Annual School Development Report 2017-2018



Douglas Academy La Poile, NL A0M 1K0



School Mission Statement

It is the mission of Douglas Academy to provide the best possible learning environment in which all students can reach their full potential individually, in an environment that is safe, engaging and supportive of their needs and learning goals. We believe that a school rich in learning resources (i.e. texts, technology, good community/ parent-teacher relations) will produce highly motivated and enthusiastic students who will develop into life-long learners.

Message from the Principal

It is the beginning of a new year, and a time of change for Douglas Academy. The previous school year of 2017-2018 has been concluded with much success in every aspect of school life. This is something I, as a new administrator, intend to continue, following the action plans of the previous year while incorporating my own new and fresh ideas. Last year the school achieved success in the completion of curriculum in primary, elementary, and intermediate grade levels.

Douglas Academy implements a one year School Development Plan. This year the goals are to continue improving student achievement through diverse instructional and assessments practices, and to maintain a safe, caring, and healthy learning environment.

The district and the community have been integral in supporting Douglas Academy and its sole charge teacher/principal. As a new administrator, and one of an 8 month replacement contract, I have received much support from district members, staff and the school community. I have already worked with board members, staff, community members, and of course the students to help create new and engaging lesson plans and extracurricular activities.

The school community supports all endeavors at Douglas Academy. Parents and community members have assisted with annual celebrations such as a Christmas concert and Halloween festivities. The generosity of the La Poile community has also made our fundraising initiatives a success over the Christmas holidays. I feel that I have a healthy relationship with the community, as I converse regularly with the parents regarding student progress and school activity. La Poile is a very welcoming community, and is key in making Douglas Academy an avenue for great learning experiences for students and staff alike.

Sincerely, Brandon Herritt Sole-Charge Principal

Overview of the School

Our School Community

Douglas Academy falls under the Western Region of the Newfoundland and Labrador English School District. It is geographically located along Newfoundland's Southwest Coast. La Poile is one of the few remaining isolated outport communities in Newfoundland, accessible only by boat.

Currently there is one sole charge teacher/principal in a multi-age classroom consisting of three students in grades 3, 5 and 7. Accompanying the sole charge teacher/principal is a part time secretary and a utility worker. In addition to the school staff, there is access to the District Office Staff including speech pathologists, itinerants and program specialists.

Enrolment Changes

School Enrolment 2008 – 2009 to 2017 – 2018

08-09	09-10	10-11	11-12	12-13	13-14	14-15	15-16	16-17	17-18
8	6	7	7	5	5	4	4	3	3

Enrolment at Douglas Academy has declined over the past ten years. The enrolment projection for September 2018 is three students. The following is a breakdown of the current

classes: 1 student in grade 3

1 student in grade 5 1 student in grade 7

Key Highlights/Special Projects

Douglas Academy organized multiple community events this year. The school hosted a Halloween party, a Christmas concert, and an Easter party for the community. The school also organized a Christmas potluck and memory tree celebration as a fundraiser. The students also hosted an end of year concert and reception.

The school continued to participate in the Kids Eat Smart, Healthy Eating Initiative. Students also grew their own produce as a part of the Little Green Thumbs program. They harvested cucumbers, basil, swiss chard, kale, tomatoes, nasturtium, and peppers, some of which they cooked in school.

Internal Assessment Data

Due to low enrollment, our internal data consists of daily observation and assessment of our students. Our data indicates that students are growing academically so our focus for the future remains English Language Arts and Mathematics skills in both the elementary and intermediate grades. The Daily 5, guided reading and a daily reading log continue to help support primary/elementary reading and writing skills. The aim is to help students make real life connections and present their understanding using constructed response.

Report on School Development Plan 2017-2018

Goal 1: To improve student achievement through diverse instructional and assessments practices in an inclusive environment.				
Objective 1.1: Further develop effective instructional and assessment learning practices.	Objective 1.2: Continue to increase the use of technology for the use of instruction, assessment, and collaboration.	Objective 1.3 : Increase the utilization of internal and external assessment data to inform appropriate changes to instructional practices.		
Evaluation 1.1 The K-6 "Reading and Writing Assessment Portfolio" is implemented in primary and elementary grades and differentiated instruction and assessment is taking place in the classroom. We are collaborating with other small schools to help inform teaching and learning in a	Evaluation 1.2: The use of iPads and Epic online reading are helping motivate reluctant and struggling readers. Students use Google Classrooms to work independently and use Google Suites on a daily basis for writing, cross curricular and collaborative projects.	Evaluation 1.3 Smart goals such as "Daily 5," continue to show success. Consistent use of manipulatives in primary Math grades, and "Epic," (to support K-6 Reading and Writing Framework) has also been successful. The purchase of books for "boys," has increased interest in reading.		
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Goal 2: To create a safe, caring, and healthy learning environment for all students, staff, and members within the school					
community.	community.				
Objective 2.1 : Increase implementation of	Objective 2.2 : Develop healthy and active	Objective 2.3 : Improve communication			
the Safe and Caring Schools Policy.	lifestyles promoting school spirit within the	for all members within the school			
	school community.	community			

Evaluation 2.1:	Evaluation 2.1	Evaluation 2.3
provide consistency, and student behavior	We will continue with our implementation of healthy snacks and encouraging a healthy diet. Students made goals to follow a healthy and active lifestyle and evaluated their progress.	-

Actions for Change

Goal 1: To improve student achievement through diverse instructional and assessments practices in an inclusive environment.

Objective 1.1 : Further develop effective instructional and assessment learning practices.	Objective 1.2: Continue to increase the use of technology for the use of instruction, assessment, and collaboration.	Objective 1.3 : Increase the utilization of internal and external assessment data to inform appropriate changes to instructional practices.
Actions for Change 1.1	Actions for Change 1.2	Actions for Change 1.3
 1.1.1 Implement daily five (literacy block) in primary/elementary classroom -Set up classroom routines and expectations to ensure valuable use of time 1.1.2 Respond to individual needs identified in internal and external data. Create SMART lessons for specific areas to incorporate many different learning styles. 1.1.3 Plan/implement PD around multiaging, diverse learners and inclusion in small schools. 1.1.4 Work with teachers in other small schools to develop short and long term goals (Skype, First Class). 	 1.2.1 Plan/implement PD for teachers around the use of technology in the classroom, according to teachers' needs. 1.2.2 Implement use of student GAFE accounts. 1.2.4 Develop networks in schools of similar size and context through First Class. Collaborate on PD with other schools of similar size and context through electronic means. 	1.3.3 Continue SMART Action Plans in response to identified learning needs for Mathematics and ELA

Goal 2: To create a safe, caring, and health community.	Goal 2: To create a safe, caring, and healthy learning environment for all students, staff, and members within the school community.				
Objective 2.1: Increase implementation of	Objective 2.2 : Develop healthy and active	Objective 2.3 : Improve communication for			
the Safe and Caring Schools Policy.	lifestyles promoting school spirit within the school community.	all members within the school community			
Actions for Change 2.1	Actions for Change 2.2	Actions for Change 2.3			
2.1.1 Continue to review and revise School	2.2.3 Teachers take lead roles in				
Code of Conduct and implement Safe and	developing networks with teachers in				
Caring School policies and expectations.	other schools of similar size and context.				
2.1.2 Continue to implement bullying					
protocols for school-wide consistency.					
Continue to correct inappropriate behaviour					
according to Safe and Caring Schools					
Policy guidelines.					
2.1.3 Continue PBS program and					
implementation					
2.1.4 Increase awareness of mental health					
issues and strategies to promote positive					
mental health and wellness.					

Douglas Academy - 1 Year School Development Plan 2018-2019

School Development Plan 2018-2019

Goal 1: To improve student achievement through diverse instructional and assessment practices in an inclusive environment.				
Objective 1.1: Further develop effective	Objective 1.2 : Continue to increase the use	Objective 1.3: Increase student reading and writing levels,		
instructional and assessment practices that both	of technology for the use of instruction,	strengthening the ability to work independently as well as		
engage and meet the needs of each student.	assessment, and collaboration.	contributing groups.		
Strategies:	Strategies:	Strategies:		
1.1.1 Utilize space available in the classroom/school	1.2.1 Engage in Professional Learning	1.3.1 Implement instructional and assessment strategies in		
to transition into a more 'station' based classroom	opportunities on ways to integrate	the NLESD Literacy and Learning Plan 2014-2020 and		
arrangement.	technology into the classroom	the K-6 Reading and Writing Assessment Portfolio:		
1.1.2 Experiment with open-ended lessons,	1.2.2 Increase use of technology for	Support Document.		
activities, projects, and assessments that can meet	instruction and learning across the	1.3.2 Use a variety of texts that cover a large		
the outcomes of multiple grade levels at once.	curriculum and grade levels.	range of difficulty levels and forms.		
1.1.3 Engage in professional learning related to	1.2.3 Engage in collaborative opportunities	1.3.3 Place a focus on student self monitoring		
diverse learners, inclusion and multiage/grade	for sharing of best practices with colleagues	E .		
pedagogy.	in other schools and similar teaching	and self assessment strategies.		
1.1.4 Continue to engage in collaborative short and	contexts.			
long term instructional planning with other small	1.2.4 Use technology in inventive ways that			

schools (pacing, unit, and multi-year/multiage planning).	engage the modern learner while still meeting course outcomes.	
Indicators of Success:	Indicators of Success:	Indicators of Success:

	Goal 1. Support Plan			
	Financial	Professional Development/Time Required		
1.	New books of interest for grades 4,6, &8	Professional learning for: DI/Inclusive		
2.	Apps to support learning	Classroom, Technology in the Classroom		

Goal 2: Create a safe, caring, and healthy learning environment for all students, staff, and members within the school community.					
Objective 2.1: Increase implementation of Safe and Caring Schools Policy Strategies:	Objective 2.2: Develop healthy and active lifestyles promoting positivity towards all aspects of school life Strategies:	Objective 2.3: Improve communication for all members within the school community Strategies:			
2.1.1 Review and revise School Code of Conduct and implement Safe and Caring School policies and expectations 2.1.2 Continue to implement bullying protocols for school-wide consistency 2.1.3 Increase awareness of mental health issues and strategies in dealing with them 2.1.4 Engage in Professional Learning opportunities involving inclusive schools	2.2.1 Increase participation in school-based healthy living initiatives 2.2.2 Provide opportunities to promote student leadership development 2.2.3 Continue the Kids Eat Smart program	2.3.1 Explore ways to increase effective home/school communications 2.3.2 Explore ways to have more meaningful parental involvement in students' academic learning 2.3.3 Include family and community in school events 2.3.4 Involve the community in school learning (ex: public health presentation)			
Indicators of Success:	Indicators of Success:	Indicators of Success:			

Goal 2. Support Plan		
Financial	Professional Development/Time Required	
2.23 Nutritional Snack lunches		

Operational Issues for 2017-2018

Operational Issue	Intended Action
Inability to offer wide range of non-core subject areas	Explore creating ways to integrate non-core subject
	areas into core subject areas.
Teachers teaching outside of their area of expertise	-Allow time for teacher to collaborate with other
	teachers in specialized areas.
	-Accept PD opportunities in different subject areas when
	available.
Lack of availability of substitute teachers due to isolation	
and accommodations	