Muir Lake School: Student Achievement Baseline Report and School Development Plan

Date: October 26th, 2020

Prepared by: Murray Marran &

Heather Brownlee

PARKLAND SCHOOL DIVISION

No.70

Where the world opens up

EVERY CHILD LEARNS,
Every Child Succeeds

1. **School Profile:**

Muir Lake School is a K to 9 school located 5 minutes north of Stony Plain along highway 779 in the heart of Parkland County. The school is ideally situated in an agricultural and forested area surrounded by nature which includes a beaver pond and an expansive forested area. Also, the school is located near Muir Lake and Chickakoo Lake and the setting is both pleasing and captivating.

Currently, the school serves mostly rural students that live on surrounding acreages and farms and the total school population for the 2020-2021 year is 421 students. In addition to robust academic programming, the school offers our Nature Kindergarten program supplemental to regular kindergarten programming.

Muir Lake Schools offers a variety of clubs and sports to students wishing to participate in extra-curricular programs. Teams include cross-country running, volleyball, basketball, badminton and track and field. Additionally, students can choose to participate in Leadership activities, community service projects and numerous fundraising activities that support local, national charities.

At Muir Lake School, our faculty pride themselves on preparing students for high school and Beyond. With our help, Muir Lake students understand their local, national and global context, all the while building the necessary skills in order to navigate the complexities of an ever-changing and uncertain world. Simply stated, we help prepare our students to succeed now and in the future.

2. **School Achievement and the School Development Plan:**

Every year, parents, students and faculty of Muir Lake school participate in the surveys created by Alberta Education as a means of analyzing school performance and to identify areas of concern and potential growth.

In addition to the above, Muir Lake administers the CAT IV (Canadian Achievement Test) in order to objectively see where every student is struggling or excelling. The standardized tests are a series of questions that assess essential outcomes in reading, language, spelling and mathematics. These tests also provide a snapshot of a child's academic ability at any given time.

Both our Provincial Achievement Tests (PAT's) and Canadian Achievement Tests (CAT IV) have indicated that Muir Lake School's achievement in Mathematics, particularly at the Junior High School level, needs some attention.

Naturally, when looking at school improvement, this is a natural area to focus organizational energies in order to improve. This has become the impetus of our work and how we

purposefully support it at Muir Lake School and is the essence of our School Development Plan. Simply put, we want to improve our academic results in all core subjects.

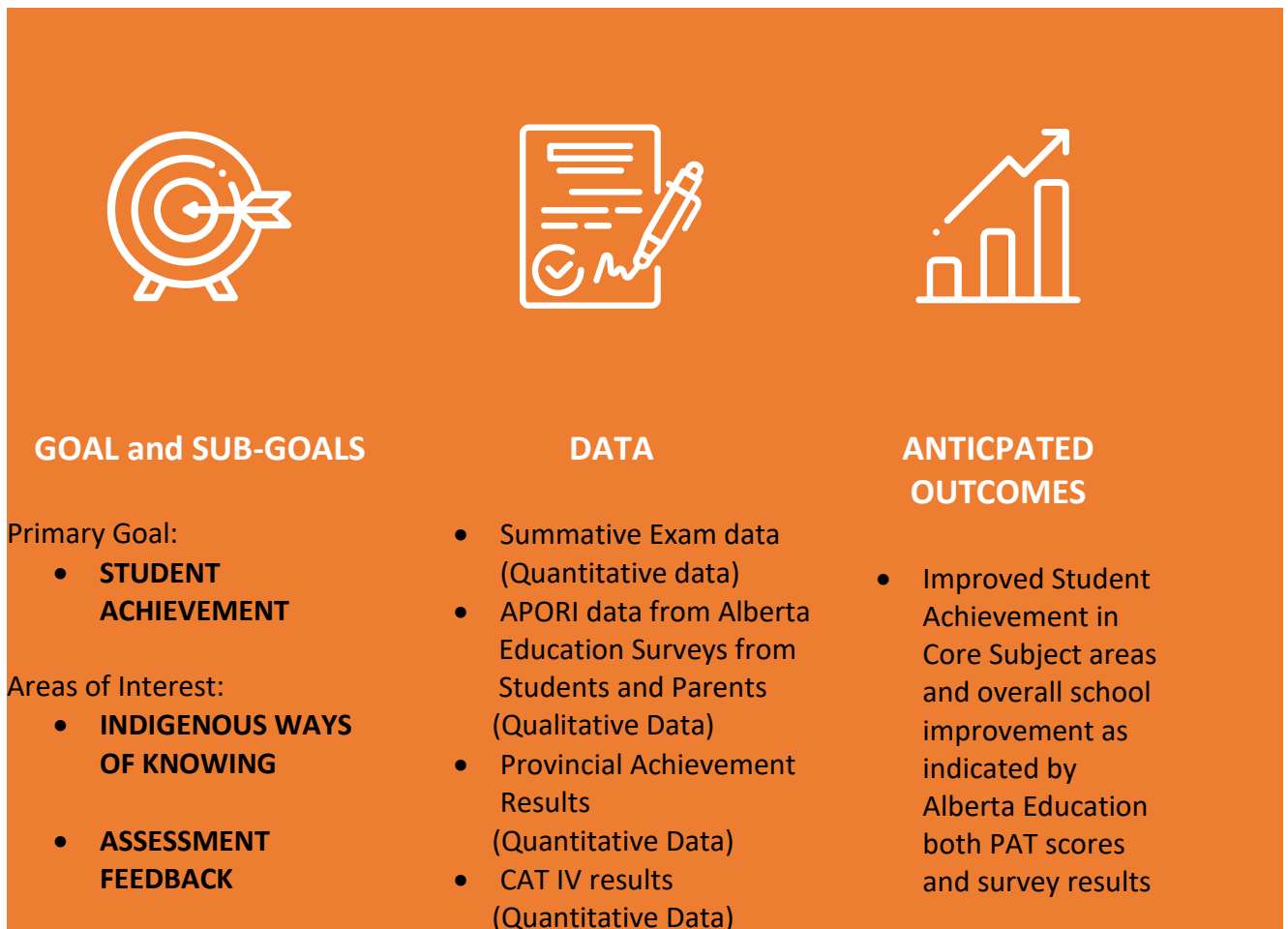More specifically, the over-arching focus for the Muir Lake School Development Plan is:

Student Achievement

However, coupled with this goal, we as a staff are looking supplementary areas of interest and how these areas can support Student Achievement. They are:

Indigenous Ways of Knowing

Assessment Feedback

Together, this renewed focus on achievement should see an improvement in student results in both our CAT IV tests and our provincial achievement results. The following graphic represents Muir Lake School's process for the School Development Plan:

GOAL and SUB-GOALS	DATA	ANTICPATED OUTCOMES
Primary Goal: • **STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT** Areas of Interest: • **INDIGENOUS WAYS OF KNOWING** • **ASSESSMENT FEEDBACK**	• Summative Exam data (Quantitative data) • APORI data from Alberta Education Surveys from Students and Parents (Qualitative Data) • Provincial Achievement Results (Quantitative Data) • CAT IV results (Quantitative Data)	• Improved Student Achievement in Core Subject areas and overall school improvement as indicated by Alberta Education both PAT scores and survey results

3. Current Student Achievement at Muir Lake:

Provincial Achievement Results:

Grade 6

	2016		2017		2018		2019		2020
	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	
English	93.3	22.2	97.8	30.4	100	29.5	97.8	22.2	n/a
Math	80.0	15.6	76.1	10.9	86.4	9.1	84.4	13.3	n/a
Science	93.3	40.0	93.5	37.0	97.7	61.4	97.8	35.6	n/a
Social	82.2	20.0	82.6	10.6	88.6	40.9	88.9	31.1	n/a

Grade 9

	2016		2017		2018		2019		2020
	A	E	A	E	A	E	A	E	
English	82.4	17.6	85.7	5.7	82.5	7.5	93.3	17.8	n/a
Math	74.5	13.7	77.1	34.3	57.5	5.0	64.4	11.1	n/a
Science	82.4	19.6	91.4	22.9	80.0	20.0	93.3	37.8	n/a
Social	78.4	13.7	80.0	14.3	65.0	10.0	82.2	17.8	n/a

*When comparing Muir Lake's results in Math in the highlighted areas, in 2018 and 2019 both the Standard of Excellence and the Acceptable Standard were below the provincial average.
**The Standard of Excellence for Grade 6 Science declined in this year, however the percentage of Students achieving this standard is well above provincial averages

CAT IV Testing:
Muir Lake School is participating in CAT IV (Canadian Achievement Test). These tests will establish Individual student scores against norm referenced standards from student data across Canada.

What will be most important for Muir Lake School is that there will be school trend data that will be established. This will be valuable information for guiding the school development plan. It will also an efficacious

4. Baseline Study Participants:

Participants in the baseline study are students (CAT IV's and PAT's), teachers (ThoughtExchange, PD, Ab Ed Survey) and Parents (Ab Ed Survey and ThoughtExchange). The testing data will determine whether progress is being made and if there is an overall improvement in academic performance.

Qualitative data will tell a story: administration will be able to hear the effects and discover the unintended consequences of the collective efforts have done in regards to student achievement. It will paint a more complete picture of our school improvement process.

5. Process for Implementation:

As previously mentioned, both qualitative and quantitative data will be used in order to determine the successful implementation of our efforts in improving student achievement. The following summarizes what will be implemented in the 2020-2021 academic year in order to realize our improvement goal:

September/October 2020

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT GOAL: Increase Student Achievement

1. Create Summative Exam Schedule for Year. Testing every six weeks in all core areas. Communicate assessment schedule with parent community. This gives the teacher timely and relevant feedback about student learning
2. Administer CAT IV Achievement Tests
3. Administer MIPI assessments
4. Administer F & P bench marking assessments
5. Support Teacher Professional Development by promoting PD supported by Learning Services workshop sessions
6. Review first round summative results (Administration).   Communicate with families
7. Parent Teacher Interviews

November/December 2020

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT GOAL: Increase Student Achievement

1. Review, summarize and present CAT IV Achievement Test Results to staff. Results and data are taken back to departments to be discussed in department meetings.
2. Communicate CAT IV results with parents
3. Go "live" with Grade Book so parents can see up to date marks on November 1st.
4. Implement LLI intervention groups in grades 4 to 7 with identified students who are struggling.
5. Implement Math remedial groups and extra support in the junior high school
6. Teacher analysis of summative exam data
7. Report cards released to parents

January/February 2021

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT GOAL: Increase Student Achievement

1. Review and analyze summative exam data, identify problematic areas and use it inform and guide practice for upcoming PAT's
2. Administer APORI survey to students
3. Communicate and remind parents of Alberta Education surveys that should be completed

March/April 2021

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT GOAL: Increase Student Achievement

1. Review and analyze summative exam data, identify problematic areas and use it to guide practice for the upcoming PAT's
2. Review Thought Exchange commentary (depending on when the exchange is sent to parents).
3. Provide professional learning opportunities for teachers during the April PD day. Target learning opportunities to Student Achievement and developing our sub goal: Indigenous Ways of Knowing.

May/June 2021

SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT GOAL: Increase Student Achievement

1. Review and analyze summative exam data, identify problematic areas and use it to guide practice for the upcoming PAT's.
2. Analyze APORI data (surveys) from parents, students and teachers compare to the 2019-2020 results
3. Administer grade 3 SLA's review data