



Blueberry School

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Blueberry School



Development Plan 2022 - 2023



PARKLAND
SCHOOL DIVISION

Digging Deep

“Supporting all Learners to Meet Their Future” is the tagline for Blueberry School, and speaks to our focus on assisting all students to achieve at their highest academic level, while developing the skills necessary to succeed beyond the walls of our school. Our staff want the best for our students and rely on data-driven, research based practices to ensure academic excellence. For the 2022-23 school year, we are looking deeper at our work with excellence in literacy and numeracy, along with a renewed focus on student well being, and community, equity and belonging.



In April 2022, the Government of Alberta announced the implementation of a new curriculum beginning in September 2022. The categories of the new curriculum include:

- Kindergarten - Grade 3 English Language Arts and Literature
- Kindergarten - Grade 3 Mathematics
- Kindergarten - Grade 6 Physical Education and Wellness

It is essential to provide Professional Development for teachers to address new curricular outcomes to build competency in instructional practices. This Professional Development will be completed at both a school level and divisional level in partnership with our Division Principals of Literacy and Numeracy. Increased focus will be dedicated to small group work within classrooms as well as intervention programs to both extend and support student learning. Blueberry is fortunate to have a well-established literacy and numeracy focus and plan, that will continue as we implement the new curriculum.

As we emerge from the challenges brought forward from a global pandemic, there is a desire from students, staff and community to work together towards renewed partnerships and engagement to the benefit of all. Our school is not only a spectacular place to learn in regards to academics, but also an important resource for developing lifelong skills such as teamwork, resilience, personal responsibility, engagement and global citizenship.

Parkland School Division’s Vision and Mission align with these priorities:

Vision

Our students possess the confidence, resilience, insight and skills required to thrive in, and positively impact the world.

Mission

We assure supportive learning environments, meaningful experiences and healthy relationships that create opportunities to develop resilience, to gain diversity in perspective and to achieve enduring success.



Parkland School Division Education Plan

Blueberry School's areas of focus are derived from [Parkland School Division's Education Plan](#). The Domains specific to Blueberry's goals for 2022-23 are *Student Growth and Achievement* and *Teaching and Leading*.

Domain	Assurance Element				
Student Growth and Achievement	Students Demonstrate Success		Students Demonstrate Well-Being		
Teaching and Leading	PSD Staff Build Systems and Structures that Promote Success and Well-Being	PSD Staff Expand Success in Literacy and Numeracy		PSD Staff Develop and Apply Indigenous Foundational Knowledge	
Learning Supports	Support Systems Increase Success and Well-Being	Support Systems Promote Care, Respect and Safety		Support Systems Promote Equity, Community and Belonging	
Governance	Trustees Foster Quality Learning and Wellness to Promote Student Achievement	Trustees Engage, Listen and Advocate	Trustees Demonstrate Responsibility	Trustees Plan for Continual Improvement	Trustees Foster Community Relationships
Local and Societal Context	Staff, Students and Stakeholders Respond to Unique and Diverse Cultural, Social and Economic Factors				

Assurance Element 2: Students Demonstrate Well-Being

Students engage in healthy and fulfilling social behaviours and invest in their own well-being, while promoting a positive sense of self and belonging in others.

Assurance Element 4: 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.

Assurance Element (new): Teachers and Leaders Promote Equity, Community and Belonging

Teachers and leaders demonstrate, and ensure, that a sense of belonging, for all staff, students and community members, exists in all places.



What data are we digging up?



Literacy (Reading)

Beginning with our youngest learners, Blueberry School took on a deeper focus on phonological awareness skills during the 2021-22 school year. This enabled staff to have specific data to inform instruction in early literacy skills. This essential work will continue in 2022-23 in alignment with our school goals and the new curriculum put forward by the Alberta Government.

Specific actions are outlined in the strategies portion of this plan.

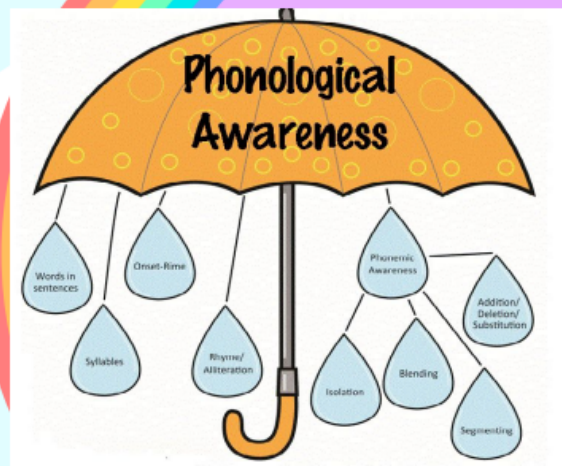
Grade Level of Students	Percent of Students scoring 50% or below on baseline QPAS assessment June 2022 (current state)	Projected Percent of Students scoring below 50% on QPAS assessment June 2023 (desired state)
Kindergarten	25%	10%

Phonological Awareness

An umbrella term that includes four developmental levels:

- Word awareness
- Syllable awareness
- Onset-rime awareness
- Phonemic awareness

Phonological awareness activities are considered “lights off” or “eyes closed” activities. Once the use of letters are incorporated, the focus shifts to phonics.

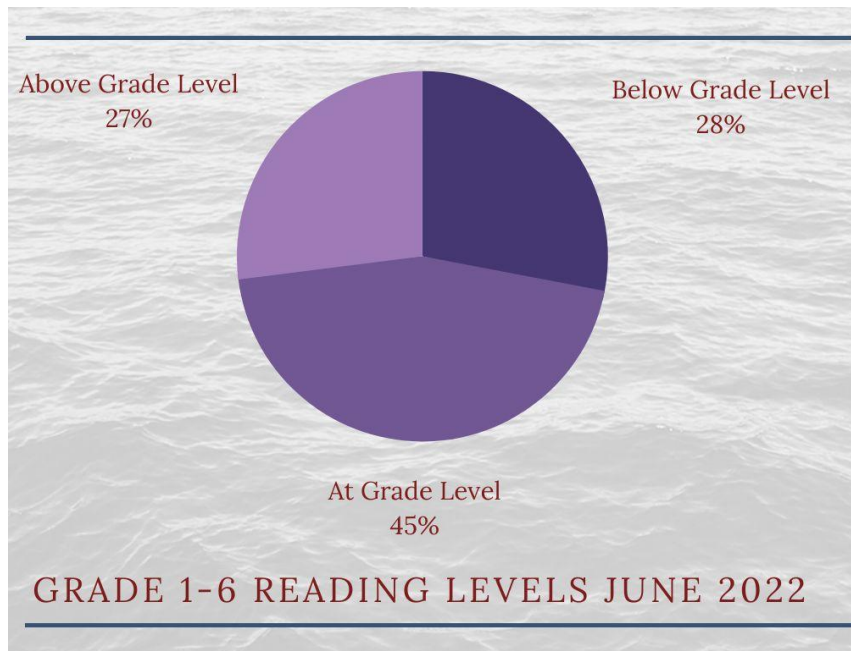


<https://wmwalton91.educatorpages.com/pages/phonological-awareness>

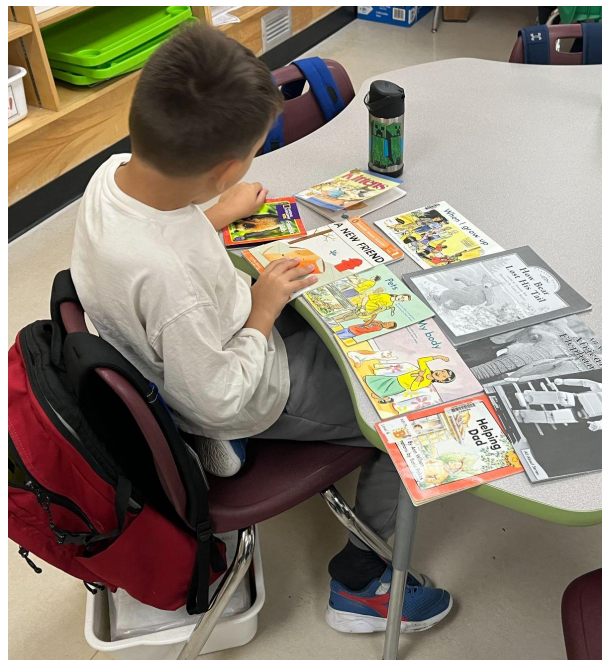
During the 2021-22 school year, students were identified in grades 1-3 for the Alberta Government's Learning Loss Intervention program based on their reading level and phonological awareness skills. Strategic and purposeful daily intervention supported gains in this area, and this work will continue to be a primary area of focus for the 2022-23 school year.

Grade Level of Students	Percent of Students Requiring Intervention 2021-22 (current state)	Projected Percent of Students Requiring Intervention June 2023 (desired state)
Grade 1	57%	40%
Grade 2	30%	35%
Grade 3	28%	15%





As the chart above highlights, 72% of students in Grades 1-6 were reading at or above the expected level in June 2022. There is a need for both extension for these learners as well as support for the 28% of students who are reading below the expected level.



Blueberry has embarked on a new baseline assessment tool closely linked to the Provincial Achievement Test categories for Language Arts called the RCAT (Reading Comprehension Assessment Tool) with students Grades 7 - 9. This assessment is used throughout the year to determine student performance in reading comprehension. Results from the 2021-22 school year indicate a significant need to support students in Jr High to develop reading comprehension skills.

RCAT Results June 2022

Grade Level of Students	Percent of Students Achieving at an Insufficient Level (Below grade level)	Percent of Students Achieving at a Competent or Excellent level
Grade 7	12%	65%
Grade 8	20%	51%
Grade 9	30%	25%

Literacy (Writing)



Blueberry school is committed to having a clear scope and sequence for writing spanning Grades 1-9. Professionals intentionally plan for different forms of writing throughout the year and use common rubrics to assess student achievement.

Percent of Students Writing at a Component or Excellent Level June 2022 (current state)	Projected Percent of Students Achieving at a Competent or Excellent Level June 2023 (desired state)
57%	70%



Writing resources supporting different forms and structures of writing.

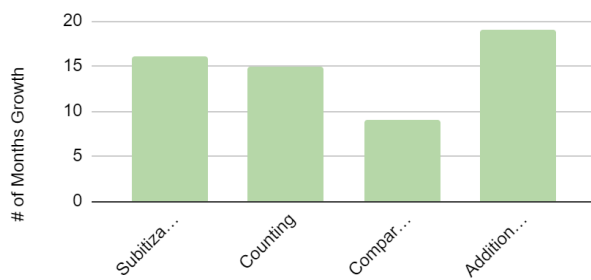


Numeracy



Numeracy data from September 2021 indicated a need for both extension for students achieving at and above the expected level, along with intervention programs to fill gaps in student understanding of key conceptual math understandings. Blueberry School staff embarked on a numeracy intervention program for Grades 1-3, resulting in significant growth for learners below the expected level. During the 2022-23 school year, this focus will continue along with an expansion into upper grades for 4-6. Specific strategies are outlined in the strategy section of this plan.

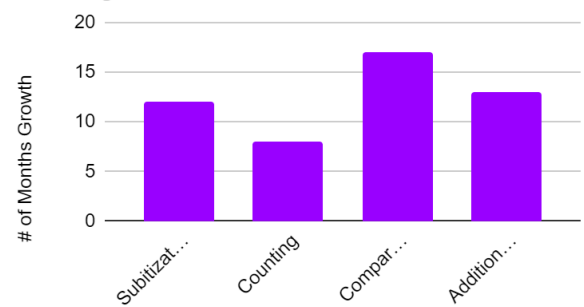
Average Total Months Growth - Grade 1



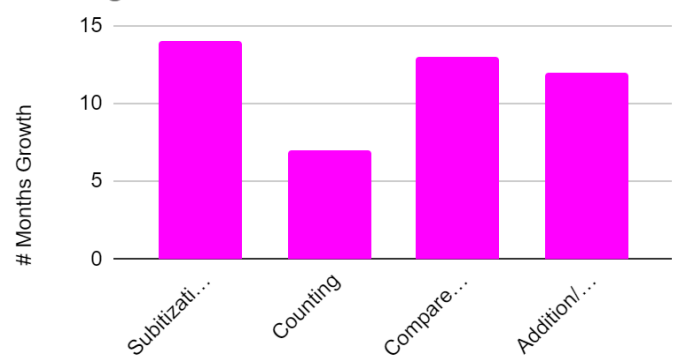
Average Total Months Growth - Grade 1



Average Total Months Growth - Grade 2

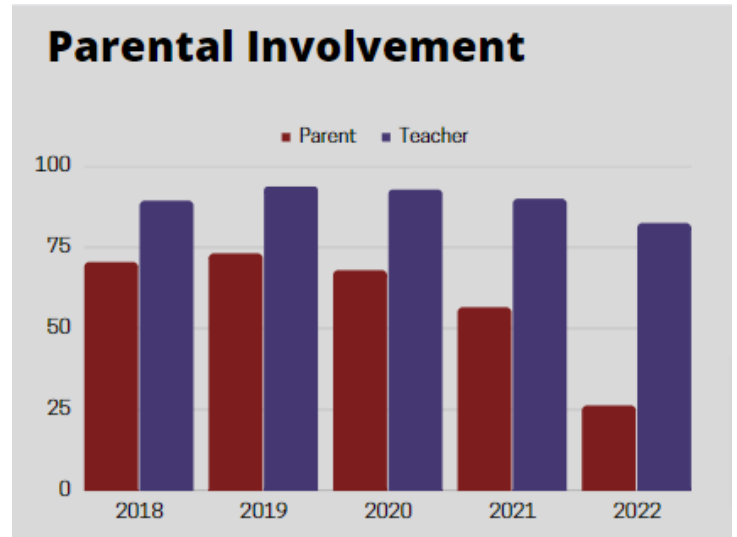
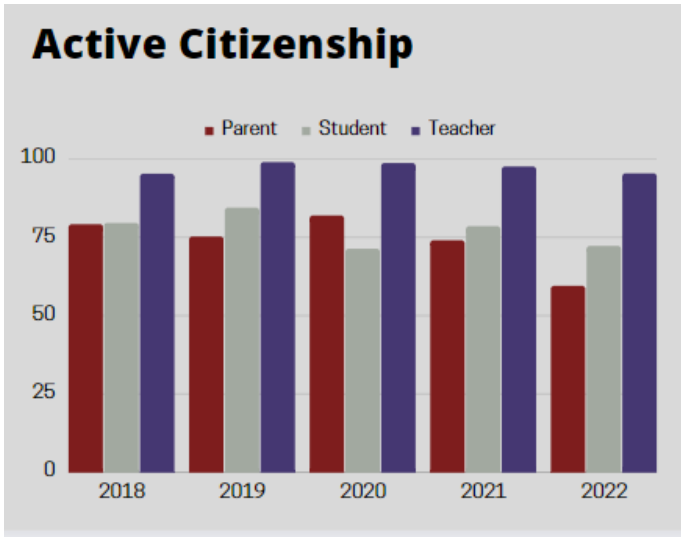


Average Total Months Growth - Grade 3



Community Involvement, Equity and Belonging

Alberta Education Assurance Measure Results from Spring 2022, revealed an area of concern (particularly from parents) of students displaying characteristics of active citizenship. This area is part of Blueberry’s focus on student well-being. Parents and teachers also reported a significant decline in parental involvement in decisions around their child’s education. This data supports a focus on community belonging.





What are the best tools for us to use?

Strategies to Promote Success

Assurance Element 2: Students Demonstrate Well-Being

* Many key strategies to achieve success in this domain are outlined in [Blueberry School's Comprehensive School Health Plan](#).

Strategy	Key Person(s)	Timeline (If applicable)
Phase 1 of New Playground Structure	Mrs. Ferris (Playground Committee Lead) Playground Committee Fundraising Committee Mrs. Visscher PSD Facilities Department Habitat Playgrounds	Ongoing (Order placed June 2022)
Comprehensive School Health Lead Teachers	Certificated Lead and Support Staff Lead	Ongoing
School-based Counselling Services	School Counsellor	Ongoing (6-8 week sessions)
Social Skills Groups	School Counsellor	Ongoing (6-8 week sessions)
Referrals to Community Counselling/Therapy Programs	School Counsellor	Ongoing
STEM partnership with U of A	Lead STEM Teacher	October 2022
Remuda	Administration (Community Partnership)	Fall 2022 and Spring 2023
Nutrition Nook	Designated Staff	Ongoing
Breakfast Club	Designated Staff	October 2022 - May 2023
School Sports Teams	Certificated Staff Community Partnerships	Ongoing
Intramurals Grds 4-9	Certificated Staff	October 2022 - May 2023
Positive Recess Buddies Program	School Counsellor	October 2022 - May 2023
Hot lunch Program	Mrs. Fiddler Administration	October 2022 - May 2023
Field trips including Play Parkland/Ski Club etc	Certificated Staff Administration	Ongoing
Student advisory Council	Administration	October 2022- May 2023
Collaborative Response	Lead Teaching Team	Ongoing (Year 3)

Guiding Lessons for Physical Education and Wellness	Lead PE Teacher	Ongoing
Small group work in areas of Financial Literacy and Student wellness	Lead Elementary Certificated Staff	Ongoing

Assurance Element 4: PSD Staff Expand Success in Literacy and Numeracy

Strategy	Key Person(s)	Timeline (If applicable)
School-wide goals focused on literacy and numeracy and connections to new curriculum during teacher collaboration time	Mrs. Visscher/Mrs. Badry Certificated Staff	August 2022 - June 2023
Identify Lead Literacy and Numeracy Teachers	Lead Literacy and Numeracy Teachers	June 2022
Baseline data collection and meetings to inform instruction in reading, writing and numeracy	Certificated Staff and Administrators	September 2022
Additional Baseline Assessments/Screens with plan to support instruction (Brigance, LeNS, CC3)	Grds K-3 Certificated Staff Administration Lead Literacy and Numeracy Teacher(s)	September 2022
Develop numeracy intervention plan for Grades 4-6	Grd 4-6 Certificated Staff Administration Lead Literacy and Numeracy Teacher(s)	Ongoing
Model research based practices to enhance classroom practice (build capacity)	Lead Literacy and Numeracy Teachers	Ongoing
Levelled Literacy Intervention	Lead Literacy Teachers Support Staff	Ongoing
Phonemic Awareness Groups	Lead Literacy Teacher Support Staff	Ongoing
Kindergarten Literacy Intervention	Kindergarten Certificated Staff Support Staff	Ongoing
Small group instruction in all classrooms Grds K-9	Certificated Staff	Ongoing
Guided Reading and Math practices K-6	Certificated Staff	Ongoing
Academic support to focus on Vocabulary and Comprehension skills Grades 7-9	Jr High Certificated Staff	May 2022 - June 2023
Support of Division Principals and	Division Principals and Facilitators	August 2022 - June 2023

Facilitators to enhance teaching practices		
Extension Groups for Numeracy Grds 4-6	Lead Numeracy Teacher Support Staff	October 2022 - May 2023
Extension Groups for Literacy Grds 2-6	Lead Literacy Teachers Support Staff	October 2022 - May 2023
STEM class to focus on elements of Numeracy (particularly place value) to support transition to new curriculum	Lead STEM Teacher Support Staff	September 2022 - June 2023
Resources to support Comprehension instruction Grds 4 - 9	Lead Literacy Teachers PSD Literacy Facilitators	Ongoing

Assurance Element (new): Teachers and Leaders Promote Equity, Community and Belonging

Strategy	Key Person(s)	Timeline (If applicable)
Promote volunteer opportunities within the school	Administration Certificated Teachers School Council	Ongoing
Enhanced partnerships with community members including local First Nation leaders	Administration PSD Division Principal	Ongoing
Blanket Exercise student leadership group (Grd 8s present to Grd 7s)	Administration Lead Teacher Grd 8 students	October 2022 - June 2023
Reestablish school community events (Meet the teacher, cross country run, Terry Fox run, Track Meets etc)	Administration Certificated Teachers School Council	Ongoing
Recognize Volunteers (appreciation drive-thru, additional events)	Administration Certificated Teachers	May/June 2023
School Council presentations regarding Positive Mental Health and other necessary topics regarding student and family wellness	School Counsellor	November 2022 - May 2023



What is the Blueprint?



Professional Development Plan

Plan may be adjusted based on progress in weekly team time

Day	All staff	K-3 Teachers	4-6 Teachers	Jr High Humanities Teachers	Jr High Math/Science Teachers	Support Staff
August 2022	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Establish focus on school and divisional goals: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Literacy and Numeracy Excellence in teaching practice and achievement Student Wellness Community Equity and Belonging Baseline data (narrative writing sample, MIPI, reading levels, WTW, QPAS, LeNS, CC3) Number talks and writing plan Team time goals by month 					
October 7, 2022	Truth and Reconciliation Learning	New Curriculum Literacy and Numeracy	New Curriculum Phys Ed and Wellness	Small Group Reading and Writing Instruction	Building Thinking Classrooms Book Study Chpts 1-3	LLI and Phono Groups Best Practice for Instruction
January 30, 2023	Truth and Reconciliation Learning	New Curriculum Numeracy Focus	New Curriculum Numeracy Focus	Writing Focus	Analyse PAT results	Partnering with grade level teachers
February 17, 2023	Truth and Reconciliation Learning	Score Non-Fiction Writing Sample and prep next steps in instruction	Score Non-Fiction Writing Sample and prep next steps in instruction	Score Non-Fiction Writing Sample and prep next steps in instruction	Score Mid Year Math assessment - next steps in instruction	Partnering with grade level teachers
March 24, 2023	Truth and Reconciliation Learning Student Health and Wellness	Reading Comprehension Lessons	Reading Comprehension Lessons	Reading Comprehension Lessons based on RCAT results	Diagnostics and Planning	Partnering with grade level teachers
April 28, 2023	Class configurations (<i>self directed</i>)	New Curriculum Numeracy	New Curriculum Numeracy	Test Anxiety Strategies		Partnering with grade level teachers
May 19, 2023	Truth and Reconciliation Learning	Writing and MIPI Plan for/Score year end writing and MIPI as grade level teams. Reflect on baseline assessments in reading, writing and math. - Analyze MIPI questions: what brought the most growth? What needs continued focus? - WTW how will this inform practice for next year?		Year end RCAT analysis Sharing with next year's teacher Identify areas of focus for each student Writing plan for/score year end writing	Reflect on baseline assessments in math. - Analyze MIPI questions: what brought the most growth? What needs continued focus?	Partnering with grade level teachers
June 30, 2023	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> Transition Meetings Year End Tasks 					

What Resources are Needed?



Literacy	Numeracy	Student Wellness/Community Belonging
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Curriculum PD Sessions • Teacher Resources connected to new curriculum • Anchor texts to instruct on Comprehension Strategies Grds 4-9 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Curriculum PD Sessions • Mathology Accounts for K-3 staff • Hands on Math manipulatives (increase resources) • Building Thinking Classrooms resource Grds 7-9 • Teacher resources small group math 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • New Curriculum PD Sessions • Teacher Resources connected to new curriculum (Phys Ed and Wellness) • Partnerships with Community Resources (Breakfast Club of Canada)

How will we measure Success?



Data	Evidence
<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • QPAS assessments (assessment of phonological skills) • LeNS and CC3 assessments (Grd 1) • Reading Levels Grades 1-9 • MIPI results/AB Ed Numeracy Assessment results • RCAT results (Jr High) • Writing samples Grades K-9 • Words Their Way inventories Grades 1-9 • Provincial Achievement Test (PAT) results Grades 6 & 9 • Alberta Education Assurance Measure Results • Conversations with stakeholders 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Small group instruction in all grades K-9 focused on literacy and numeracy • Staff can identify all elements of comprehensive literacy program in their practice • Teachers in grades 1-3 incorporate elements of the numeracy interview into their daily practice • Daily Number talks in all classrooms • Assessment in numeracy incorporates conceptual math understandings • Students feel successful and challenged at their instructional level in literacy and numeracy • Stakeholders are well informed of school area of focus through school council meetings and other engagement opportunities • Sharing of Blueberry's journey with other PSD schools