



WCI's Community Report 2014



Another school year is quickly drawing to a close, and as we reflect on the past ten months, we are encouraged by all we have accomplished as a school and inspired by all that can yet be done. Successful schools are those that are student centered, academically rich, and infused with a positive school climate that is felt by all-students, staff, and the community. This is the essence of our school's Mission Statement that reads, "To enable students to discover and develop their varied potentials and empower them to meet a multitude of diverse experiences by providing a safe, respectful and challenging environment."

As in past years, we aligned this year's school plan with the ISD Strategic Plan for 2011-2014. Within this framework, and with always a focus on improving student achievement, we continued to address student engagement at WCI in the areas of assessment, technology infusion in all curricular areas, and a positive school climate, as well as a strong emphasis on increased awareness and involvement in ESD through projects, curricular content, and global citizenship awareness and responsibility.

Our teachers were interested in focusing on assessment practices to improve their instruction and the engagement of students in their classrooms. To improve their present assessment practices and to learn new ones, they attended workshops, participated in PD sessions in-school, within the division, and outside the division, collaborated and shared practices with colleagues in staff meetings, and did unit planning with co-teachers. The new provincial report card was implemented this year. Professional development in the area of teacher comment writing aligned with grade book assessments resulted in increased and positive professional dialogue and collegial interaction as teachers worked through assessment challenges.

The infusion of technology in all curricular areas was ongoing and exciting. Through surveys, observations, and discussions, it was clear that our students embraced learning through technology and were more engaged in classes when it was part of the learning environment.

By June, 2014, all our students had been involved in ESD projects and /or been made aware of their global responsibility through curricular content. The numerous ESD projects done throughout the year, either in school clubs or classrooms, not only raised awareness but also helped generate student global responsibility and the positive school climate so important and vital to all students' sense of belonging. Some of the 2013-2014 projects students participated in were the Bike Repair Program, Recycle Everywhere Program, Teens for Jeans Campaign, Hallowe'en for Hunger, WE School Initiatives, WCI's Youth Conference on Climate Change, Blanket the Hard Times, CDC Engagement Dinner, Aboriginal Awareness Week, and the Fair Trade Fashion Show. It was impressive how our students, individually, in small groups, or in clubs, demonstrated their knowledge, awareness and understanding of ESD and global citizenship.

Increased student engagement through assessment practices and technology infusion, and ESD promotion through sustainability and global citizenship responsibility were written goals of our school plan this year, and all were enveloped in the unwritten goal that is so important to our school—a positive school climate.

Thank you to all our students, staff, parents, HiPAC, and community members for their contributions to the successes we have had as a school this year. Good luck to all our graduates as they close the doors of WCI and open new doors of opportunity. To all we wish a healthy and happy summer!

See you in September!