

School District of Mystery Lake  
 408 Thompson Drive North  
 Thompson, Manitoba  
 R8N 0C5



Virtues hola hoop project-working together



## Community Report 2013-2014

### MISSION STATEMENT

*To maximize each student's learning potential and to produce life long learners with a sense of self-worth and social responsibility by providing, in cooperation with the community, a diversity of educational experiences in a learning environment that recognizes the uniqueness of the individual.*

### VISION STATEMENT

We believe that:

- Individuals have the right to access quality education that maximizes individual potential.
- Individuals are accountable for their actions.
- Education is a shared responsibility amongst home, school, and community.
- The family has the primary responsibility to provide a safe, secure, nurturing and caring environment for the child.
- Learning - a personal, lifelong pursuit - enhances physical, emotional, intellectual and spiritual aspects within the individual.
- All individuals have the right to learn in a positive, respectful, secure and healthy environment.
- All individuals have dignity and intrinsic worth.
- Education is essential to progress.
- Optimism and vision are keys to the future.
- All individuals can meet the challenge of higher expectations.
- Diversity enriches



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# A MESSAGE FROM ROBERT PELLIZZARO, BOARD CHAIR, 2013-2014



## VALUES

Humility  
Affirmation  
Pride In Achievement  
Empathy  
Social Conscious; Serving Others, Advocacy  
Perseverance  
Forgiveness  
Student Achievement

When we look back at the 2013/2014 school year, there are many notable events and milestones to celebrate. Our school district is in solid financial shape and we have made great strides in developing an inclusive model of education through a commitment to social justice and cultural proficiency. We have strengthened our partnerships with government and other educational partners and enhanced many areas of programming. We have revamped our policies and procedures.

However our successes must be measured not by budgets or by what programs or policies we have put in place, but by the impact that we have made on each child.

And so instead of emphasizing the achievements of the District as an organization, I want to take this opportunity to acknowledge and thank the individuals who make a difference every day: the parents, especially the parent volunteers, as well as our dedicated employees including our support staff, our educational assistants and teachers.

As Malala Yousafzai, activist for education and the youngest-ever Nobel Prize recipient recently stated: "One Child, One Teacher, One Book, and One Pen Can Change the World". Their tireless dedication and commitment make a difference to the lives of our students, and help lead the way to a better future.

## DIVISION PRIORITY

### Goal #1

Improve student engagement, success and achievement in learning.

### Goal #2

Improve communication and engagement with all educational partners and the community, and strengthen the public profile of the School District of Mystery Lake through the development of a comprehensive public relations plan.

### Goal #3

Model a commitment to and promote a professional learning community founded in cultural proficiency, social justice and excellence in education.

### Goal #4

Strengthen the capacity and leadership development of staff providing quality professional growth opportunities and succession planning.

### Goal #5

Effectively link policy, procedures and practice to research and evidence.



## FACTS ABOUT OUR SCHOOL DISTRICT

Total Student Population for K-12 : 2886

Number of Elementary Schools: 6

Number of High Schools: 1

Language Programs: English & French Immersion

Teachers: 253

Educational Assistants: 76

Counsellors: 3

Speech & Language Pathologists: 3

Resource Teachers: 16

Psychologists: 1

L2 Resource Teachers: 3

Social Workers: 8

L3 Resource Teachers: 4

Literacy Support Teacher: 1

Coordinator of Special Services: 1

Coordinator of Cree Language: 0.5

Coordinator of French Language: 0.5

Data & Research Consultant: 1

Culturally Proficient Education Consultant: 1.5

The School District of Mystery Lake is located in the City of Thompson which is set in the ruggedly beautiful Canadian Shield amongst numerous lakes, streams and rivers approximately 800 km north of Winnipeg. It offers all of the amenities one might expect to find in a much larger centre. Thompson offers urban comforts and recreation while at the same time being only a few steps away from the best hunting, fishing, skiing and snowmobiling in Canada.

2012—2013

## BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Rob Pellizzaro, Chairperson

Guido Oliveira, Vice Chairperson

Janet Brady, School Trustee

Sya Gregovski, School Trustee

Vince Nowlin, School Trustee

Alexander Ashton, School Trustee

Leslie Tucker, School Trustee

## ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Angele Bartlett, Superintendent

Lorie Henderson, Superintendent

Arnie Assoignon, Secretary-  
Treasurer

Kelly Knott, Assistant Secretary-  
Treasurer

Keith Derksen, Facilities Manager



Success for All

## A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT OF EDUCATIONAL SERVICES & PROGRAMMING – LORIE HENDERSON



The School District of Mystery Lake continued to focus on a number of key areas for the 2013-2014 school years. Student success and graduation attainment continue to be a focus for the district. Under this focus, the district has identified the areas of interventions in the early years, student transition from grade eight to grade nine and cultural proficiency.

Early intervention included the continued implementation of full day kindergarten programs at 4 elementary schools where student assessment supported the need for all day programming as well as a full day French Immersion kindergarten program. All six elementary schools supported an early literacy program, either Reading Recovery or Early Literacy

Intervention. The district's early literacy and numeracy teachers provided numerous workshops and in class supports for teachers across the district.

The district transition team met regularly over the past year to look at the transition process for students who were entering the high school. The team consisted of grade eight and grade nine teachers as well as school administrators. Students were surveyed and common themes that emerged from students were concerns about moving from their neighborhood school to a larger central school, courses being too difficult and the number of teachers they would have in a day.

*“Everyone in a complex system has a slightly different interpretation. The more interpretations we gather, the easier it becomes to gain a sense of the whole.”* Margaret J. Wheatley

### **Cultural Proficiency Framework is:**

A worldview,  
A perspective,  
A mindset.  
A mental model,  
A lens, and/or  
The manner in which we  
lead our lives.

Transition activities last year included the transition camps, participation in the RDPC Mystery Lake in Motion Walk-Run, UCN Language Arts Festival, RDPC tours, grade 9 luncheon, Young Women's Conference, Industrial Skills Trade and Technologies Conference, career cruising, district promotion dance, Learning for Sustainable Development conference and the RDPC promotional DVD. All of these activities provided grade eight students the opportunity to mix with students from other schools as well as the chance to become more familiar with RDPC and the staff. A next step in the transition process is for the team to create an academic transition plan.

The district continued the journey toward cultural proficiency. Cultural proficiency was a district goal as well as a commitment that was made to the Thompson Aboriginal Accord. Continued opportunities were provided to district staff and students as well as to community partners. Equity in education has been the topic of discussion at the leadership table this past year and the work will continue this year.

Lastly, SDML continued to provide our students with high quality teaching and learning experiences both in and out of the classrooms. In addition to the school based teams, the educational services members supported students, teachers and parents throughout our district. The support team consists of a student services coordinator, a Cree language coordinator, a culturally proficient education consultant, a district counsellor, a French language coordinator, an early literacy support teacher, an early numeracy support teacher, 3 speech and language therapists, and a district psychologists.

# A MESSAGE FROM THE SUPERINTENDENT OF HUMAN RESOURCES & POLICY— ANGELE BARTLETT



Welcome back everyone! The great thing about working in education is that we always have a new beginning. Each September is an opportunity to re-evaluate and plan for all the exciting things to come in the new school year. Our teachers, support staff, and administrators are committed to building positive relationships with children, parents and community partners to achieve excellence. We targeted our efforts on the new class requirements, the Leadership Intern Program, Board policy and procedures, and recruiting new teachers to the District.

The School District of Mystery Lake is very proud that we are working hard to address

the provincial legislative requirements of 20K3. The legislation requires all Kindergarten to grade 3 classes in the province exceed no more than 20 students by 2017. The District supports the smaller class initiative, as we recognize the impact that smaller class sizes has on student achievement and early intervention.

Our Leadership Intern Program was tremendously successful in meeting its mandate to provide teachers with professional development opportunities to enhance their leadership capabilities. The School District's succession plan is to develop a pool of school administrative candidates to fill upcoming vacancies. Three out of the

*"Every child deserves a champion—an adult who will never give up on them, who understands the power of connections and insists that they become the best that they can possibly be." Rita Pierson*

four vacant administrative positions in the past two years were filled by candidates who participated in the Intern Program. As a result of the program's success, there will be another intake of District teachers in January of 2015.

The Board of Trustees' Policy Committee conducted a complete review of the Board Policy Manual and Procedural By-laws. The committee is confident that as a result of the review process, the new board of trustees will inherit a Board Policy Manual that is up to date and accurately reflects how the Board of Trustees conducts business.

The School District of Mystery Lake had ten teachers retire in June 2014 and welcomed 28 new teachers to the district in September 2014. I am pleased to announce that the District employed five of the eight graduates from UCN's Kenanow Bachelor of Education program, either on term or permanent contracts. To all retirees the School District of Mystery Lake wishes you all the best in your retirement. To all the new teachers, we wish you much success and happiness as you begin your teaching careers.

This year marks the end of the District's three year planning cycle. This November we will be developing a new three year District strategic plan. We are very excited to have the opportunity to re-evaluate and plan for the future, in collaboration with our educational partners.

In closing, I want to express my gratitude to all district personnel for their hard work and commitment to ensuring "Success for All". Best wishes for a great start to a new school year and all success and fulfillment throughout the coming months.

## District Level Services

### Coordinator of Special Services—

Harold MacDonald

### Cree Language coordinator (0.5)— Ron Cook

**Culturally Proficient Education Consultants—**  
Loretta Dykun & Ron Cook

### District Counsellor—

Sharon Kent

### French Language Coordinator—Kristina Hearn

**Literacy Support Teacher—** Cheryl McMahon-Muth

**Early Numeracy Support Teacher—** Shelley Cook

**Speech and Language Therapy—** Louise Stuart & Carole Valois

**District Psychologist—** Vern Kebernik

**Data & Research Consultant—** Jolene Brown



## DIVISION PLAN

- By June 2014, student engagement, success, and achievement in learning will improve.
- By June 2014, the School District of Mystery Lake will revise all policies and procedures to effectively link practice to research and evidence.
- By June 2014, School District of Mystery Lake will improve communication and engagement with all educational partners.
- During 2011-2014, the School District of Mystery Lake will develop ways to promote cultural proficiency, social justice, and excellence in education.
- The School District of Mystery Lake will strengthen the capacity and leadership development of staff by providing quality professional growth opportunity and succession planning between 2011-2014



## BURNTWOOD SCHOOL

Burntwood School is the home to an average of 350 students and 20 staff.

Burntwood School used a variety of data collections throughout the year to help guide school goals and instruction. The data sources for the 2013-2014 year included provincial assessments for grades 3, 7 and 8, Tell Them From Me survey, Youth Health Survey and the Youth Behaviour Survey. Many extra-curricular activities attract students to stay in school and stay engaged in the school. The school saw a notable increase in participation in those extra-curricular activities that promote physical activity which shows students and teachers are believers that physical activity is important to our health as individuals and as a school.

**The mission of Burntwood School is to foster a respectful, safe and nurturing environment in order to maximize the potential of all those within the school community.**

### PRIORITIES FOR STUDENT LEARNING 2013-2014

- By June 2015, student/community engagement will increase by 20%.

Student council meetings were held every Tuesday during the year and a number of fundraising activities were coordinated. The school hosted the Canadian Citizenship ceremony as well as invited many organizations to offer presentation to the students throughout the year. Whole school multi-grade grouping virtues projects were started and will continue next year.

- By June 2015, our students will be more knowledgeable and involved in Educational Sustainable Development.

The grade 3 gardening project was started, which saw help from the community and parents. Students helped to paint a mural on the garden wall to enhance awareness to the environment and future commitment to the garden. Weekly recycling continues and a number of school staff attended professional development on sustainable development.

- By June 2015, there will be a 10% increase on provincial/classroom based assessment results in numeracy related to mental math strategies.

With the help of the district Numeracy Support Teacher, teachers will receive professional development on a variety of numeracy topics, including using the math talk books for K-6. Provincial results, math centres and guided math lessons will all be used to help target specific areas for growth.

- By June 2015, reading comprehension and fluency will increase by 10%.

A variety of strategies will be used to target this outcome, such as the Words Their Way spelling, home reading programs, guided reading groups, Early Literacy In-



**Together Everyone  
Achieves More**

Number of staff: 20

Number of students: 354

Grade level: K-8



### School Highlights

- After school and lunch clubs—including film club, drama club, Zumba, tumbling group, drumming group, and gardening club.
- Canadian Citizenship Ceremony
- Character Education—Virtues Project
- Aboriginal Perspectives Cultural Camps for grade 5's and grade 8's
- Two students won Aboriginal Achievement awards through Ma Mow We Tak Friendship Centre
- Transition Activities for Grade 8—camps, promotion dance, career cruising
- Paper cup drumming with over 100 students at one time participating
- Two Spirit Weeks held including crazy hair and hat day, pj day and jersey day
- Drama club plays
- Welcome to Kindergarten Night
- Pink Day coincided with the Manitoba Theatre for Young People's play on bullying
- Winter Concert was performed to a packed house.

# DEERWOOD SCHOOL

Deerwood School is a great place to learn. It is a school with many friendly faces and always offers a warm welcome to students, parents and guests. It's a school that also offers an abundance of extra-curricular activities, such as choir, intramurals, student council, art club and chess club. Deerwood School bid a difficult farewell to their principal, Mrs. McInnes in June, naming the art room in her honour.



“Be the best that you can be.”

Number of teachers: 19

Number of Students: 197

Grade Level: K-8

**Deerwood School's mission is to maximize the educational opportunities for students' intellectual, social, emotional and physical development by providing, in cooperation with the community, a wide variety of learning experiences within a caring environment emphasizing each person's lifelong unique and special role in nature and in our changing society.**

## PRIORITIES FOR STUDENT LEARNING 2013-2014

**By June 2014, all students in K-8 will have improved ICT skills across the curriculum. All students will demonstrate improved critical and creative thinking, responsibility and ethics with ICT.**

- Students demonstrated their skills and learning using technology (iPads, Smartboards, computers, cell phones, digital cameras), as well as showcased their projects and portfolios. Students accepted the ethical responsibility of all forms of ICT by signing a pledge and using technology appropriately.

**Deerwood staff will have improved communication with parents and the community.**

- Deerwood staff was very committed to communicating with parents / community in a wide variety of ways consistently throughout the school year. Parent Connect was a popular source to go to for information.

**Deerwood staff will demonstrate growth in understanding and applying cultural proficiency and social justice in school towards building a stronger community.**

- Many events/activities took place throughout the year—Gr. 5 students attended Mile 20, Gr. 7 students collected Canadian Tire money to buy hats and socks for the homeless shelter, Gr. 3 students held a successful Mother's Day sale which resulted in a monetary presentation to the Homeless Shelter.

**Deerwood Students in K-8 will have improved in their ability to represent and describe numbers at their level of learning.**

- Staff worked diligently with the help of the District Numeracy Support Teacher to review materials, share strategies and develop lessons to use in their classrooms.

### School Highlights

- Terry Fox Walk
- Earth Rangers Tour
- Peak of the Market fundraiser—student council purchased a new stove, fridge and freezer
- Winter Olympics Fun Fair
- Circus/magic Tricks Field Trip
- Winterfest
- After School clubs—art, chess, science, choir, drum group, peer mediation, student council, mascot training, games and gardening
- International Day of Pink Assembly
- Deerwood School Choir Mini Tour to Personal Care Home / CIBC Bank
- Walking School Bus
- Chad Solomon Presentation
- “Night Light” Presentation by MTYP
- Annual Talent Show



Deerwood Choir performs at the Remembrance Day Assembly / Directed by Mr. Frigo



# ECOLE RIVERSIDE

Ecole Riverside Elementary School continues to focus on all curricular areas, including our passion for the Arts, Music, Physical Education and Health. We pride ourselves in knowing that our students are well prepared for graduation and beyond when they leave us. Data tells us that for the past 2 years over 90% of our grade 8 students (after leaving Ecole Riverside School) graduated in 4 years at RDPC. There are a vast range of extra curricular opportunities, including those in academics, physical fitness and athletics, the arts, student leadership, and even the geeky. The school will miss principal, Mr. Fisher, as he has moved on to be the principal of R.D. Parker Collegiate, and wishes to welcome new principal, Mr. Wamboldt to the school.



Respect (Respect)

Achievement  
(Accomplissement)

Motivation (Motivation)

Safety (Sécurité)

Number of staff : 39

Number of students: 348

Grade level: K-8 French Immersion, K-6 English

**École Riverside School is a dual track school committed to providing high quality education by maximizing the individual's intellectual, social, emotional, and physical development in a safe, respectful environment.**

## PRIORITIES FOR STUDENT LEARNING 2013-2014

**Additional technology will be acquired to support teaching and student learning.**

- Teachers and students are using the newly acquired and existing technology to infuse literacy with ICT. We now have 2 iPad carts, each with 30 available devices. There is a class set of iPods, 2 mobile laptop carts, netbook cart, upgraded wi-fi network, and many classrooms have in-class pods of 2-4 computers for student use.

**Introduction and exploration of interactive whiteboards will continue to be explored**

**as a teaching and learning tool for our students by June 2014.**

- A Smartboard pilot will be developed. All middle years teacher have Smartboards permanently mounted to classroom walls and they work together to find ways to use them. Smartboard installations have been in early years classrooms.

**Explore the use of iPads with special needs students.**

- Special needs students will be choosing to use iPad technology to gather and make sense and to produce and show understanding in their learning. The school team has begun to explore which apps are being used throughout the province to support learning with special needs students will take place. An iPad was purchased for each member of the OSIT team and introductory projects with students have begun.

**All students will participate in at least one technology infusion project that infuses literacy with ICT to support critical and creative thinking by June 2014.**

- Teachers and students will be using the new and existing technology to infuse literacy with ICT in class, in school and in the community. Teachers, students and parents will be having conversations about inquiry approaches to learning. Students will be choosing to use technology to gather and make sense and to produce and show understanding in their learning. Student projects will be created that demonstrate their infusion of technology.

### School Highlights

- Refillable Water Bottle Station
- Sturgeon project
- Walking Wednesdays
- Commonwealth games Minecraft camp
- Northern Skilled Trades conference
- Gr. 8 SEVEC trip to Quebec
- Monthly virtues assemblies
- Tell Them From Me surveys
- PAX program
- Music Month fiddler Jenilee Martineau
- Mini Festival du Voyageur
- Class Wikis
- Northern Lights Coffee-house
- Let's Talk Science workshops
- Artists in the Schools program
- Gr. 1-3 Musical Theatre
- Young Women's Conference
- African Drumming
- Red Hand Day Project
- And many others.....



# JUNIPER SCHOOL

Juniper School offers a variety of opportunities throughout the year to help maximize student learning and engagement.

During the 2013-2014 year, Juniper grade 7 students were fortunate to have the chance to be part of the “Educating for Action” pilot project that allows for unique opportunities for these students. The school has enjoyed seeing the increase of parents in the

school and their continuous involvement in their children’s education. Student Led conferences continue to stay well above 80% participation, and the school continues to encourage regular, daily attendance of students in order to maximize their learning opportunities.

**The mission of Juniper School is to enhance student learning by providing a diversity of quality experiences in a welcoming, structured and caring environment.**

## PRIORITIES FOR STUDENT LEARNING 2013 – 2014

**To maximize our resource potential to increase learning opportunities for all our students and staff.**

- Increase use of technology and PD opportunity for capacity building. A resource binder was created and will have continuous updates as a reference for teachers. Increased number of presentations and community partners to share expertise. Small math group instruction.

**To be recognized as a culturally proficient school by demonstrating growth in understanding and applying cultural proficiency and social justice in school in order to build a strong school community and learning environment.**

- Participation in social justice opportunities. Staff book study, continuation of the Virtues Program and district Gr. 8 transition planning.

**Staff and students will work together to increase academic achievement and engagement in their learning.**

- Full Day Kindergarten program, classroom profile meetings, Early Literacy Intervention programming, Strong Beginnings Assessments, attendance initiatives. Full Day Kindergarten implemented, more student meeting grade outcomes and their individual program plans.

**Improved school climate and engagement through a feeling of belonging in our school community.**

- Increased attendance at events, increase in school activities and extra-curricular opportunities, successful events involving grade 7,8 and 9 transition opportunities, school merchandise will be sold and worn with pride, and the snack program will continue.



Number of staff : 46

Number of students:285

Grade level: K-8



### School Highlights

- Full Day Kindergarten
- Strong Beginnings assessment
- Grade 7 pilot project began “Educating for Action”
- Monthly Virtues Activities
- Baby Think It Over, Roots of Empathy, Kids in the Know, PAX and Career Cruising programs
- Various community presentations
- 2 Musicals— “Annie Kids” and “Bugz”
- Mile 20 for grade 5
- Gr. 3 Wabowden trip
- Grade 7 Winter camp and grade 8 spring camp trips
- WISE, DARE, MADD presentation, Earth Rangers and several other in school presentations
- Thompson Festival of Arts
- Participation in school and regional science fair.

# WAPANOHK COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Wapanohk Community School serves a student population of 395 students. We are located in the Eastwood area and include students from grades K–8. Our areas of focus are literacy, Cree language, safety and technology. We offer a large number of extra curricular programs through support from a number of community organizations. Building a sense of community through our partnerships and relationships enhances the team work approach and promotes lifelong learning. Wapanohk sends best wishes to principal Mrs. Rempel, as she moves on to be principal at Deerwood School.



“Reaching for the stars and soaring with the eagles”

Number of teachers: 32

Number of students: 395

Grade level: K-8



**One school, in one community, dedicated to raise children in one nation together for one world.**

## PRIORITIES FOR STUDENT LEARNING 2013 – 2014

**90% of Wapanohk students will increase their reading proficiency by one level and there will be a 30% increase in students ability to problem solve.**

- Teachers will meet in school teams after each reporting period to discuss results. Strong Beginnings will be implemented during the 2014-2015 year. Class profile meetings will occur, a literacy resources review, and the Early Literacy Intervention Program will continue.

**Wapanohk staff and students will increase the amount of Cree spoken in school.**

- Basic commands and conversation will be heard on the announcements and throughout the building. There will be an increase in Cree language spoken inside and outside the classroom and more Cree resources will be collected and catalogued by the staff. A Cree wiki space will be maintained, as well as 1/2 day planning each month for Cree teachers.

**There will be a 30% decrease in the incidents reported to the office, and a 30% decrease in the number of unexcused absences and lates.**

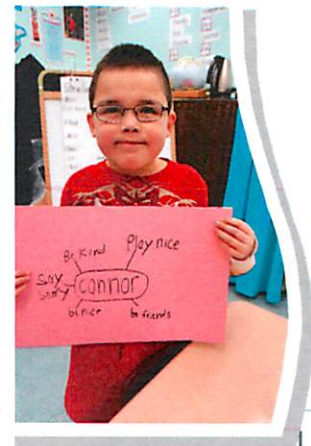
- Several strategies were implemented to target office referrals for the above objectives, including: bullying presentations, PBIS model, Lighthouses and after school clubs, attendance letters sent home, alarm clocks purchased for students, availability of wake-up calls, and the walking school bus.

**There will be a 50% increase in the amount of technology used in the school.**

- More apps will be installed and used on the iPads. More SMART-boards will be purchased and installed into classrooms within the school and 2 SMART document cameras will be purchased. Spelling City licenses will be renewed for classroom use and staff will present technology ideas to each other.

### School Highlights

- Breakfast program
- 11th FAST (Families and Schools Together) program
- Outdoor land based education
- Community garden for the Eastwood Area
- Extra-curricular programs– staff logged over 1500 after school hours in activities for students
- Fishing club
- Play structure completion
- Cree Language Festival
- Lighthouses Drop In Center
- Feast with over 500 people participating
- 1st canoeing/camping trip with grade 7 students



# WESTWOOD SCHOOL

At Westwood School the school team works to provide students with the best educational experiences possible and is committed to incorporating exceptional practices in teaching including technology. Westwood School understands the importance of regular attendance and getting to school on time. Both of these factors are essential for effective learning. Westwood School sent farewell wishes to Mrs. Roque, Mrs. Bancken, Ms. Soucie and Ms. Shaw. All together these ladies committed 91 years of service with the School District of Mystery Lake. That is dedication!



A Great Place to Grow

Number of teachers: 25.5

Number of students: 363

Grade level: K-8

**Westwood's mission is to provide diverse learning experiences in a safe and positive environment while acknowledging the uniqueness of each student.**

## PRIORITIES FOR STUDENT LEARNING 2013—2014

**By June 2014, students will show an increase in their reading levels, reading comprehension and numeracy skills.**

- Teachers continued to teach using the literacy lab resources, Daily 5 café reading, literacy circles, home reading programs, spelling programs and library resources. K–4 teachers sought support from the district literacy teacher. Teaching in the classroom emphasized the 5-Ws, key words, fact finding, summarizing, inquiry-based learning and working with both fiction and non-fiction.

**English as an Additional Language students will show an improvement on the EAL rating rubric.**

- Teachers and students have continued to be encouraged to use Rosetta Stone and Language Links computer programs. Dual language books are being utilized and we continue to add to this collection. Technology has also been used to develop language skills.

**Students will show an increase in the use of ICT.**

- Teachers continued to work with staff in the school as well as learn new skills. We had cross-grade projects where teachers from different grades collaborated on new projects. Teachers worked on some innovative projects using technology such as daily blogging, Math questions a day and Skyping with classrooms around the world.

**We will reduce the inappropriate behavior of students, particularly during unsupervised times.**

- Westwood School continued with cross-grade groups called Friends Around Virtues. Each assembly highlighted a large group message about the selected virtue and a small group activity as a follow up in the classrooms. All incidents referred to the office were addressed on an individual basis by administration. Group mediations were held as well as counselling sessions provided when necessary. The SALT team planned and organized a number of events that promoted inclusion in the school.

### School Highlights

- Strong Beginnings
- Roots of Empathy
- Anti-bullying assembly
- DARE Program
- WISE program
- Mini-Winterfest
- Gr. 8 over night camping trip to Liz Lake
- Knights of Columbus Indoor Track Meet champions for 14th consecutive year
- Extra-curricular including homework club, yoga, tabloids, inter-mural sports, Zumba, Ricky Pronteau jiggling
- Gr. 8 girls attended Young Women's Conference and the gr. 8 boys attended the Northern Skills trade.
- 7 students participated in regional science fair in Flin Flon



# R.D. PARKER COLLEGIATE

R. D. Parker Collegiate has had another year of successes and challenges. R.D. Parker has been able to tap into the High School Apprenticeship option, a program in which students can earn high school credits through working with approved tradespersons in the community. The 2013-2014 year saw 26 student enrolled in the program with a total of 18 credits being issued by June 30. Students can earn up to a maximum of eight credits and can transfer the hours into post-secondary apprenticeship programs. R.D. Parker has also made efforts to enlist and train our own students to help their peers through difficult situations. SOS—Students Offering Support was formed by school counsellors Treena Kuhl and Krista Kristjanson. It is an extension of the Hope North Suicide Prevention Strategy. R.D. Parker wished principal, Mr. Itson an enjoyable retirement and welcomes Mr. Fisher as principal for 2014-2015.

**We, at R. D. Parker Collegiate, believe that students are entitled to learn in a safe, respectful and caring community and that providing this environment will increase our students' success and the foundation for a journey of lifelong learning.**

## PRIORITIES FOR STUDENT LEARNING 2013-2014

### Students in all classes will improve their engagement with curricular content and their own learning.

- Teachers shared engaging lessons and practices that supported learning and work to create common exams, emphasizing essential outcomes. Credit Recovery Phys. Ed in Gr. 9 and 10 was added which also serves to enhance intramural participation.

### Create a caring, safe school climate with an emphasis on inclusion and social justice.

- RDPC provided opportunities for students to be peer counsellors. Most departments coordinated an activity that supported school spirit, climate and inclusion once per month. Staff was part of a transition committee that worked to prepare Gr.8's entering high school. Bullying awareness assemblies took place, as well as NBA basketball. Social Justice projects were held throughout the year.

### Increase parental and community partnership in the education process.

- RDPC encouraged the use of Parent Connect through advertising, information sessions and offering a "How-to" sheet for logging on. School events were publicized through the district newsletter and Thompson Citizen.

### Address attendance and tardiness through policy and classroom practices.

- Incentives were offered to encourage regular attendance and punctuality. Administration continues to follow up after 2 phone class home by teachers are made.



Learners Today,  
Leaders Tomorrow

Number of teachers: 77

Number of Students: 963

Grade Level: 9-12



### School Highlights

- We Day—30 students participated
- Count Me In—10 students attended
- Anti-bullying presentation by Bill Belsey
- Senior girls Varsity basketball—provincial finalists
- Hosted Young Women's conference and first Northern Skills, Trades and Technology Symposium
- Movember raised money for prostate cancer
- RDPC float in Christmas parade
- Envirothon students placed first at regional competition
- YAC students raised over \$850 for Relay for Life
- School wide RDPC Olympics
- Hosted the 2nd Mystery Lake in Motion 5km Run/Walk involving hundreds of students from RDPC and grades 7-8 students from around the district
- Evans Merasty Memorial Floor Hockey
- 24 students travelled to Europe to take part in the D-Day Remembrance Ceremonies

# CULTURALLY PROFICIENT EDUCATION

## CONSULTANTS

### Initiatives supported last year included:

- District Mini-Winter Festivals (all elementary schools)
- Gr. 11 Land based course - RDPC
- Aboriginal Perspectives Fall Camp (UCN Kenanaw program, community partnerships and grade 5's)
- Annual Spring Gathering (Northern and Aboriginal Elders Council )
- Co-hosted the Manitoba Association of School Superintendents (MASS) for an Aboriginal Cultural Awareness experience at Mile 20 Traditional Site
- Gr. 8 Transition Camps
- Voices Partnership Research Project
- Hosted 2— 2 day Cultural Proficiency/Cultural Awareness PD sessions for staff and local community partners
- Cohosted Regional Cree Language Conference
- Treaty Relations training for grades 1-4 teachers
- National Aboriginal Day community wide event
- Learning for Sustainable Futures Workshops
- UCN Youth Language Arts Festival

Together, with the help of many individuals and partnerships including the Thompson Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee, the district has continued to deliver a wide variety of meaningful and authentic activities, programs and events to engage our students, staff, and community. We have worked to ensure that these initiatives included Aboriginal and Northern perspectives as well as promoted culturally proficient practices which support curriculum learning outcomes and promote healthy learning environments where everyone benefits.

The projects and activities that the School District has been able to offer this year are the result of the strong partnerships that have been developed with community members and organizations. It is the ability of Thompson to engage in and develop partnerships to support not only students but families and community. The District recognizes this as a positive strength. We

continue to work together to plan, evaluate, and make changes where needed in order to move forward and continue to strive to better meet the needs of our students in Thompson.

Some activities to highlight include classroom presentations, Elder visits to classrooms, teacher mentoring to support curriculum, Drum classes/groups, Adult Cree Classes, Cree Language Festival (WCS), Museum partnership to develop education kits for classrooms, commitments to the Aboriginal Accord and Thompson Urban Aboriginal Strategy and staff development opportunities.



## SCHOOL DISTRICT OF MYSTERY LAKE COUNSELLORS



We are very excited to be able to offer all our students attending our schools support on topics such as career choices, individual support, classroom presentations, health fairs, and making sure students' needs are being met.

As counsellors we strive to support students in making safe and healthy choices that will enhance their learning ability and self-confidence. We also work towards making sure that every student can obtain their education in a safe and productive environment.

Counsellors support and participate in many different initiatives that student are engaged in. For example, "Day of Pink" is the international day against bullying, discrimination, homophobia, transphobia, and the Young Women's Conference. Counsellors also support a variety of fundraising causes throughout Thompson, including the homeless shelter, humane society and Relay for Life.

These are some of the many opportunities for students to learn about the strength of giving and supporting someone with kindness and respect.

**We all need a little help sometimes.  
With the right approach positive change can happen fast.  
Why not call us today - it's a wise move.**



## EARLY LITERACY INTERVENTION PROGRAMS

Early literacy intervention involves teachers working with individuals or small groups of students who are progressing slower than expected in reading and writing. These intervention programs supplement the classroom literacy activities. The lessons include reading familiar and new stories, phonics work, and writing activities. The goal is to improve students' reading and writing skills.

Burntwood, Juniper, Riverside and Wapanohk Community Schools have small group literacy intervention for grades 1-3. Deerwood and Westwood Schools have Reading Recovery for grade one students.

Students who may be eligible for Early Literacy Intervention are assessed on their reading accuracy and comprehension, writing skills, word recognition and letter identification. Teachers choose students for intervention based on the assessment results. Regular attendance is important and is therefore taken into consideration when choosing students. After groups are formed, students receive daily 30-40 minute lessons for approximately 12-20 weeks.



Photo credit: Looking for fractions in the halls at Riverside by Ms. Fay's Gr. 7/8 class



## NUMERACY SUPPORT—A YEAR IN REVIEW

Wow, the second year of numeracy support in our district! We were learning to share our math thinking, played games to reinforce concept learning, and celebrated our first Marvelous Math Month in May with special events, math bulletin boards, math challenge questions, and looking for math everywhere.....

Hi! My name is Shelley Cook and my job is to support teachers and students in Kindergarten to Grade 4 math classrooms. This past year, groups of teachers enquired into the idea of classroom discourse or Math Talks to use as part of their instructional repertoire. Guided by Sherry Parrish's book *Number Talks*, we considered this approach as a way to enhance student mental math competency. Math Fact Interviews for both addition, and, multiplication and division were revised and presented to all elementary school staffs as tools to discern student knowledge of fact strategies. A bank of questions that could be used to determine mental computation strategies with larger numbers and decimals was also share. Most grade 2-8 teachers planned to use these tools during Strong Beginnings this fall.



Photo Credit: Gr. 2 at Westwood School

Throughout the year, when invited into classrooms, I supported students and teachers in learning to share and listen to others as we wrestled with problems in math. We learned that problems are supposed to be hard and make us think, otherwise they are not problems for us. We worked to celebrate our struggles, share our questions and insights, and explore ways to record our thinking together.

May was declared Marvelous Math Month. A calendar of math ideas to explore for the month was share – one for parents and one for teachers. Ms. Bettess's grade 3 class at Westwood School offered a Mathopoly Challenge on Instagram to classes in our district and around the world to look for math in our environment. Each day a different math term was highlighted and participants were challenged to find evidence of that math idea and to share their results on line. Other special events included learning about Math and Carpentry with the Gingerbread House Project in December and Harry Potter Family Math Day at Wapanohk Community School in May.

All in all, it was a good year to explore math, make connections to the world around us, and learn to use math talk and strategies to make us more proficient mathematicians.



Photo: Learning about building a strong foundation for your gingerbread house.



Photo: Helping Hermione figure out which jar will hold the most frog juice by measuring their volumes.

## SPEECH AND LANGUAGE SERVICES



Three Speech-Language Pathologists (S-LPs) service the communication needs in the district's 6 elementary schools and the high school. The S-LPs identify students by doing classroom visits and assessments. Four Support Personnel work in the elementary schools doing individual therapy programs for students (80 students each week), under the direction and supervision of the S-LPs. The S-LPs also consult regularly with classroom teachers and school teams to assist in classroom programming.

FM Sound Field systems are installed in every classroom, from kindergarten to grade 3. Teachers wear a head microphone to amplify their voices so that all children hear the instruction. FM Sound Field systems are also placed in the classrooms of students with a hearing loss, when recommended by an Audiologist.

A S-LP works with the teachers in 3 kindergarten classrooms at Wapanohk Community School. Every second day, students listen in small groups to a storybook read aloud, often assisted by props. The S-LP organizes group activities and crafts to bring the story alive. All children are encouraged to share their ideas and re-tell the story using their words, facial expressions and body language.

Read with your children every day! Use books to develop their language!

- Ask your child questions. Answer *all* their questions.
- Openly wonder "What will *happen next*"? Ask your child "Why did that happen"?
- Ask your child to *retell* or *act out* a familiar storybook.

- Read the same book *several times*, over different days.
- Invite your child to *play with things* that are shown in the book.
- When a word is new to your child, *talk about the meaning*. Give examples.
- In a storybook, *point out details* in the pictures.
- Limit the time that your child looks at "screens". *Children under 12 years old should not spend more than 2 hours in a day, looking at "screens"*. Books, conversations and interactive play with friends and family are better.

Grow your child's vocabulary! Free activity that all parents can do!

- Talk about everything you see and do... while driving, shopping or preparing a meal. This is your chance to explain their world.
- Talk about everything your child is doing. Follow their curiosity. Give them words.
- When your child says "this", "that" "thing" or "stuff", give your child a more specific word.
- An average child needs to *hear* a new word 35 to 40 times before it is *learned*.
- 4 year olds use about 1,500 – 1,600 words.
- 5 year olds use about 2,100 – 2, 200 words.
- 6 year olds say about 2,600 words, but understand about 20,000 to 24,000 words.

## WHAT HAPPENED IN FRENCH—2013-2014



Mystery Lake received a grant to in-service our Basic French teachers in the AIM French Program. This program pairs a gesture with each French word. The program is highly oral and literacy based. Students and teachers speak together at the same time, taking the stress of speaking in another language in front of their peers away. Interested teachers were provided with their own kit and access to an online support forum for teachers across North America using this program. This program is very well received with students, and success rates for any student of any ability is high. Also, exciting in the French world is a name change! Basic French will now be known as French: Communication and Culture, and will have an emphasis of 50% on oral skills.

In French Immersion, the grade 8 Immersion class travelled to Quebec City through the SEVEC Youth Exchange Program. Our students travelled to Quebec City in February, where they were able to experience Carnaval, and visit many historical and cultural landmarks. The twins visited Thompson during the month of May. During their stay here students visited Pisew Falls, Wuskwatim Dam, as well as the Millennium Trail.

At RDPC, our French students took a cultural tour to Quebec City in May. Natasha Nancekivell and Alex Burton spent a week with a dozen French Immersion and French students. Students visited the Beaupré Coast, a Sugar Shack, a copper museum, and many of the same historical and cultural landmarks that the grade 8's saw in February.

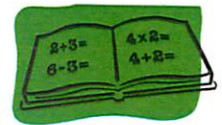
Also at RDPC, the senior immersion students participated in a pilot project of the Touchstones Discussion Project. This program is designed to improve oral proficiency, critical thinking and active listening in the participating students. The program was well received, and as a result will be implemented throughout the French Immersion Program in grades 4-12.

The Journalism course had its most successful year with 11 students. This credit is a partnership between Action-Médias and the Mystery Lake School Division. At the end camp, students created their own radio shows. Students also toured Envol 91.1 CKXL, Radio-Canada, and Université de Saint-Boniface while in Winnipeg.

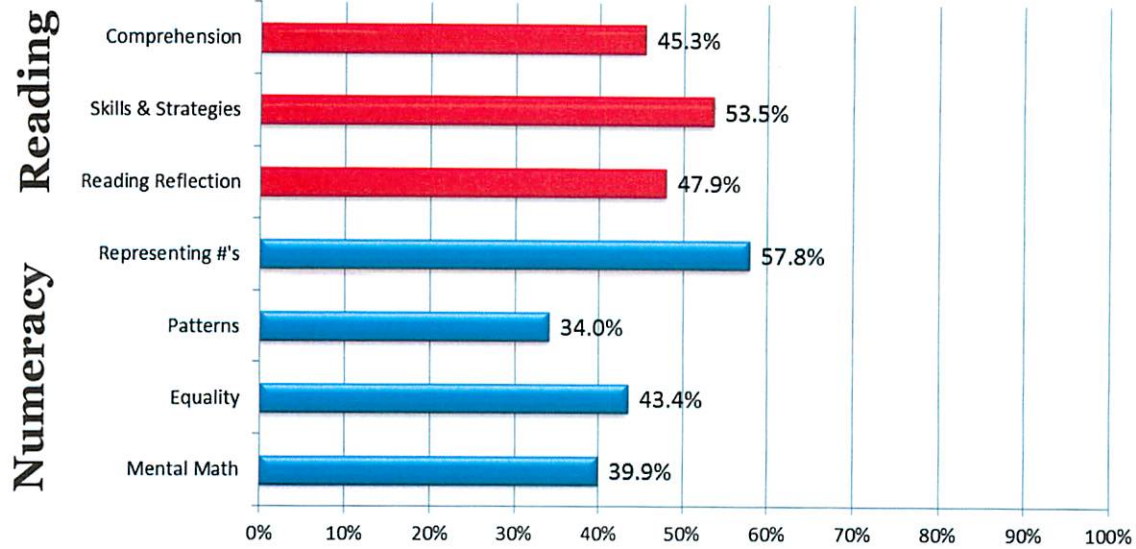




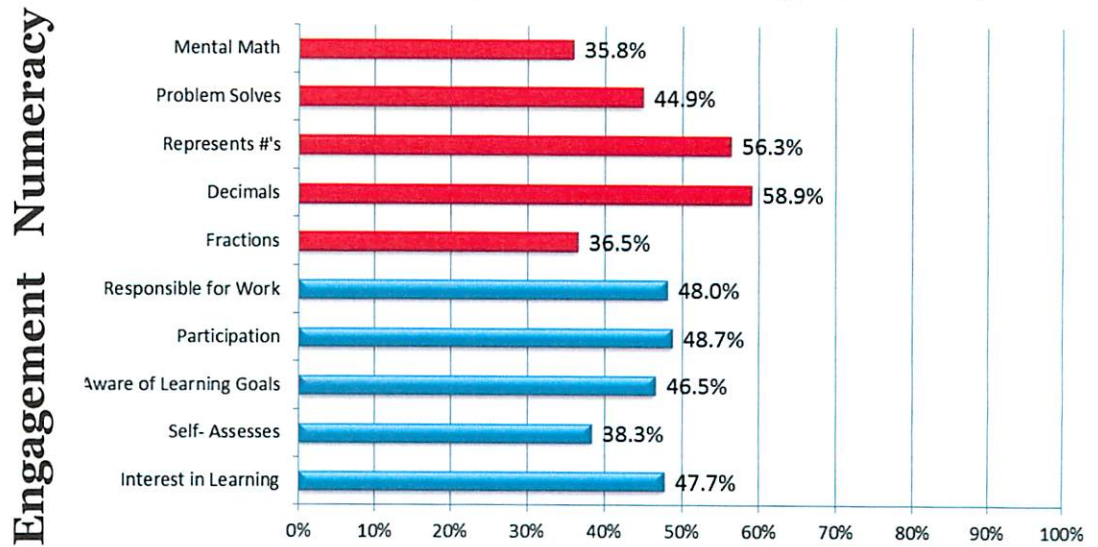
# OUR DATA STORY



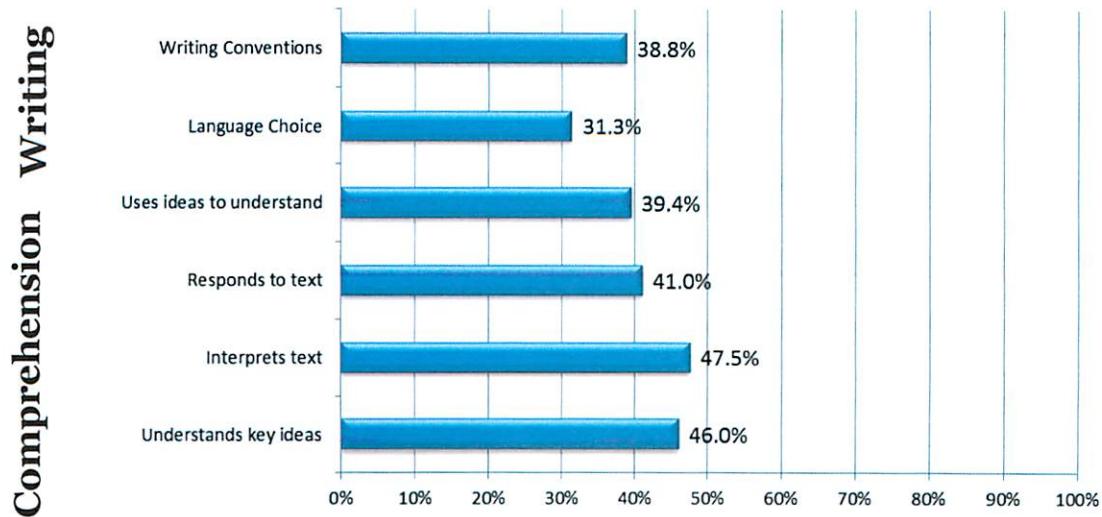
## SDML Grade 3 Competencies: % Meeting Expectations



## SDML Grade 7 Competencies: % Meeting Expectations



## SDML Grade 8 Competencies: % Meeting Expectations





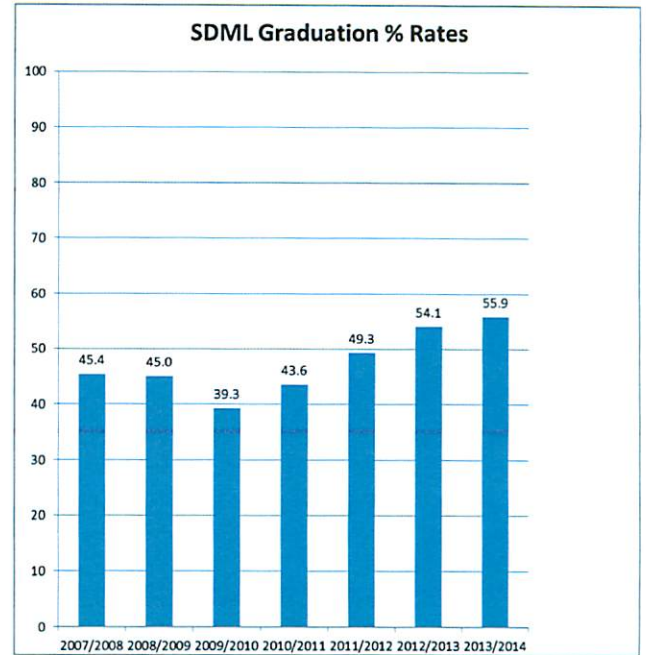
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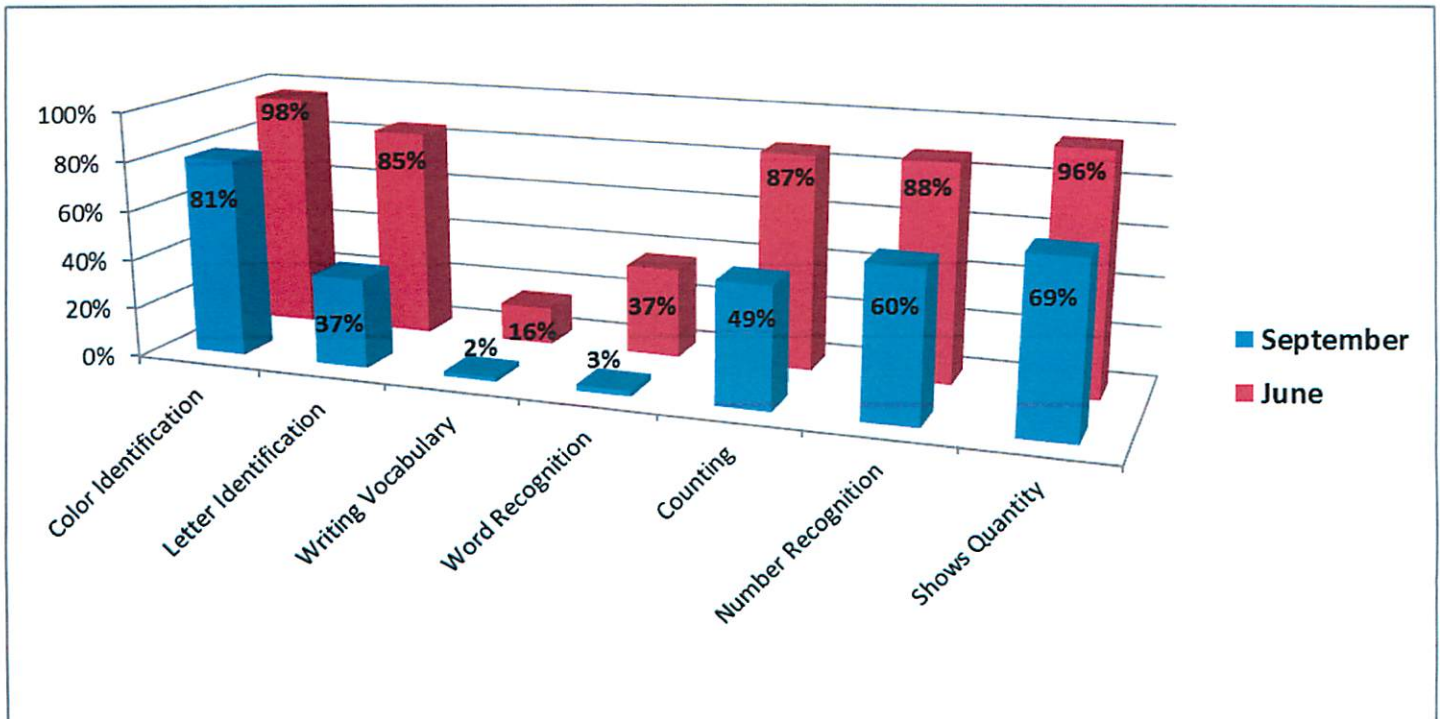
## SDML 2013-2014 Monthly Attendance

September	92.8%
October	92.3%
November	90.6%
December	85.1%
January	86.9%
February	86.9%
March	86.6%
April	89.0%
May	89.3%
June	86.4%

The School District of Mystery Lake continues to follow attendance closely in our schools as we realize the importance of regular attendance for a student's success. Watch for various attendance initiatives your child's school may be offering.



## Kindergarten Assessments 2013-2014



**SENIOR  
ADMINISTRATION  
TEAM & BOARD OF  
TRUSTEES**

Front Row (left to Right):  
Leslie Tucker, Janet  
Brady

Back Row (left to Right):  
Arnie Assoignon, Sya  
Gregovski, Vince Nowlin,  
Angele Bartlett, Rob Pel-  
lizzaro, Lorie Henderson,

Alexander Ashton, Guido  
Oliveira, Keith Derksen



Rob Pellizzaro  
Board Chairperson



Guido Oliveira  
Board Vice Chair



Janet Brady  
Trustee



Sya Gregovski  
Trustee



Vince Nowlin  
Trustee



Alexander Ashton  
Trustee



Leslie Tucker  
Trustee



Angele Bartlett  
Superintendent—  
Human Resources &  
Policy



Lorie Henderson  
Superintendent—  
Educational Services  
& Programming



Arnie Assoignon  
Secretary-Treasurer



Kelly Knott  
Assistant  
Secretary-Treasurer



Keith Derksen  
Facilities Manager

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Success for All