



School Education Results Report

2014/2015

Joseph Welsh Elementary





The Year in Review

Fast Facts:

Joseph Welsh Elementary
4401 37 Avenue
Red Deer, Alberta T4N 2T5
Phone: 403-346-6377
Fax: 403-346-5187
Website: <http://jwelsh.rdpsd.ab.ca/>

Principal: Bill Kwasny
Vice Principal: Teresa Tataryn

Student Profile:

- Pre-kindergarten = 34
- Kindergarten = 52
- Grade 1 = 63
- Grade 2 = 60
- Grade 3 = 54
- Grade 4 = 49
- Grade 5 = 54
- Total Students = 366
- ESL Students = 21
- FNMI Students = 26

Staff Profile:

- 24 Teachers = 18.7 FTE
- 15 Classified Staff = 10.4 FTE
- 2 Facility Services Staff = 1.5 FTE
- 41 Total Staff

New directions:

Joseph Welsh Elementary has focused our professional development on the RDPSD Pyramid of Support and the Cross-curricular Competencies. The staff has investigated project based learning and how to meet the needs of all students through the use of these projects. We are continuing our work with the Zones of Regulations and are excited to see how the Seven Grandfathers' Teachings correlate with the Seven Habits.

Opportunities and challenges:

There are many challenges and opportunities in schools. Currently our school is looking forward to our technology evergreening process. Over the next year our school will be purchasing new technology that will provide the platform for all students to become technology literate. We are looking forward to new computers that will make the processes involved in project based learning smoother and quicker. This fits very well in our literacy goal.

A year of success:

Red Deer Public Schools continues to provide high quality learning opportunities for our students. We are proud of the achievements of our students and of the learning opportunities provided for them, reflecting both our vision: "A culture of respect, inclusion, caring and excellence, where every student succeeds" and the mission of the Red Deer Public Schools: "Striving for excellence by inspiring learning and nurturing hope in every student."

Accountability Pillar Overall Summary
School: 4443 Joseph Welsh School

Measure Category	Measure Category Evaluation	Measure	Joseph Welsh School			Alberta			Measure Evaluation		
			Current Result	Prev Year Result	Prev 3 Yr Average	Current Result	Prev Year Result	Prev 3 Yr Average	Achievement	Improvement	Overall
Safe and Caring Schools	Excellent	Safe and Caring	89.7	88.5	89.3	89.2	89.1	88.9	Very High	Maintained	Excellent
Student Learning Opportunities	n/a	Program of Studies	85.7	83.6	85.4	81.3	81.3	81.2	Very High	Maintained	Excellent
		Education Quality	96.3	92.3	92.9	89.5	89.2	89.5	Very High	Improved	Excellent
		Drop Out Rate	n/a	n/a	n/a	3.4	3.3	3.3	n/a	n/a	n/a
		High School Completion Rate (3 yr)	n/a	n/a	n/a	76.4	74.9	74.6	n/a	n/a	n/a
Student Learning Achievement (Grades K-9)	n/a	PAT: Acceptable	n/a	n/a	n/a	73.0	73.1	73.9	n/a	n/a	n/a
		PAT: Excellence	n/a	n/a	n/a	18.8	18.4	18.9	n/a	n/a	n/a
Student Learning Achievement (Grades 10-12)	n/a	Diploma: Acceptable	n/a	n/a	n/a	85.2	85.5	84.6	n/a	n/a	n/a
		Diploma: Excellence	n/a	n/a	n/a	21.0	21.1	20.0	n/a	n/a	n/a
		Diploma Exam Participation Rate (4+ Exams)	n/a	n/a	n/a	54.9	50.5	54.4	n/a	n/a	n/a
		Rutherford Scholarship Eligibility Rate	n/a	n/a	n/a	61.2	60.9	61.3	n/a	n/a	n/a
Preparation for Lifelong Learning, World of Work, Citizenship	n/a	Transition Rate (6 yr)	n/a	n/a	n/a	59.8	59.2	59.0	n/a	n/a	n/a
		Work Preparation	85.7	79.2	83.3	82.0	81.2	80.4	High	Maintained	Good
		Citizenship	84.1	91.2	87.1	83.5	83.4	83.1	Very High	Maintained	Excellent
Parental Involvement	Good	Parental Involvement	78.6	75.9	80.5	80.7	80.6	80.2	High	Maintained	Good
Continuous Improvement	Good	School Improvement	77.8	83.9	81.7	79.6	79.8	80.1	High	Maintained	Good

District Goal

Literacy

Outcome

- Each learner is a proficient reader and writer across the curriculum.
- Each learner is numerate.
- Each learner will discover, develop and apply, competencies across the curriculum.

District Performance Measures

- **Percentage of teachers who employ benchmarking as a strategy to measure student growth in literacy.**

Number of Classrooms	Classrooms using benchmarking	Percentage
14	14	100

- **Percentage of students in grades 1 to 8 who are reading/literate within 1 year of grade level. (RDP)**

Number of students	Students who are reading/writing within one year	Percentage
280	238	85

Comment on Results: Analysis and Action

- All teachers at Joseph Welsh benchmark for reading using Fountas and Pinnell. Support is provided for students through the use of Daily Five and Scholastic Reading as well as the support of Educational Assistants and our Learning Support Team
- The understanding of literacy has been expanded to include a focus on mathematical literacy as well.
- Grade one team has developed and used Share and Shine as a method of increasing communication with families. Families are invited to the classroom monthly where students share their work and show their families how to support literacy in the home.
- Literacy Week focused on a variety of skills and activities including reading, physical literacy, music and numeracy.
- Teachers worked on differentiating instruction in reading and writing using guided reading, adapting assignments, and implementation of Daily 5 and Literacy CAFE.

District Goal

Equity For All Students

Outcome

- Each student is engaged in meaningful learning that is appropriate to his or her abilities and takes place in the most enabling environment.
- Each staff member has the ability to meet the diverse needs of all students.
- Each student is able to access the supports and services they need to achieve success.

Alberta Education Performance Measures

- **Teacher and parent satisfaction with parental involvement in decisions about their child's education.**

Performance Measure	Results (in percentages)				
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Percentage of teachers and parents satisfied with parental involvement in decisions about their child's education.	87.3	83.9	81.7	75.9	78.6

- **Overall agreement that students are safe at school, learning the importance of caring for others, learning respect for others and are treated fairly at school.**

Performance Measure	Results (in percentages)				
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Percentage of teacher, parent and student agreement that: students are safe at school, are learning the importance of caring for others, are learning respect for others and are treated fairly in school.	89.2	89.5	89.8	88.5	89.7

District Performance Measures

- **Survey results specific to inclusion for all students.** Percentage of satisfied/very satisfied

Students	Parents	Staff	Overall
100	100	87	95.6

- **Number of students identified and monitored by LAT model.**

Number of targeted and specialized students (Tier 2 & 3) who are directly identified and monitored by the Learning Team through: assistive technology, ISP development, facilitating assessments, coordination of services, etc.	56
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- **Percentage of staff engaged with the LAT.**

Staff who are meaningfully, actively and frequently collaborating with the Learning Assistance Team (grades K to 8) or Curriculum Leader/Counselling Staff (grades 9 to 12) toward increased achievement of students.	100
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- **Percentage of teachers self-reporting they incorporate strategies to differentiate instruction to meet the needs of students in their classrooms.**

Percentage of staff who strongly agree that they incorporate differentiated instruction in their teaching.	31
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Comment on Results: Analysis and Action

The school learning team met on a regular basis with AHS, our counsellor and Family Wellness Worker to discuss student needs. Classroom teachers were invited to attend the meetings for support of students with diverse learning needs requiring targeted support. The use of Zones of Regulation continues to grow. Common language is used throughout the school and students are able to identify their zone and support other students in the use of the Zones of Regulation. Students with ESL needs and students self-identified as FNMI receive support as needed through a variety of programs.

District Goal

High School Completion and Transitions

Outcome

- Students acquire the competencies needed for a changing and dynamic future.
- Students complete high school making successful transitions to lifelong learning, careers and active citizenship.
- All students from K to 12 are supported with the goal of high school completion and successful transitions.

Alberta Education Performance Measure

- **Overall agreement that students model the characteristics of active citizenship.**

Performance Measure	Results (in percentages)				
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Percentage of teachers, parents and students who are satisfied that students model the characteristics of active citizenship.	87.8	88.2	81.7	91.2	84.1

- **Overall agreement that students are taught attitudes and behaviour that will make them successful at work when they finish school.**

Performance Measure	Results (in percentages)				
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Percentage of teachers and parents who agree that students are taught attitudes and behaviours that will make them successful at work when they finish school.	95.8	89.5	81.2	79.2	85.7

- **Overall satisfaction with the opportunity for students to receive a broad program of studies, including fine arts, career, technology and health and physical education.**

Performance Measure	Results (in percentages)				
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Percentage of teachers, parents and students satisfied with the opportunity for students to receive a broad program of studies including fine arts, career, technology, and health and physical education.	87.0	87.8	84.6	83.6	85.7

- **Students identified with attendance issues.**

Number of students whose attendance has been identified as an issue and attendance is impacting their academic achievement.	0
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- **Survey results specific to high school completion and transitions.** Percentage of satisfied/very satisfied

Students	Parents	Staff	Overall
100	98	93	97

- **Suspension rates.**

Students in school	Number of out of school suspensions for three or more days	Incident Rate (% of student count)	Number of individual students suspended out of school for three or more days	Incident Rate (% of student count)
280	0	0	0	0

- **Expulsion rates.**

Number of students expelled from school	0
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Comment on Results: Analysis and Action

- Student leadership continues to be a focus at JWES. Students take on the dimensions of leadership including service to our school and community. Students sell milk, act as lunch hour secretary, run portions of our school fundraising, are masters of ceremonies at assemblies and through the grade one Share and Shine help educate their families on literacy in the home.
- Our Health Action Team organized healthy activities for all students and staff. They took on ensuring a healthy snack was available for student.
- Best Buddies program was organized to provide support for students with social needs.
- The use of in-school mentors, Source students from Eastview and the inclusion of a variety of students from RDC help students begin with the end in mind.

District Goal

Throughline Outcomes

Alberta Education Performance Measure

- **Overall satisfaction with the quality of education.**

Performance Measure	Results (in percentages)				
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Percentage of teachers, parents and students satisfied with the overall quality of basic education.	94.0	95.5	90.9	92.3	96.3

- **Overall percentage of stakeholders indicating that their school and schools in their jurisdiction have improved or stayed the same in the last three years.**

Performance Measure	Results (in percentages)				
	2011	2012	2013	2014	2015
Percentage of teachers, parents and students indicating that their school and schools in their jurisdiction have improved or stayed the same the last three years.	87.6	81.7	79.5	83.9	77.8

Comment on Results: Analysis and Action

- While it is encouraging to see the percentage of teachers, parents and students satisfied with the overall quality of basic education the percentage of people feeling that the school and jurisdiction has not improved over the last three years is concerning. Communication with home will continue to be a focus to share with families the ongoing professional growth and development in the school.
- Support for students will remain a focus in our school through the use of the school based learning team and the Pyramid of Support.
- The continued use of the Seven Habits combined with the inclusion of a Community Liaison Worker will address the continued needs of the students.

District Goal

Success for First Nations, Métis and Inuit students

Outcome

- FNMI Students are engaged in learning.

Comment on Results: Analysis and Action

- A growing sense of belonging will be fostered in the school through the support of the district FNMI team. Cultural activities such as hoop dancing and the cultural teachings by FNMI services will celebrate the culture of our First Nations, Metis and Inuit students.
- FNMI perspectives were purposefully included in many units.
- Support for students was provided through our counsellor and Family School Wellness team. The Seven GrandFathers' Teachings were shared and staff members are working at developing a correlation between the Teachings and the Seven Habits.
- Information from the RDNFS was included in our school newsletter.

Summary of Financial Results

REVENUE			
	District Allocation	2564995	
	School Generated Revenue	32884	
	Other	X	
	TOTAL REVENUE		2811383
EXPENSES			
	Staffing – Certificated	1910545	
	Staffing – Non Certificated	533329	
	Supplies	41231	
	Contracted Services	3615	
	Furniture and Equipment	6051	
	School Generated Expenses	32884	
	Other	12488	
	TOTAL EXPENSES		2754609
NET INCOME			57736

Sharing Our Results

The School Results Report presents a summary of the progress and accomplishments of Joseph Welsh Elementary School. As required under Section 13 of the School Councils Regulation, schools provide opportunities for their School Councils and stakeholders to be involved in the development of the report. A review and interpretation of Accountability Pillar measures are also communicated and shared with School Councils and are available at individual schools.

- the School Results Report was reviewed and discussed at the October meeting of the School Council
- the School Results Report is posted on the school website at jwelsh.rdpsd.ab.ca

Joseph Welsh 2014 – 2015 School Council Report

Over the last school year, the school council, staff, and volunteer parents have continued to work together to build a strong relationship. The school council focused on creating a strong framework that could be used in the years to come for future parents and staff. This was also the first year that we were able to work with an outside community member, the results were terrific.

Items Brought to School Council for Discussion:

In advocating for and participating in the roles and responsibilities of a school council our objectives have always been to view each item, concern or project with the utmost fairness and equality. We strive to begin with the end in mind and to always sharpen the saw.

- We have worked closely with the Principal and Vice Principal to encourage parents to become part of their child's education by volunteering and participating in school council.
- We have identified the need to synergize with the grade 5 students prepare them for their next step away from Joseph Welsh.
- Monthly presentations from the staff to share what is happening in each classroom.
- Monthly reports from the Principal and Vice-Principal on school events and activities.
- Continual improvement to website and use of social media.
- Creation of sub-committees to assist student council.
- City Wide meeting results.
- School boundary changes.
- Mental Health Screening.
- Have found more healthy food options for hot lunch days in accordance to the Nutrition Guidelines set out by the school board and have an independent hot lunch committee.
- Joseph Welsh school education plan.
- Literacy Week.
- Best Buddies Program.
- Going Paperless.
- School Activities.
- Creation Station – Created by Grade 5 students.

- Town Hall Meeting.

School Council Fund Raising:

This past year we were faced with creating some new fresh ideas to raise funds for the school. We created a Fundraising Committee to meet, plan and help with this goal. The Fundraising committee put together some great ideas and it was a huge success. In addition to this, the Fundraising Committee opened up a bank account to assist with the administrative burden of collection and administering funds for Joseph Welsh. Looking for a Win – Win outcome we committed to the following fund raisers.

- Student Union Ticket Packs
- Bottle Drive
- Prairie Gourmet Perogies
- Fashion Show – with Community Sponsor Bethany Baptist Church
- Silent Auction
- School Move-a-thon

School Council Organized Events:

The School Council also organized some Family outings to help bring the staff, parents and students together in the community.

- Red Deer College Basketball Family Night Out.
- Skate Night at Joseph Welsh.
- Fashion Show.
- Teacher Appreciation Morning – bring treats for the teachers
- Family Dance at Eastview Middle School.
- Brought Phil Penner to the school to discuss mental health with Grade 5 Students and Parents.

Celebrations:

Joseph Welsh is all about having good character and lots of fun. Little things that are big things and big things that are little things are cherished greatly by the community that thrives within its walls. Our council has had the pleasure of having the opportunity to create, participate in and cheer on these wonderful events that have occurred throughout the year.

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| ✓ Year Book | ✓ Dawe Run |
| ✓ Harvest Soup made form Court Yard
Garden | ✓ Pancake Breakfast |
| | ✓ Adopt-a-School Program |

- ✓ Grade 5 Camp
- ✓ Choir
- ✓ Grade 4 field trip to the Waste Management Facility
- ✓ Remembrance Day Ceremony
- ✓ Girls on the Go and Boys in Motion have been a great success
- ✓ Christmas concert.
- ✓ Skating
- ✓ Ski Lopett
- ✓ Volunteers and organizers of various school activities
- ✓ Swimming
- ✓ Move a Thon
- ✓ Family Dance
- ✓ Crossing Guards

Policies / Reports:

Election of the Executive Body for School Council – Chair – Stephen McCall; Vice Chair – Brenda Pesonen; Secretary – Shauna Walsh; Treasurer – Laurie McEachern; City Wide Rep. – Brenda Pesonen, Stephen McCall and Shari Hanson

In closing the past school year has created a team work environment with a lot of accomplishments and success stories. The Joseph Welsh council, staff and student community follow the “Seven Habits for Life” programs which continues to inspire and provide goals for everyone. We look forward to the future and our continual involvement with the Joseph Welsh Community.



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