



## Principal's Report to SAC

October 11, 2023

### **Recap of June 2022**

We held our Annual Grade 6 celebration. We also held a successful Annual Student Well-being Day. Parents & grandparents joined us for fitness on the Community Centre Basketball court and returned for a BBQ lunch in our outdoor classroom. Keonte Beals opened the day, and we welcomed several community partners to facilitate workshops, (Black Wellness Cooperative), Black Girl Fitness, Kim Cain HRA, Nevell Provo, and Const. R. Sweeting)

We hosted another successful parent conference. Please see the attached Annual SAC Report for details.

### **New School Year**

We are off to a great start to the 2023/24 school year. We are excited to welcome new staff to the Nelson Whynder School family and community. They are as follows:

- Laura Gibson
- Mrs. Xin (Amy) Li – Administrative Assistant
- Ms. Barrett – School Counselor
- Mr. Balcome (Guest teacher Ms. Thompson) – Music
- Ms. Walsh – Grade 6 Band
- Mme Walling – Core French
- Anderson – School Social Worker.

We have 5 classes Primary, 1/2, 3, 4 and 5/6 plus pre-primary. Our total enrollment is 80 students.

### **Student Success Planning (SSP)**

Our SSP Goals are as follows:

1. **Literacy** - We will improve achievement in literacy for each of our students, with a specific focus on our students of African and/or Mi'kmaw/Indigenous ancestry.

2. **Mathematics** - We will improve achievement in mathematics for each of our students, with a specific focus on our students of African and/or Mi'kmaw/Indigenous ancestry.
3. **Student well-being** – We will improve well-being at our school for each of our students, with a specific focus on our students of African and/or Mi'kmaw/Indigenous ancestry.

During our Sept. 5<sup>th</sup> PD Day we reviewed our Student Success Survey results along with PowerSchool data and through analysis began drafting our cycle 1 Well-being strategies. Thursday, during the staff meeting we will review classroom data and draft our cycle 1 literacy and math strategies.

### **P – 2 Literacy Priority**

This priority is based upon the premises of ensuring that all students are reading at grade level in reading by the end of grade 2. Teachers continue to engage in professional development, targeted high leverage teaching strategies, formative classroom assessment and collaborative discussions to determine next steps for success. By the end of June 81% of students P – 2 were meeting a, 12% developing and 0 limited. We strive to keep this momentum until we reach and keep 100% meeting.

### **Events to date**

- Grade 4 – 6 students continue to do the announcements each morning.
- We will start our Monthly Positive Participation Awards this month.
- NWES Running Club is off to a great start.
- We held our Curriculum night in September and had a modest crowd topped up with ice cream.
- Grade 6s attended the Sports Nova Scotia Milk Sports Fair at the BMO centre Oct 11<sup>th</sup>.
- Annual Terry Fox Walk took place to the community Centre and back.
- Field Trip to Noggins Farm – Sept 25<sup>th</sup>, Primary – 6
- The LOVE (Leave Out the Violence) program has returned to Nelson Whynder and is open to boys in grades 4, 5 and 6, every Monday during Lunch with Mr. Findlay Tolliver and his team beginning Oct 16<sup>th</sup>. The LOVE Programs strive to support and build healthy relationships to help youth overcome the challenges they face.
- We welcomed Constable Steve Labreque of CN Police with an engaging presentation for Rail Safety Week.
- We recognized Pink Shirt Day (Stand up Against Bullying), Orange Shirt Day (in honour of the victims of Residential Schools) and National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. October is Mi'kmaq History month. Students have been engaged in classroom activities surrounding these significant recognitions. We are working on engaging a guest presenter.

### **Spending**

We purchased an inflatable Gaga Court through the Re-Boot Physical Activity grant.