

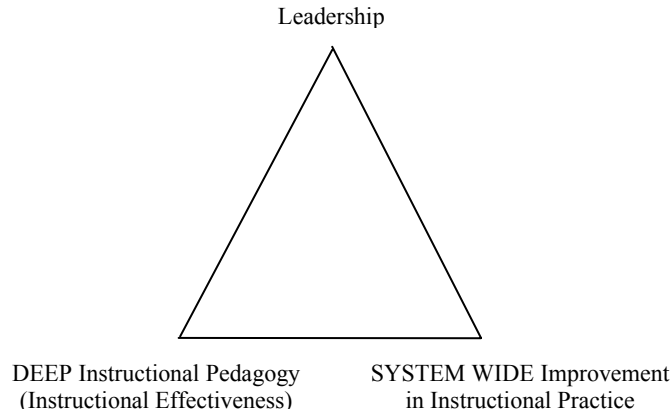
Superintendent's Report to the Board of Education
On Student Achievement
In School District No. 79 (Cowichan Valley)
For the 2008/09 School Year

Submitted on December 10, 2008

The Superintendent's Report on Student Achievement

Introduction

School District 79 Cowichan Valley's philosophy and initiatives for our goal of "Improving the success for each student." It is based on a triangle of success concept (as cited in Fullan 2008 – see below). Deep instructional pedagogy, building system-wide capacity, and leadership development that synergizes are at the core of our thinking and our practice.



A. Areas of Ongoing Strength

- Dogwood Completion Rate of those entering Grade 12 for 1st time indicates our district's performance is significantly above the Provincial average:

	04/05	05/06	06/07
District	96.6	86.9	91.8
Province	75.4	76.2	77.9

- Transition rates for Grades 6-8 are at or above Provincial average.

	Gr 6 or higher		Gr 7 or higher		Gr 8 or higher	
	Dist	Prov	Dist	Prov	Dist	Prov
2002/2003	99	97	95	97	94	95
2003/2004	97	97	96	97	93	95
2004/2005	98	97	95	97	94	95
2005/2006	98	97	97	97	96	95
2006/2007	97	97	96	97	96	95

- Required Provincial exam results (of those students writing) – the exam mean percentile for students who write is above the 50 percentile and growing

English 10	04/05	05/06	06/07
District percentile	54	65	73

Socials 11	04/05	05/06	06/07
District percentile	n/a	53	76

Math 10	04/05	05/06	06/07
District percentile	49	60	59

English 12	04/05	05/06	06/07
District percentile	52	44	54

Science 10	04/05	05/06	06/07
District percentile	52	64	61

- Athletic/Fine Arts Programs – District continues to be successful in regional and provincial comparisons and Provincial arena.
- District Wide Assessment - DART Gr. 3-9, DWW Gr. 1-8, DMA Gr. 3-10
 - System wide practice of collecting this data with increased use to inform practice.

B. Improving Areas of Student Achievement

Six-Year Grad Completion Rate

	05/06	06/07	07/08
All Students	71	71	72
Aboriginal	40	31	35

- Improving SSA/ACE-IT Participation Program offerings

Enrolment	05/06	06/07	07/08
Ace-it	22 students	27 students	55 students
SSA	31 annual	46 annual	21 (semester one)

- International Program re-building
 - 07/08 enrolment 52 FTE
 - Semester one 08/09 enrolment 56 FTE
 - New initiatives include 20-30 short term students coming in semester two and a summer (2009) program being developed
- AFL (Assessment for Learning) initiatives
 - All teachers involved in district wide implementation (September 26, 2008) with Ruth Sutton
 - Cross Grade/Subject area discussion groups led by our teacher webcast leaders
 - Increased participation in Ministry webcasts
 - Curriculum coordinators embedding AFL in their workshops
 - First Steps in Math – 60 teachers trained in diagnostic techniques by end of school year
 - Many schools doing action research around assessment as part of their involvement with Performance Based Schools
- Succession Leadership
 - Third year involvement with cohorts of 20 teacher leaders in tri district leadership and Island Leadership Coalition
 - Third year involvement in BCELC supporting leadership development
- FSA - 81 % of students who were not yet meeting in Grade 4 FSA results wrote and passed English 10
- District Early Success Kindergarten Assessment results indicate improvement in the last two years

	Total	At Risk
June 2006	N=505	28%
June 2007	N=452	20%
June 2008	N=478	20%

C. Challenging Areas/Supporting Data/Actions

Challenges	Supporting Data	Actions																																	
<p>1. Student Achievement</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Early Success Kindergarten Assessment for our Aboriginal students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 38% of all Aboriginal kindergarten students at risk 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District Focus on Student Achievement, Transition, and Grad Completion rates • Instructional Improvement • Families of Schools • Instructional Practice Focus • Monthly Principals' Meetings Focus on Student Achievement and Transition • Group marking in Grades 4/5 for DART • Inservice on planning for instruction based on DART results • First Steps in Math gives diagnostic tools to inform instructional practice • Reconfigure Alt Ed to reconnect students to their home schools • Return of 2008 Summer School allows continuous progress and catch-up • K-12 Families of schools creating Transition Action Plans 08/09 • Koksilah Gr 7 Pilot Project • Integrating assessment for learning strategies into instructional practice 																																	
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grad rate (six year completion) for our Aboriginal students 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • District Aboriginal completion 35% → Provincial 48-49% 																																		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Gr 3-9 students “not yet within and approaching” in Reading (DART) 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade 3 - 33% NYW & App, Grade 5 – 35% NYW & App, Grade 7 – 41% NYW & App, Grade 9 – 56% NYW & App 																																		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • % of students writing DART in middle school 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • 5-7% of students in grades 7-9 did not write: need to explore further 																																		
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Numeracy results 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Consistently below Provincial average in Grade 4 and 7 FSA 																																		
<p>2. Transitions</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Grade 10-11 transitions significantly below provincial transition rates 	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th rowspan="2"></th> <th colspan="2">Gr 10 or higher</th> <th colspan="2">Gr 11 or higher</th> </tr> <tr> <th>Dist</th> <th>Prov</th> <th>Dist</th> <th>Prov</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>02/03</td> <td>77</td> <td>89</td> <td>74</td> <td>79</td> </tr> <tr> <td>03/04</td> <td>86</td> <td>90</td> <td>75</td> <td>80</td> </tr> <tr> <td>04/05</td> <td>89</td> <td>90</td> <td>75</td> <td>81</td> </tr> <tr> <td>05/06</td> <td>84</td> <td>89</td> <td>73</td> <td>82</td> </tr> <tr> <td>06/07</td> <td>85</td> <td>90</td> <td>74</td> <td>83</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		Gr 10 or higher		Gr 11 or higher		Dist	Prov	Dist	Prov	02/03	77	89	74	79	03/04	86	90	75	80	04/05	89	90	75	81	05/06	84	89	73	82	06/07	85	90	74	83
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<p>3. Grad Rates</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Provincial Grad rate 8-9% higher than the District 	<table border="1"> <thead> <tr> <th></th> <th>05/06</th> <th>06/07</th> <th>07/08</th> </tr> </thead> <tbody> <tr> <td>District</td> <td>71</td> <td>71</td> <td>72</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Province</td> <td>80.4</td> <td>79.9</td> <td>--</td> </tr> </tbody> </table>		05/06	06/07	07/08	District	71	71	72	Province	80.4	79.9	--																						
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D. Other Observations

- Continue to work at improving relations with Aboriginal Community
- FSA inquiry
 - Examine the link between Grade 4 FSA and Grade 10 English exam results provided by Ministry.
 - 68 out of 84 students who were not meeting expectations on the Grade 4 FSA reading were successful on the English 10 provincial exam. The enquiry is related to the fact that not all Grade 10 students wrote the Grade 10 English provincial exam. We need to go deeper into this data.
 - Examine who is not writing and why
- Data tracking
 - Struggle to access and work with District data as we transition to BCeSIS. Currently our data is housed in a multiple number of places-BCeSIS, Ministry (SADE; Trax), Windsor, Willocks, and Turbo. It will be better when our implementation is complete.