

School District 8 Education Plan 2005-08 Provincial Quality Learning Agenda

District Beliefs

Purpose: We believe the purpose of public education is to provide learning opportunities to enhance aesthetic awareness, critical thinking skills and a desire for life-long learning in order for students to contribute to society and respond to a global community.

Relationships: We believe that productive working relationships require a collaborative atmosphere predicated on trust and respect where all individuals are encouraged to take creative risks to move the organization toward achieving its goals.

Leadership: We believe that effective leadership encourages the educational community to thrive individually and collectively while maintaining a focus in support of key improvement areas.

Teaching and Learning: We believe teaching focuses on the development of the whole child who is nurtured by all adults in the educational community. It requires knowledge, flexibility and enthusiasm to inspire in students a strong desire for life long learning.

Curriculum: We are committed to delivering the curriculum in a way that enhances the learning potential of all students and contributes to the acquisition of skills while developing an awareness of the uniqueness and diversity of our community, thus enhancing student success.

External Assessments Reviewed

Provincial Assessments

Literacy: Grade 2 Reading Comprehension & Writing, Grade 7 Language Arts Pilot 2004, Grade 10 English Arts Re-assessment, Grade 12 FSL Oral Proficiency

Math: Grade 5, Grade 8

Other data considered

New Brunswick Schools Literacy Project (a Canadian Research Institute for Social Policy initiative) - Kindergarten assessments 2004-05 (Provincial pilot)
New Brunswick Teachers' Association Math Survey
PISA

District Data Reviewed

Literacy: Elementary Intervention Program, New Brunswick Schools Literacy Project (Kindergarten), Grade 4 writing assessment , Grade 6, 9, 11 Language Arts district exams.

Math: Grades 2, 3, 4 ,6,7, 9, 10, 11 assessments

New Brunswick Schools Literacy Project - Kindergarten Assessment District results 2004-05 (pilot – 4 schools) and the Teacher's School Readiness Inventory

Improvement Focus / Based on Data

Literacy K-12 with foci on early literacy acquisition and middle grades reading and writing

Numeracy K-12 with a focus for intervention at grades 5 & 8; common exams in grades 9 & 11

Professional Growth : Staff development to improve teacher effectiveness, primary focus in literacy and numeracy

Other initiatives relative to the Quality Learning Agenda (i.e. K-3 literacy intervention)

Assessment Schedule 2005 – 2006

Date	Grade	Provincial Assessments	District Assessments	Notes
October 2005	7	Literacy Assessment		
November 2005	Kindergarten	Teacher's School Readiness Inventory		
November 2005	9-12	English Language Proficiency Assessment/Reassessment		
Nov./ Dec. 2005	12	FSL Oral Proficiency Evaluation – 1 st semester		
January 2006	9 & 11		Mathematics	High School Common Exam
March 2006	10	FSL Oral Proficiency Evaluation – 2 nd semester		Random Sample
April 2006	10	FSL Literacy Assessment		
	12	FSL Oral Proficiency Evaluation – 2 nd semester		
May 2006	High School	PISA		International Random Sample, 15 yr. olds
	6, 8, 11		English Language Arts	Marked at school, District to use random sample for scoring comparison
June 2006	2	Literacy- Reading and Writing		
	4	Literacy (Pilot) – Reading and Writing		
	5 & 8	Mathematics		
	3 & 6		Mathematics	May 29- June 1
	9 & 11		Mathematics	High School Common Exam

Quality Teaching and Learning for all Students

Quality Learning Agenda Targets and Objectives	District 8 Goals 2005-2008	Strategies	Funding Source
<p>QLA 10 year target: <u>School Readiness</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - All children will enter kindergarten “school ready”. 	<p>Increase the number of children entering school with improved readiness skills as measured by Teacher’s School Readiness Inventory (introduced Sept 2005).</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Encourage early intervention for pre-kindergarten children in need. ○ Continue pre-school screening initiatives that focus on school readiness. ○ Conduct early kindergarten registration. ○ Participate in research projects such as the New Brunswick Schools Literacy Project (a CRISP initiative) and Understanding the Early Years (a federal government initiative). ○ Coordinate with schools to offer readiness sessions for pre-K children and parent information meetings on school readiness topics. 	<p>QLA Funding – Transition to Kindergarten</p>
<p>QLA 10 year target: <u>Early Literacy</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 90% of Grade 2 students will read at grade level, and 20% of these students will read at a superior level. 	<p>Increase the number of Grade 2 students who can read at grade level as measured by the provincial Grade 2 Reading Comprehension Assessment.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Continue the commitment to K-3 literacy (English and Immersion). ○ Monitor the impact of intervention initiatives on student learning. ○ Support continued professional development including training for intervention teachers, a balanced literacy approach in all classrooms, and a focus on writing (First Steps). ○ Identify and provide professional resources and materials to support literacy instruction in K-3. ○ Identify and intervene with students who rated “experiencing difficulty” in the Grade 2 assessment. 	<p>QLA Positions District Budget</p>

Quality Learning Agenda Targets and Objectives	District 8 Goals 2005-2008	Strategies	Funding Source
<p>QLA 10 year target: <u>Academic Achievement</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 85% of all NB students will achieve or exceed acceptable levels on provincial assessments of language (literacy). 	<p>Raise the level of student achievement in literacy as measured by provincial assessments.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Support a focus on literacy across the curriculum in all schools. ○ Develop and implement a literacy intervention initiative for middle school students who require additional learning support. ○ In-service teachers on literacy topics including reading assessment kits, a balanced approach to literacy instruction, best practices in teaching writing and new instructional resources. ○ Develop a plan for district literacy assessments at Grades 6, 8 and 11. ○ Develop a collaborative community with various cultural advocates and groups on English Second Language instruction and other literacy initiatives. 	<p>QLA Funding – Teacher Mentoring and Subject Area Strengthening</p> <p>District Budget</p>
<p>QLA 10 year target: <u>Academic Achievement</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 85% of all NB students will achieve or exceed acceptable levels on provincial assessments of mathematics. 	<p>Raise the level of student achievement in mathematics as measured by provincial assessments.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Increase the focus on K-12 mathematics teaching and learning. ○ Expand professional development for teachers to enhance their knowledge and skills in the teaching of mathematics and assessing math curriculum outcomes with a focus on resource and methods teachers. ○ Develop and implement math intervention initiatives for students requiring additional learning support at the grade 5 and 8 levels. ○ Implement an alignment of district math assessments with the key stage outcomes identified in the <u>Foundation for the Atlantic Canada Mathematics Curriculum</u> document. ○ Continue with year two of the PRIME (Professional Resources and Instruction for Mathematics Educators) pilot and the First Steps Mathematics initiative. 	<p>QLA Funding – Mathematics Professional Development</p>

Quality Learning Agenda Targets and Objectives	District 8 Goals 2005-2008	Strategies	Funding Source
<p>QLA 10 year target: <u>Academic Achievement</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 85% of all NB students will achieve or exceed acceptable levels on provincial assessment of science. 	<p>Raise the level of student achievement in science as measured by international, national and provincial assessments.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Expand opportunities for teachers to further their knowledge and skills in the teaching and assessment of science. ○ Encourage and support initiatives to enrich science teaching and learning such as science fairs and accessing community resources. ○ Collaborate with teachers in the development of a common assessment for Grade 9 and 10 science. 	<p>QLA Funding – Science Professional Development</p>
<p>QLA 10 year target: <u>Second Language Proficiency</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - 70% of all high school graduates will be able to function effectively when speaking their second official language. 	<p>Raise the level of student achievement in French Second Language as measured by provincial assessments.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provide in-service and professional development for immersion teachers in literacy, instructional resources and assessment. ○ Promote participation in out-of –class experiences that foster French culture and language learning including Dialogue Nouveau Brunswick, French Oratorical Competition, student exchanges, work exchanges, and Circle Square Ranch. ○ Research the French Intensive Core program in relation to implementation challenges, program results and feasibility of program implementation in District 8. 	<p>QLA Funding – French Pedagogy Professional Development</p>
<p>QLA objective: <u>Ensure students achieve at the highest standards of excellence</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Expand enrichment opportunities for all students and provide additional challenges to support high achieving students. 	<p>Increase the number of students participating in enrichment experiences as measured by student registration data.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Encourage schools to engage in opportunities and initiatives that challenge all students such as science fairs, Math Olympics, heritage fairs and study groups. ○ Develop partnerships to support and enhance enrichment opportunities for all students. ○ Collaborate on the improvement and expansion of on-line enrichment resources for use by all schools. ○ Consult with schools to support and facilitate initiatives that meet the individual needs and interests of high achieving students. ○ Support and promote Advanced Placement, International Baccalaureate courses and other post-secondary opportunities for high school students. 	<p>District Enrichment Budget</p>

Quality Learning Agenda Targets and Objectives	District 8 Goals 2005-2008	Strategies	Funding Source
<p>QLA objective: <u>Promote strong, successful schools within involved communities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Challenge and support students with a range of particular needs 	<p>Raise the achievement level of students with diverse learning needs as measured by the special education plans.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ In-service all teachers on various teaching techniques and learning challenges relative to children with diverse learning needs. ○ Train all teachers on the use of the electronic Special Education Plan. ○ Develop a coordinated approach to the acquisition and use of assistive technology for special needs learners. ○ In-service teachers on the provincial Autism Spectrum Disorder document and develop a support network for teachers on teaching autistic children. ○ Promote and support the collaborative model as a “best practice” in meeting the needs of all learners. 	<p>Student Services Budget</p>
<p>QLA objective: <u>Support successful transitions to further learning and training</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Provide quality guidance and career counselling. 	<p>Increase opportunities for students to access career counselling and facilitate successful transitions from school to work and post-secondary study.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Provide in-service to a team of guidance counsellors in technological applications to career counselling. ○ Support guidance counsellors in the development and implementation of a school based approach to the use of student portfolios. ○ Conduct information sessions for teachers in the Beginning Teacher Induction program on career planning and post-secondary options for students. ○ Coordinate annual career information events such as Post-Secondary Days and Take Your Kids to Work. ○ Continue to support the career centre, cooperative education and youth apprenticeship. 	<p>District Budget</p>

Leadership

Quality Learning Agenda Targets and Objectives	District 8 Goals 2005-2008	Strategies	Funding Source
<p>QLA objective: <u>Promote strong, successful schools within involved communities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure strong school leadership. 	<p>Raise the competency level of school administrators in instructional leadership as measured by the District's Administrator Performance Review.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Promote and support the Leadership Development initiative. ○ Continue the implementation of the teacher review process. ○ In-service school administrators in supervision of instruction methods such as Walk Through. ○ Work with school administrators to address pedagogical matters including planning, curriculum and assessment. ○ Encourage school administrators to champion school-based teams to address teaching and learning. ○ Support new administrators in the Beginning Administrators Program. ○ Continue the Administrator's Review process to give performance feedback to school administrators. 	<p>QLA Funding – Teacher Mentoring and Instructional Leadership</p> <p>District Budget</p>

Professional Practices

Quality Learning Agenda Targets and Objectives	District 8 Goals 2005-2008	Strategies	Funding Source
<p>QLA objective: <u>Promote strong, successful schools within involved communities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Promote quality teaching 	<p>Promote a culture of teacher professionalism as measured by participation data.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Employ the Professional Growth Plan model to engage teachers in professional development that supports best practices in teaching, technology use and understanding the learner. ○ Implement an expanded Beginning Teacher Induction Program to support new teachers. ○ Plan and coordinate professional development activities such as the professional seminar series, introduction of new instructional resources and district initiated sessions on effective teaching and learning. ○ Enhance teacher access to professional resources with the development of a professional resource centre. ○ Support teachers who have been reassigned to a new grade level using mentor support, coaching, professional resources and in-service. 	<p>District Budget</p> <p>QLA Funding – Teacher Mentoring and Subject Area Strengthening</p>

Positive Learning Environment

Quality Learning Agenda Targets and Objectives	District 8 Goals 2005-2008	Strategies	Funding Source
<p>QLA objective: <u>Ensure students achieve at the highest standards of excellence</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure a disciplined, positive school environment 	<p>Provide a safe and orderly environment for teaching and learning as measured by various data (i.e. behaviour tracking, guidance referrals, parent involvement)</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Support the acquisition of resources (i.e. print, audio visual, experts) and the use of strategies to foster positive student behaviours. ○ Collaborate with community agencies on student conduct and safety issues. ○ Promote the need for schools to seek continued and varied feedback on school climate. ○ Use behaviour tracking data to identify and address areas of concern. 	<p>District Budget</p>
<p>QLA objective: <u>Promote strong, successful schools within involved communities</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Ensure safe, healthy learning and working environments 	<p>Support schools in the implementation of policies and guidelines designed to ensure a safe and healthy learning and work environment as measured by policy compliance.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ○ Monitor annual updates of emergency and critical response plans. ○ Support and monitor school based Health and Safety Committees. ○ Promote resources to enable effective implementation of the Nutrition Policy. ○ Continue to monitor the Physical Education Safety Guidelines for curriculum, intramural and co-curricular based activities. ○ Monitor compliance with the criminal record check requirement for volunteers in the schools. 	<p>District Budget</p>