



Fisher Branch Collegiate Report to the Community 2006-2007

***Fisher Branch Collegiate
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Our Mission Statement:
The educational community of Fisher Branch Collegiate, in partnership, will work to foster educational and social opportunities for students to develop as active participants in the ever-changing global society.

Our School Profile:

Fisher Branch Collegiate is a Grade 5 – 12 School with 26 staff members including: teachers, an administrator and support staff including educational assistants, secretary, librarian, cleaning staff, bus drivers and mechanics. Our school supports both Middle Years and Senior Years philosophies. We teach a regular English program with Basic French, Industrial Arts and Home Economics options. At the senior level we have a Vocational Agriculture program. We use technology throughout our classrooms and to offer courses over the internet through the use of WEB CT instruction. This has increased the number of options our students have been able to access. Although we are a semestered high school we continue to timetable physical education for the entire school year.

Yearly Highlights:

Look at what we did this year!

- Welcome back barbeque/information night/award's night
- Terry Fox Run School Participation
- Youth Environment Group – Tree Planting
- Christmas concert and senior's tea
- Several student dances
- Spirit week
- Hosted Basketball and volleyball zones
- Participated at provincial volleyball and track and field
- Teen Talk mental health awareness
- TADD cleanathon
- School wide participation in Virtues Activities
- Absolute – Positive Lifestyles Presentation
- P.A.R.T.Y Program
- Take Your Kids to Work Program – Grade 9

School Plan Priority #1: A Respectful School Climate

Outcome #1: All Students will Demonstrate Behaviors that Exemplify Virtues

In order to help students learn how to demonstrate the virtues we wanted to learn what virtues were important. We have had monthly themes, classroom discussions and activities, announcements, poster boards and celebrations based on the virtues. Our student councils have been a part of all discussions and plans. We had hoped to train students as peer mediators but time did not allow. We felt that if students were demonstrating the virtues at all times there would be fewer problems in our classrooms and on the playground. Fewer students would be removed from classrooms and students and teachers would report that they observed seeing more virtues.

We compared data from the 2005-2006 school year and the 2006-2007 school year. We found that we had fewer students being sent to the office from both classrooms and the playground. There were also fewer problems on busses. Data was not collected from individual classrooms but teachers reported that overall there were fewer conflicts in the hallways. Maintaining a positive relationship between everyone involved in the school is important and we will continue to work on the virtues project in our next year.

Priority #2: Understanding Assessment

Outcomes #2 and #3: Teachers will have participated in Formative Assessment Training and will have implemented a minimum of one new strategy in their classroom.

Over the school year all teachers participated in two formal training days. We attended a divisional in-service day in Eriksdale as well as school based day where we reviewed information from Manitoba Education. We also included different activities in our monthly staff meetings. We hoped that introducing new ideas would help our students be able learn better. Our hope was that we would see higher marks as well. We learned about three types of assessment:

1. For learning - To find out how the students are doing and to make plans for teaching.
2. As learning - How students use information to make plans for their own learning.
3. Of learning - To assign formal grades to students.

Teachers have always done assessments to calculate grades. We are now using assessments to help us find out how students are doing. We have learned that we can change our teaching to assist student learning before we have to assign grades. Some of the activities teachers used in their classrooms were to give practice tests and assignments, use groups for learning, using peer assessments, setting goals, reviewing and reflecting on student work. Some teachers allowed for re-teaching and re-testing of material. Staff reported that the ideas they used in their classrooms were helpful for their teaching as well the students' learning. We would still like to collect information from the students about how they felt about our assessment plans.

This year we participated in several Provincial assessments, including grade 7 math and Grade 8 writing. Results of these have been sent home to parents. At the high school level we completed ELA 40S, Consumer Math 40S, Applied Math 40S and Pre-Calculus Math 40S. The chart below demonstrates our class averages in relation to the provincial results.

PROVINCIAL STANDARDS TEST RESULTS 2006-2007		
Subject	Provincial Average	School Average
Consumer Math	63%	66.1%
ELA	63.7%	62.8%
Pre-Calculus Math	62.3%	64.8%
Applied Math	64.2%	63.9%

Where Do We Go From Here?

Virtues Project

We would like to continue the virtues project further this year to include new virtues and find ways to better include the senior high classrooms.

We hope to have more student and parent involvement with the types of activities we can involve our students in. Parents, feel free to ask about the virtues and to talk about them at home.

Assessment Practices

We plan to study more types of assessment and assessment methods over the school year. We hope to involve the students more in the understanding the types of assessment we are doing and how they can use it for higher learning.

Working Together for the Planned Amalgamation of Fisher Branch Schools



As a community we need to begin planning for the future, when the two schools will become one. There will be many discussions about what the school will look like, how programs will be carried out, and what is important to our community in our new school. We hope that parents, students and community members will be involved in the process. Watch for upcoming announcements and meetings and plan to attend. We hope that more parents will join the Parent Advisory Council to give their input and to support our schools.