

2023-2024 WOODHAVEN MIDDLE SCHOOL DEVELOPMENT PLAN



Principal: Mrs. Nealle Dickson Assistant Principal: Mr. Scott Jaspers-Fayer

Our Vision:	
Our students possess the confidence, resilience, insight and skills required to thrive in, and positively impac the world.	
Our Mission:	
We assure supportive learning environments, meaningful experiences and healthy relationships that create opportunities to develop resilience, to gain diversity in perspectives and to achieve enduring success. Our Ultimate Goal:	
Student Success and Well-being	
Our Values:	
 Learning opportunities that are purposeful, essential, relevant, authentic and responsive; Excellence in achievement; Trustworthy, respectful relationships; and, Resilience and self-awareness 	

Domain:	Teaching and Leading
Outcomes:	PSD Staff expand success in literacy and numeracy
School leaders, teachers and school support staff design, deliver and share research-informed, effective and responsive teaching and assessment practices to promote student achievement, with a focus on literacy and numeracy.	

MESSAGE FROM THE PRINCIPAL

Woodhaven Middle School, home of the Wolfpack! Our school takes pride in our students, staff, and community. We are dedicated to creating a positive and supportive learning environment where students can thrive academically, socially, and emotionally.

As members of the Wolfpack, we value collaboration and teamwork. We believe that by working together, we can achieve great things. Our teachers and staff are committed to providing our students with a rigorous and challenging education that prepares them for success in high school and beyond.

At Woodhaven Middle School, we believe that every student is capable of achieving their goals. We provide our students with targeted instruction in literacy and numeracy, and we use data-driven instruction to identify areas where students need additional support and interventions. Our goal is to help every student reach their full potential and become confident, successful learners.

Thank you for being part of the Woodhaven Middle School community. As a member of the Wolfpack, you are part of a family that is dedicated to student success and well-being. Together, we can achieve great things and help our students reach their full potential.







WOLFPACK

blocks

assessment practices

Our Goal



At Woodhaven Middle School, our goal is to provide a safe and caring learning environment where students and staff feel respected and valued. We believe that a positive school culture is essential for student success, and we are committed to creating a welcoming and inclusive atmosphere where everyone feels a sense of belonging.

To achieve this goal, we have designated lead teachers for literacy and numeracy who work collaboratively with staff to build their capacity in these key areas. Our lead teachers provide professional

development opportunities for staff, and work closely with them to implement effective teaching strategies that improve student learning in literacy and numeracy.

We understand that student success is not just about academic achievement. At Woodhaven Middle School, we also focus on fostering a sense of well-being and belonging. Our staff work collaboratively with students to create a positive and respectful school culture where everyone feels valued and supported. We believe that when students feel connected to their school community, they are more likely to engage in their learning and achieve their full potential.

In summary, our goal at Woodhaven Middle School is to create a safe and caring learning environment where students and staff feel respected, supported, and valued. By focusing on literacy and numeracy, providing professional development opportunities, and promoting a positive school culture, we are working towards improving student learning and well-being. We believe that by working together, we can achieve



our goal of preparing our students for success in high school and beyond.

Key considerations to expanding success in literacy and numeracy at Woodhaven Middle School.

Our School Context



Woodhaven Middle School is a vibrant and diverse community school located in a growing community. With a student population of over 550 students from grade 5-9, our school offers both regular programming as well as the Parkland Christian Program, which is non-denominational. Our school welcomes all students and provides a safe and inclusive environment where everyone can thrive.

We are equipped with modern facilities including Fine Arts, Foods and Industrial Arts CTF spaces, a Library Learning Commons, and two

gymnasiums. We offer a range of extracurricular programs including a strong athletics program, fine arts program, and language programming. Our school also has a dedicated counselor who provides support

to students in a variety of areas. We encourage student involvement in our school community through student clubs, including a GSA, and offer a range of opportunities for students to pursue their interests.

Our school council and parent association are crucial components of our school as they play a vital role in fostering a sense of community and enhancing the learning experience of our students. The school council, which consists of elected representatives from various stakeholders including teachers, parents, and students, provides a forum for discussing issues related to school policies, resources, and curriculum. By promoting open communication between school administrators and the community, our council helps ensure that the needs of all stakeholders are met. Similarly, the





parent association serves as a platform for parents to get involved in their children's education by organizing events, fundraising, and advocating for their needs. These groups not only provide a means for collaboration between educators and families but also create a sense of belonging and investment in the success of the school, ultimately leading to improved student outcomes.

At Woodhaven Middle School, we are proud of our exceptional staff and parent volunteers who are committed to student success and well-being. Our teachers are dedicated to providing high-quality education and are continually seeking ways to improve their teaching practice. Our staff are passionate about creating a positive school

culture and are committed to promoting a safe and caring environment where all students can learn and grow.

Considering our Staff and Students

In any school context, both staff and students play important roles in supporting student success in literacy, numeracy, and well-being.

Staff at Woodhaven Middle School are committed to providing high-quality instruction in literacy and numeracy. Lead teachers in each subject area work collaboratively with staff to develop effective teaching



strategies, provide professional development opportunities, and implement targeted interventions to support student learning. Staff also recognize the importance of promoting student well-being, and work with our counselor to provide a range of support and resources to help students thrive.



Students also play an important role in promoting success in literacy, numeracy, and well-being. Students at Woodhaven Middle School are encouraged to take an active role in their education, seeking support when needed and taking advantage of extracurricular opportunities to enhance their learning experiences. Students are also encouraged to take ownership of their well-being, seeking support from our counselor and taking advantage of our Safe and Caring Learning environment to foster a sense of community and belonging.

Ultimately, both staff and students are critical components of a successful school context, particularly when it comes to promoting success in literacy, numeracy, and well-being. At Woodhaven Middle School, we are committed to providing a supportive learning environment that fosters student success in all areas of their education.

Considering our Resources

At Woodhaven Middle School, we are committed to providing a range of resources to support student success in literacy and numeracy, as well as promoting student well-being. In addition to the resources previously mentioned, we have a number of other resources that support these goals.

In terms of numeracy, we use the Mathematical Intervention Programming Instrument (MIPI), Numeracy Assessment Continuum, Mine the Gap assessments, and Building Thinking Classrooms to support student learning. In terms of literacy, we leverage resources such as the RCAT, Words Their Way, and HLAT assessments. These resources help us identify areas where students may need additional support, and provide targeted interventions to help them succeed and tailor our instruction accordingly.

Professional development opportunities are also an important resource for our staff, helping them to stay up-to-date with the latest teaching strategies and assessment practices. We prioritize small group instruction, which allows us to provide individualized support to students who may be struggling. Understanding how to use resources is another critical element in achieving success in literacy and numeracy and because of this, our teachers are provided time to collaborate and learn from each other.

Our Comprehensive School Health Plan is an important resource for promoting student well-being, incorporating healthy food choices and Indigenous wellness practices into our school community. By prioritizing student well-being, we create a positive and supportive learning environment where students can thrive.

By utilizing these resources in a strategic and intentional way, we are able to create a comprehensive approach to education that supports student success in literacy and numeracy, as well as promoting their overall well-being.

Measuring Achievement of Literacy & Numeracy

At Woodhaven Middle School, we use a variety of tools and assessments to measure literacy and numeracy success. Our school community recognizes that these elements are essential and we will utilize a comprehensive approach to assessment that considers each student's individual needs and provides targeted interventions to support their growth.

It's important to note that when measuring literacy and numeracy, we must consider our school context, ensuring that our resources and assessments are tailored to meet the

diverse needs of our student population. A population that includes Parkland School Division's Christian Program, two STEPS classrooms as well as our mainstream population. By considering our context in the assessment process, we work to ensure that our approach is not only effective but also equitable and inclusive.

Our ultimate goal is for 95% of our students to achieve an acceptable standard in literacy and numeracy by the end of our three-year journey. To achieve this, we are setting a yearly goal to reduce the number of students achieving below grade level by 10% per year. Through intervention and targeted teaching and

support, we believe that we can make significant progress towards this goal. We recognize that achieving this level of success requires a whole-school approach, and we are committed to working collaboratively with our staff, students, families, and community partners to make this vision a reality. We will regularly monitor and adjust our approach based on data-driven feedback to ensure that we are making progress towards our goal and that all of our students have the support they need to succeed.

Literacy Assessments to inform our work:

- Fountas & Pinnell Benchmarking Grade 5-9, as appropriate,
- RCAT Assessment Grade 5-9,
- Words Their Way Assessment,
- HLAT Writing Assessment,
- Teacher created assessments,
- Provincial Achievement Tests.

Numeracy Assessments to inform our work:

- MIPI,
- Early Years Numeracy Interview,
- Middle Years Numeracy Interview,
- Mine the Gap Assessments,
- Teacher created assessments,
- Provincial Achievement Tests.

Our Successes

"I like that when the kids are behind or struggling they put them in smaller groups to help them." ~Woodhaven Parent

Our successes thus far are a testament to the hard work and dedication of our staff, who have made student learning and well-being a top priority. By providing a range of academic and socio-emotional supports, we have a safe and caring learning environment that promotes student success. We understand that every student comes to us with unique needs and challenges, and our goal is to ensure that every student receives the support they need to thrive.

As we move forward on our journey to achieve a 95% acceptable standard in literacy and numeracy, we will continue to prioritize student well-being and success. We will build on the successes of the past year and work to identify and implement new strategies to support struggling students. By working collaboratively as a school community, we can ensure that all students feel valued, respected, and supported, and that they are able to achieve their full potential.

The following are some of the key successes thus far:

- Implementation of Dr. Ross Greene's Collaborative & Proactive Solutions
- Establishment of School Based Support Team Meetings
- Development of a continuum of Literacy, Numeracy and socio-emotional support,
- School Counselor,
- Student social development support groups,
- Ongoing professional development,
- Lunch Hour directed learning room/study hall,
- Literacy and Numeracy Lead Teachers,
- Clear achievement targets with assessment timelines in literacy and numeracy.

"Teachers always ask if there are any concerns or issues with other kids at interviews. Always let us know that they are available if there's a problem." ~Woodhaven Parent

Areas for Growth and Strategies

"I feel like things are passed by too quickly for slower learners but that is not the fault of the teachers. It's just the curriculum and all the instructional time kids have missed due to COVID or the new illness rules." ~Woodhaven Parent

Literacy & Numeracy Areas for Growth

- Decrease the percentage of students requiring pull-out style intervention in literacy and numeracy,
- Increase targeted data driven instruction in literacy and numeracy within the classroom,
- Decrease the percentage of students not achieving at or above grade level in literacy and numeracy.

Strategies for Growth

- Teacher collaborative planning time embedded in the schedule,
- School wide benchmarking data collected in literacy and numeracy 2-3 times per year,
- Focus on classroom embedded targeted instruction in literacy & numeracy,
- Continue with Literacy and Numeracy Leads within the school,
- Provide Professional development in Numeracy Interview, Building Thinking Classrooms, Mine the Gap, HLAT, RCAT, Word Study, Small Group Differentiation,
- Provide Professional development in understanding and implementing comprehensive literacy & numeracy programming,



RCAT Results – March



Expectation per Grade Breakdown Results for 457 students

📕 Insufficient 📒 Satisfactory 🔳 Competent 📒 Excellent



 Ensure teachers have access to resources to support improving pedagogy to meet the learning needs of students.

Adjustments were made in the morning to keep him from getting into arguments with other kids while no staff is present. ~Woodhaven Parent

Evidence of Success of Literacy & Numeracy within a Safe and Caring Environment

Literacy & Numeracy

- Percentage of students achieving at or above grade level in literacy and numeracy will increase as measured by:
 - Fountas & Pinnell benchmark assessments
 - Words Their Way benchmark assessments
 - RCAT Assessment
 - HLAT Assessment
 - Early Years Numeracy Interview

- Middle Years Numeracy Interview
- MIPI or Elk Island Screen
- Inclass product/performance/conversation assessments

Time Lines

August - September

- Administer Baseline F & P Assessments to students identified by classroom teachers
- Administer MIPI School Wide
- Administer RCAT 5-9
- Review Spring 2023 Assurance Measures Report
- Directed Learning Room Open

October

- Convene SBST Team (Literacy Lead, IEL, Numeracy Lead, AP, Counselor, Principal)
- Student Social Development Support Groups Begin
- Development Plan Baseline Report completed

November

• Present Baseline Report to School Council

January-February

- Assurance Surveys Administered to grade seven students and parents/guardians
- Finalize and Implement Pyramid of Interventions Continuum of Supports in Literacy, Numeracy and Well-being

May

- Provincial Achieve Test Administered Gr. Six and Gr. Nine (Language Arts Part A Written Portion)
- Review Baseline, Development Plan, and Improvement Plans with School Council

June

• Provincial Achieve Test Administered Gr. Six and Gr. Nine (Multiple Choice Part B Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies)

Professional Development Overview

School directed professional development will focus on Literacy, Numeracy and Well-being. It will be important that all professional development being considered for our school as a whole, support achieving our goals in these three areas. The focus will be on the following areas:

Literacy

- Data Driven Targeted Instruction
 - \circ Led by PSD facilitators and division principal as well as WMS Literacy Lead
- Phonemic Awareness training
 - Led by PSD facilitators and division principal as well as WMS Literacy Lead
 - Words Their Way PD
 - As needed for staff new to the program (ERLC)

Classroom Observations to see good practices being implemented

Numeracy

- Numeracy Lead Training in Numeracy Progression Assessment
- Staff training in Numeracy Progression Assessment administration
- Building Thinking Classrooms PD
- Mine the Gap PD
- PSD Literacy Facilitator led PD in numeracy