



Principal: Ms. Rachelle Prud'Homme
 Vice Principal: Mr. Gerry Tetrault

Principal School Council Report

November 2016

General Updates/Celebrations!

- October Blackfoot Crossing Trip was a success for all grade 1-9 students
- Enhancements for the school: classroom furniture, outside painting, c-can painting completed! :)
- 20 additional laptops from Computers for Schools have been added to a new laptop cart for students in grade 5-9.
- Breakfast Program plan is being worked on with student leadership group - possibly once a week
- Every Instructional Friday so far has involved a lunch or snack, as well as cross-grade star group activities
- Star Teams had an awesome time with pumpkin carving, harvesting the community gardens and school yard clean up
- Junior Highs will have their first Volunteer Service Day on Dec. 2 in High River with the Salvation Army!

IB Implementation Update

PYP implementation and progress:

- Palliser Literacy Coach, Orishia Asher is also a veteran PYP teacher. She is meeting with Milo teachers once a month to provide support in literacy and IB implementation.
- Teachers in gr.1-6 are using PYP Inquiry Planner templates, practicing reflection and collaboration
- Teachers are focused on building inquiry skills in students, reflective skills and action plans after units of inquiry.
- Explore It has been focused on: Global Awareness, leadership committees (gr. 5-9) and grade 1-4 French
- Learners of the week were celebrated with certificates at the November assembly
- Updating IB Action Plan and requirements for submitting evidence for our accreditation in the fall of 2017
- Online training for teachers is in January/February.
- We are partnered with another IB School in Chestermere! Grades 1-4 now have penpals :)

School Goals Initiatives

improving the quality of teaching and learning

Literacy

- On-going student intervention programming - IPPs, ESL and struggling/early readers
- FP Reading Level testing
- Literacy Coach visit (monthly)
- Teacher collaboration time for student intervention planning and supports
- Enhanced literacy initiatives with library program
- Increase technology, increase accessibility to learning; technology consultant visit
- Learners of the week recognized each week, and a word of the week (in English, French and Blackfoot), monthly assemblies students are providing leadership.
- New literacy resources being using to enhance reading and writing skills - Lucy Calkins

Quality

- Increased expectations and procedures in classes through tracking, increased supervision, frequent assessments, increased accountability and daily routines.
- Focus on global awareness and critical thinking/inquiry - increases student self awareness, student agency and responsibility, and student learning achievement.
- IB implementation through building the traits of the IB profile, building inquiry and reflection skills across subjects
- Teaching study habits, organizational skills and providing student leadership opportunities
- Teacher collaboration time in schedule for planning, learning and professional workshops
- Increased quizzes and multiple forms of assessment to guide teaching and learning
- Progress Update in October (student-made) – sample(s) of learning was sent home

Safe & Caring Learning Community

- School Monthly News Updates and celebrations communicated home and online through our school website, featured on Palliser News too.
- IB Year planning with themes and Star Team activities: pumpkin carving, harvesting gardens, school yard clean up, Blackfoot Crossing Trip
- November IB theme is inquiry, December is communicator and balance.
- Monthly assemblies are IB focused, involve student leaders and celebrate successes
- IB Parent Night in November - potluck and learning about school improvement, IB programming, literacy and mental health
- Parent Engagement Committee and activities to promote community building are underway
- Student Leadership Team grades 5-9 - committees and team leads:
 - Environment, Global/Outreach, Athletics, Glam, Spirit Days, School Events
- Attendance policy and registration policy in effect, letters of concerns sent home, attendance concerns are tracked
- Self-Regulation teaching and practice, student discipline and concerns are being tracked and monitoring, involve parents and seek to work toward improvement plan.
- Wellness Team formed, monthly safety meetings, planning is underway to begin a Breakfast Program with teacher/principal, students and parents.
- Healthy snacks or lunches on Fridays have been provided for students - it has been a great success!
- School communication home - phone calls, texts, synervoice, email and print
- School-wide kindness approaches - kindness cards, Caught Being Awesome draw contest

Items Requiring Action/Discussion:

- School Goals shared last month - any questions and further feedback
- Parent Engagement committee and activities - discussion
- Communication home and survey question - there will be a Monthly Parent Question and Fact every month

International Baccalaureate Programming - Next Steps

We are pushing student thinking, learning and skill development through inquiry, reflection and collaboration.

Our current goals are:

- Include Now and Then of Units of Inquiry outside of classrooms
- Post and use key concepts and action plans - incorporate the Inquiry - Action Cycle
- Integrate student reflection and action plans at the end of a UoI (Unit of Inquiry)
- Develop student "agency" - leadership and ownership for their learning
- Use the POI checklist to guide planning
- Showcase students through locker samples and Wonder students
- Develop learner goals weekly - reflect and share
- Collect samples and resources for the Units of Inquiry

