%	58.5%
<b>Listening</b>	70.2%	47.4%	67.6%	66.7%	47.5%	51.8%	N/A	N/A
<b>Grade 6 Mathematics</b>								
	<b>08-09</b>		<b>09-10</b>		<b>10-11</b>		<b>11-12</b>	
	<b>School</b>	<b>Province</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Province</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Province</b>	<b>School</b>	<b>Province</b>
<b>Multiple Choice:</b>								
<b>Number Operations</b>	80.0%	77.1%	67.9%	72.3%	58.8%	67.5%	56.7%	62.2%
<b>Number Concepts</b>	62.3%	67.1%	70.9%	76.9%	68.0%	75.0%	62.0%	67.0%
<b>Constructed Response: Percentage of students performing at Level 3 or above</b>								
<b>Reasoning</b>	29.8%	36.5%	40.0%	54.9%	36.2%	52.3%	55.5%	58.9%
<b>Communication</b>	29.8%	30.6%	37.5%	46.5%	38.9%	44.3%	60.5%	56.6%
<b>Connections &amp; Representations</b>	36.2%	36.1%	31.7%	44.0%	16.7%	35.2%	60.0%	58.5%
<b>Problem Solving</b>	37.0%	42.5%	37.5%	55.8%	50.0%	68.1%	66.6%	65.6%

**School Development Plan for Current Year**

***\*\*Due to School Reconfiguration there is currently no plan in place\*\****

***1 Year School Development Plan***

**School Development Plan 200\_-200\_**

<b>Goal 1:</b>		
<b>Objective 1.1:</b>	<b>Objective 1.2:</b>	<b>Objective 1.3:</b>
<b>Strategies:</b> 1.1.1 1.1.2 1.1.3 1.1.4 1.1.5	<b>Strategies:</b> 1.2.1 1.2.2 1.2.3 1.2.4 1.2.5	<b>Strategies:</b> 1.3.1 1.3.2 1.3.3 1.3.4 1.3.5
<b>Indicators of Success:</b> 1.1.1 1.1.2 1.1.3 1.1.4 1.1.5	<b>Indicators of Success:</b> 1.2.1 1.2.2 1.2.3 1.2.4 1.2.5	<b>Indicators of Success:</b> 1.3.1 1.3.2 1.3.3 1.3.4 1.3.5

<b>Goal 1. Support Plan</b>	
<b>Financial</b>	<b>Professional Development/Time Required</b>
1.1.1	1.1.1

<b>Goal 2:</b>		
<b>Objective 2.1:</b>	<b>Objective 2.2:</b>	<b>Objective 2.3:</b>
<b>Strategies:</b> 2.1.1 2.1.2 2.1.3 2.1.4 2.1.5	<b>Strategies:</b> 2.2.1 2.2.2 2.2.3 2.2.4 2.2.5	<b>Strategies:</b> 2.3.1 2.3.2 2.3.3 2.3.4 2.3.5
<b>Indicators of Success:</b> 2.1.1 2.1.2 2.1.3 2.1.4 2.1.5	<b>Indicators of Success:</b> 2.2.1 2.2.2 2.2.3 2.2.4 2.2.5	<b>Indicators of Success:</b> 2.3.1 2.3.2 2.3.3 2.3.4 2.3.5
<b>Goal 2. Support Plan</b>		
<b>Financial</b>	<b>Professional Development/Time Required</b>	
2.1.1	2.1.1	

<b>Goal 3:</b>		
<b>Objective 3.1:</b>	<b>Objective 3.2</b>	<b>Objective 3.3:</b>
<b>Strategies:</b> 3.1.1 3.1.2 3.1.3 3.1.4 3.1.5	<b>Strategies:</b> 3.2.1 3.2.2 3.2.3 3.2.4 3.2.5	<b>Strategies;</b> 3.3.1 3.3.2 3.3.3 3.3.4 3.3.5
<b>Indicators of Success:</b> 3.1.1 3.1.2 3.1.3 3.1.4 3.1.5	<b>Indicators of Success:</b> 3.2.1 3.2.2 3.2.3 3.2.4 3.2.5	<b>Indicators of Success:</b> 3.3.1 3.3.2 3.3.3 3.3.4 3.3.5
<b>Goal 3. Support Plan</b>		
<b>Financial</b>	<b>Professional Development/Time Required</b>	
3.1.1	3.1.1	

**Operational Issues for 200\_-0\_**

<b>Operational Issue</b>	<b>Intended Action</b>

## **Appendix A – Summary of School Fundraising**

Riverside Elementary does not participate in fundraising.