

NORTHERN GATEWAY PUBLIC SCHOOLS

THREE YEAR EDUCATION PLAN/ANNUAL EDUCATION RESULTS REPORT OVERVIEW 2014-2015

Northern Gateway Public Schools (NGPS) spans nearly 375 kilometres along Highway 43 from Onoway to Valleyview.

Student Performance

- Good improvement in Diploma Acceptable, scoring above NGPS 3 year average
- High achievement in Safe and Caring, Education Quality, and High School Completion Rate (3 yr.)
- Excellent Low Drop Out Rate
- High achievement in Work Preparation, Citizenship, Parental Involvement and School Improvement
- FNMI above the Provincial FNMI in 6 of the 9 Measures
- FNMI High School Completion Rate well above the Province
- FNMI PAT and Diploma Acceptable both above the Province

Areas for Improvement

- Student Achievement – the % of students achieving the acceptable standard on the PATs
- Student Achievement – the % of students achieving the standard of Excellence on the DIPs and PATs
- The participation rate of grade 10 to 12 students completing 4+ exams
- The achievement of FNMI students compared to the overall student achievement in NGPS
- The Rutherford Scholarship eligibility rate

NGPS Accomplishments

- Language and Literacy Enrichment Program by Khan Communications' SLPs supports the development of Narrative, Phonological and Social Pragmatic skills for students in Kindergarten through grade 2
- An Inclusive Learning experience that is flexible and responsive to the strengths and learning needs of all students
- NGPS coordinated and hosted "Google Summit" – a high intensity two-day professional learning opportunity that focused on deploying, integrating and using Google Apps and Google tools to promote student learning in all areas of the K-12 curriculum.
- Innovation Grant established by NGPS Board of Trustees encouraged schools to explore new ways to enhance student learning. Two examples of projects that evolved are:
 - **Literacy Dog** – Pat Hardy Primary School has a Facility Service Dog called Sage, trained to assist children with learning difficulties and/or high anxiety, increasing student engagement and comfort.
 - **Makerspaces**- Innovative learning spaces where students gather to create, invent and learn, using 3D printers, software, electronics, craft and hardware supplies and tools.
- Beginning Teacher Program provides support (workshops, release time for planning, and a mentor) for teachers in their first year of teaching.
- High School Opportunities like Career and Technology Foundations, Dual Credit, and High School Redesign
- Across NGPS, libraries are transitioning to include inclusive, flexible, learner-centered, physical and/or virtual space for collaboration, inquiry, imagination, and play to expand and deepen learning.

5,010
STUDENTS

298
TEACHERS

121
EDUCATIONAL
ASSISTANTS

19
SCHOOLS

NGPS PRIORITIES

- Student Achievement
- Educational Partnerships
- Student Engagement
- Stakeholder Satisfaction

Community Engagement and Collaboration

- October, 2015 NGPS hosted a Council of School Councils where Parents, Principals, Central Office Staff, and the Board of Trustees met for:
 1. A presentation from the Alberta School Council Association, titled "Effective Engagement in Your School Community"
 2. Discussion and sharing among the School Councils of their success and promising practices
 3. A Board of Trustees facilitated session to bring an awareness of the Education Act and NGPS Accountability Pillar results.
- NGPS uses Thoughtexchange, a group conversation platform, to engage, staff, students, parents, community members and the general public on matters that enhance our understanding of opinion to inform decisions. The tool allows for collaboration and shared input.
- NGJSET (Northern Gateway Jurisdictional Student Engagement Team) Ten students, representing each of the five NGPS high schools, are giving students a voice at the table with collaborating partners in education.
- Educational Partnerships
NGPS schools engage in educational partnerships within their communities to expand and enhance student learning. These partnerships may be short term as a CTS student creating a promotional video, or long term e.g. Work Experience, Registered Apprenticeship Program (RAP) and Dual Credit Programs.
- During Education Week schools plan special activities and assemblies that bring parents and community members into the schools.
- NGPS helped organize the second annual Whitecourt and Area Career and Education Expo – an opportunity for students to explore potential career pathways

Outcomes

- Students achieve student learning outcomes
- Students demonstrate a strong foundation in Literacy and Numeracy
- Teacher preparation and professional growth focus on the competencies needed to help students learn
- Effective learning and teaching is achieved through collaborative leadership
- The education system demonstrates collaboration and engagement
- Students and communities have access to safe and healthy learning environments
- The achievement gap between First Nations, Métis and Inuit (FNMI) students and all other students is eliminated

