

2010-2011

Beechwood Elementary School

Annual Report on the School's Success Plan,
Management and Educational Success Agreement,
and Contribution to the School Board's Strategic Plan



Together We Learn:
Partnering for Student Success



Lester B. Pearson
School Board

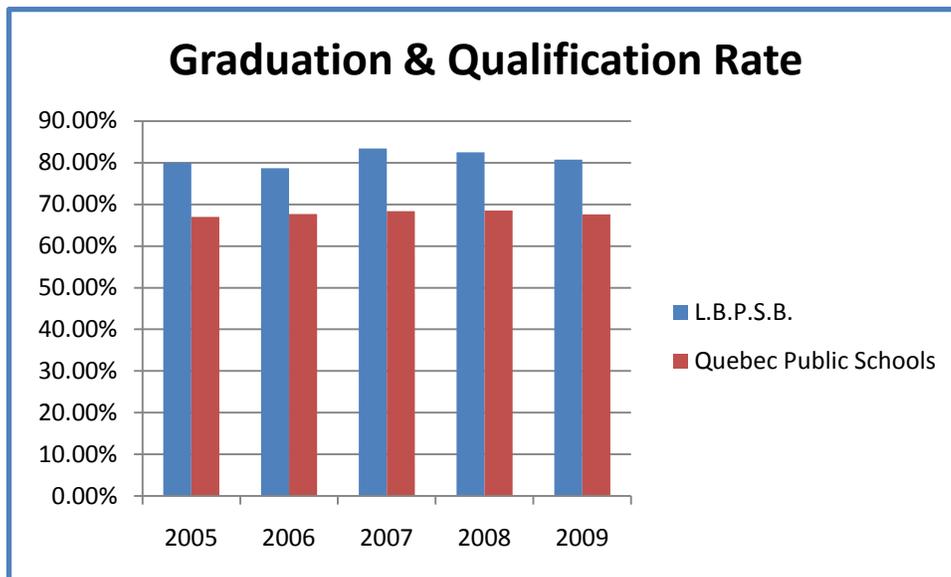
Commission scolaire
Lester-B.-Pearson

School Board Context

Increased Graduation and Qualification Rate

The student success rate in terms of certification and qualification remains for us an important factor. The Lester B. Pearson School Board has been consistently among the top five school boards in the province. In the next four years we are faced with the challenge of increasing our graduation and qualification rate to 85.5% and reducing the number of students who drop out of school by 20%. We continue to address the ten point difference in the graduation and qualification rate between boys and girls. The latest M.E.L.S. graduation and qualification results are presented in figure #1. All elementary schools are also working towards a 2% increase in the success rate for MELS Elementary End of Cycle III Math exam results.

Figure #1



Bilingualism

Programs throughout the system, while responding to the parameters of the curriculum, provide choices for parents and offer flexibility with the students' academic, socio-emotional and physical needs being a focus. The Board's goal is not only to graduate students who are bilingual, but who are also biliterate; able to read, speak and write in French. Our focus for this strategic plan is early intervention to further improve literacy skills while targeting a 4% increase in the success rate for end of cycle III French and English exam results, and a 4% increase in the number of students writing at level.

Success and Perseverance for Students with Handicaps, Social Maladjustments or Learning Difficulties

The Lester B. Pearson School Board is proud to be an inclusive school board where students with special needs are integrated into community schools. In each school they are members of the community receiving support services as indicated by an Individualized Education Plan. Our focus for the next four years is to increase the qualification rate for our students with handicaps, social maladjustments or learning difficulties. We will continue to implement and support a variety of Work Oriented Pathways programs which address the needs of our students and lead to qualification. Figure #2 illustrates the school board portrait regarding the proportion of students with handicaps, social maladjustments, or learning difficulties for all elementary schools.

Figure #2

	2004-05	2005-06	2006-07	2007-08	2008-09	2009-10
Total # Students Registered	14181	13589	12853	12043	13208	12916
Proportion of Students With Handicaps, Social Maladjustments, or Learning Difficulties.	8.4	8	8.1	7.5	8	8.4

Healthy and Safe School Environment

Student success is greatly determined by the school and community environment. Schools and communities must work hand-in-hand to ensure that our students learn in an environment that is safe, caring, and promotes wellness. All elementary schools are working towards implementing the Healthy Schools Approach, developing a culture of pride and respect for our environment, and completing a portrait of the school climate in order to prioritize interventions to provide a safe, secure, healthy, and welcoming environment.

Vocational Education

The Vocational Education pathway is a growing choice towards qualification for students under 20 years of age as well as being a priority for the Ministry of Education Leisure and Sport. Our Vocational Education Centres provide numerous training programs that lead directly to employability and/or to an exciting career. Our priorities for this strategic plan include further expanding the choices of vocational education programs available to our students and promoting these programs as viable options.

School Portrait

BEECHWOOD ELEMENTARY SCHOOL	2010-2011
School Capacity	350
Program(s)	French Immersion
Total Number of Students Registered	305
Total Number of Students Registered In Daycare	137
Number of Students With Handicaps, Social Maladjustments, or Learning Difficulties.	46

School Mission/Vision

Beechwood is a school in which all students and members of the community feel welcome, comfortable and involved.

We provide a safe, caring, challenging environment which facilitates the child's academic and emotional development and fosters creative expression.

We are dedicated to leading all our students to personal excellence through current curriculum, effective and diversified teaching strategies, and community support.

We encourage students to show respect for human dignity and individual differences.

We work in a spirit of cooperation and collaboration where emphasis is placed on participation and communication.

We offer access to the outdoor classroom as an integral part of the curriculum.

We expect that students leaving Beechwood School will possess the academic and social skills necessary for them to begin to function as responsible and contributing members of our society.

School Results

Goal 1: Increased Graduation and Qualification Rate				
#	Objective	2009 Baseline	2015 Target	2011 Result
1	A 2% increase in the success rate for MELS End of Cycle III Math Exam Results by 2015.	80.35%	82.35%	65.5%
2	Reduce the dropout rate. Minimum of one intervention targeting the engagement of boys.	N/A	N/A	N/A
3	Evaluate and regroup students if necessary when new modules are introduced.	N/A	Ongoing	YES

Level of accomplishment:

- The success rate for the Grade Six students dropped by 15% which approximately translates into 7-8 additional students not successfully passing the 2010-11 end of year Math exam.
- More than 25% of library budget has been spent on materials that appeals to boys.
- Students in Cycle III were regrouped for Math class when new modules were introduced.

What worked, what did not and what lies ahead:

- The decrease in the Math exam success rate, when compared to the 2009 baseline, could be explained by the introduction of a new testing component, based on essential knowledge questions, in the final exam. This was not familiar to the students. A similar drop in the success rate was reported in several of the Grade Six results throughout our school board.
- At risk Cycle III students will continue to benefit from remedial Math support during lunch hours by means of a new Homework Program initiative beginning during the 2011-2012 year.
- Resource teacher will be involved in remedial Math classes, specifically targeting Cycles II & III.
- Teachers across all cycles attended Math workshops to develop “math webs”, with more professional development in the planning stages for Term 3.
- Ongoing professional discussions to evaluate the learning outcomes, specifically in Math, across each Cycle throughout the school year.

Goal 2: Improved Mastery of English and French Language Skills

#	Objective	2009 Baseline	2015 Target	2011 Result
1	A 4% increase in the success rate for elementary end of Cycle III French exam results.	71.53%	75.53%	89.47%
2	A 4% increase in the number of elementary students reading at level.	Running Records	Running Records	Running Records
3	A 4% increase in the success rate for elementary end of Cycle III English exam results.	76.95%	80.95%	88.64%
4	An increase in the number of activities which expose students to French (cultural, extracurricular, daycare)	N/A	Continual increase	YES

Level of accomplishment:

- Grade Six students exceeded targeted goals for success rates in both French and English end of Cycle III exams in the first year of the current 5-year school success plan.
- Running records demonstrated that students achieved the target levels in both French and English across all grade levels tested. Running records will help to track student achievement.

What worked, what did not and what lies ahead:

- Teacher's professional development included sessions that focused on French fluency.
- Cycle II and III teachers used Write Traits (Traits D'Écritures), a program that develops the 6 writing traits such as: text structure, ideas, voice, choice of words, fluidity and linguistic conventions (grammar).
- Additional French and English resources were made available to teachers in all grade levels.
- 1 ½ – 2 hours a day spent on English literacy and daily strategies focused on oral and independent reading. Looking to schedule uninterrupted blocks of time to support literacy.
- Students who are at risk are afforded additional remedial support with the resource teacher, focusing on English language comprehension and writing skills. *Needs to be addressed:* Implementation of a homework assistance program for students requiring additional support.
- *Needs to be addressed:* Literacy workshops for parents to help bridge the gap between home and the school to best support student needs in improving these language skills.

Goal 3: Improved Levels of Success and Perseverance for Students with Handicaps, Social Maladjustments or Learning Difficulties

#	Objective	Baseline	2015 Target	2011 Result
1	Create homogeneous groups for targeted intensive intervention in both classroom and resource room setting.	N/A	Increase initiatives	Ongoing
2	Promote Skilled and Occupational trades	N/A	Increase initiatives	Ongoing

Level of accomplishment:

- Continuous remedial support offered in the classroom as well as small groupings in the resource room setting, taught by the resource teacher.
- High school community visits our Grade Six students to outline the different programs, academic and vocational, available at the different schools throughout our school board.

What worked, what did not and what lies ahead:

- Students are continuously evaluated and are offered support through remediation in small groups during the school day.
- School resource team to meet monthly during the 2011-12 school year to connect all available resources in our board providing a continuous evaluation and follow up of our at-risk students.
- WOTP students at local high school will collaborate and participate with our students through focused academic and social initiatives. These opportunities will introduce our students to the different programs offered in our high schools throughout our school board.
- *Needs to be addressed:* Information sessions for parents about programs that are available in the high schools such as the WOTP (Work Oriented Training Pathway) and Skilled and Semi-skilled programs. As well, vocational assessments should be done in cycle 3 to help students recognize their interests and aptitudes.
- *Needs to be addressed:* Study skills and organizational workshops for students going into high school, to assist all students, especially those with learning disabilities.

Goal 4: Promoting Wellness in a Safe and Caring Community

#	Objective	Baseline	2015 Target	2011 Result
1	The number of initiatives that promote pride in and respect for our environment.	N/A	Ongoing	In Progress
2	The number of programs and interventions that address violence prevention and conflict resolution.	In Progress	Ongoing	In Progress
3	Implementation of the Healthy Schools Approach.	[v] In Progress [] Implemented		
4	Implement a strong anti-bullying program. Teach respect and tolerance.	In Progress	Ongoing	In Progress

Level of accomplishment:

- Earth Day: lights were turned off for an hour.
- Music teacher had students make instruments out of recycled materials.
- Survey in November of parents and students in an attempt to assess breakfast eating habits.
- Beechwood Buddies program continued to implement the appropriate ways that students get along, interact and behave in a school setting.
- Peer Mediation and Beechwood Citizens are programs in place and ongoing that enable students to model appropriate behaviours and monitor the behaviours of others in school.

What worked, what did not and what lies ahead:

- The Healthy School Committees continued to meet and discuss initiatives that promote a healthy lifestyle. These initiatives included eating habits, student activity and educational components directly related to the classroom curriculum.
- A Healthy Schools initiative for parents through information on the school website and proposed parent sessions that are in line with the goals of the school success plan.
- *Tell Them From Me Survey* to be completed 2 times during the school year – grades 4-6 – which will help address student concerns such as health, safety and school community.
- DM Family Services provided programs in Kindergarten and Cycle I to promote friendship and appropriate choices for our younger students.
- *Needs to be addressed:* The Beechwood Buddies program to include focused components of anti-bullying and shape the values that are expected of students in our school community.

**Goal 5: Increased Enrollment of Students Under 20 Years
of Age in Vocational Training**

#	Objective	Baseline	2015 Target	2011 Result
1	The number of initiatives that promote vocational education	N/A	Increase initiatives	None

Level of accomplishment:

- There were no initiatives to promote vocational education during the 2010-11 school year.

What worked, what did not and what lies ahead:

- Information not readily available for staff or parents.
- Students will be offered an opportunity to work with high school students during after-school programs specifically focused on vocational training, such as cooking.
- Field trips to be aimed at complementing the curriculum in the classroom that also has a practical application to the vocational trades available in the late high school years and in vocational educational centres.
- *Needs to be addressed:* Bring career information and vocational assessment tools to Cycle III.
- *Needs to be addressed:* Information sessions for parents about programs that are available in the high schools such as the WOTP (Work Oriented Training Pathway) and Skilled and Semi-skilled programs. As well, vocational assessments should be done in cycle 3 to help students recognize their interests and aptitudes.

Other School Objectives:

#	Objective	Baseline	2015 Target	2011 Result
1	Develop Student and Parent Awareness of Various Work and Study Options	N/A	Increase initiatives	Ongoing
2	Develop Opportunities for Successful Transitions	N/A	Increase initiatives	Ongoing
3	Provide a Safe and Secure Environment	In Progress	Ongoing	Ongoing

What worked, what did not and what lies ahead:

- The Beechwood Citizens and Peer Mediators, as well as the Girls Groups for our Grade 3 students, are several programs aimed at providing a safe and secure school environment. The Beechwood Buddies program is a school-wide initiative that focuses on teaching the values that we expect our students to live by as they move through each school year. These programs will continue to grow to encompass more of the components required in providing a safe environment for our students.
- *Needs to be addressed:* Information to be readily made available to our parent body through evening seminars focusing on a wide range of learning opportunities. Literacy will be the focus for the 2011-12 school year. Further initiatives will include: bridging the gap from elementary to high school, bullying issues, vocational opportunities.
- *Needs to be addressed:* Provide parent workshops to support parents in helping to prepare their children for the transition from elementary to high school. Inviting professionals working in the high school sector to meet with parents in the spring of each year.