North Vancouver School District

SCHOOL PLAN for 2011-2012

School: Handsworth Secondary School
Address: 1044 Edgewood Road
North Vancouver, BC V7R 1Y7
Phone: 604-903-3600

School/Community Context:

1. School/Community Context

Handsworth Secondary School, a dual track (English and French Immersion) school, is one of North Vancouver School District's largest schools with a current enrolment of 1418 students. Situated in the North Shore community of Edgemont Village, the school's catchment area consists largely of affluent, highly educated professionals.

Handsworth has a very strong reputation for its high levels of student achievement within its academic program. Students continue to excel, and exceed the Provincial averages on all Grade 10, 11 and 12 Provincial Exams. The school offers a number of Advanced Placement courses for students who seek the benefits and challenges of higher academic learning. Our graduates attend a wide variety of post-secondary institutions.

Handsworth students participate in many different programs and extra-curricular activities. The expansive Handsworth athletics program has a province-wide reputation for excellence, with a large number of teams competing from grade eight to twelve in the North Shore Secondary School's Athletic Association. Handsworth students annually excel in the Fine Arts programs, representing the school in music, art, drama and dance in festivals and competitions across the country. In addition, clubs such as the Environmental Club, United Nations Club, Free the Children (formerly O Ambassadors) and Student Council allow further student involvement within the school.

Handsworth maintains a supportive and safe environment that encourages students to be socially responsible within the school and community, through strong student leadership, parental involvement and committed teachers who strive to ensure Handsworth maintains and improves in all areas at all times.

The parents of Handsworth students participate and assist within the school community serving to enrich student academic achievement and enhance extracurricular programs. The generous and active parent community affords Handsworth the opportunity to provide a wide breadth and depth of extra-curricular opportunities to its students.

With welcoming programs, extensive extra-curricular programs and a bond with the community that is now multi-generational, Handsworth Secondary School has developed into a desirable educational institution.

Demographics (*2010-2011 school year*):

Total number of students: 1418 Male: 724 Female: 694

Number of students per grade					
Grade	8	9	10	11	12
English	204	218	200	252	227
Fr. Imm.	77	75	65	53	47

# FTE Teachers & Administrators	% Aboriginal Students	% Special Needs Students	% International Students	% ESL
63.57	.80 %	11 %	4.9 %	1.8 %

Progress Analysis:

Review of School Goals – Previous Year

SCHOOL PLAN GOAL 1: To improve reading and writing proficiency of students in grade 8.

- In summary, while there is evidence to suggest that the interventions in place were in fact achieving expectations the data gathered was difficult to explain and not consistent. For example, the data was blending English 8 class data with Humanities 8 class data. Based on these factors a more reliable measurement will be put in place for the coming years which will see the school use reporting data acquired at the completion of grade 10. The focus will still be on grade 8 interventions for identified students. Identification of at risk, or struggling, students will occur through the transition process, the school based resource team (SBRT), and data acquired from first term reports at the grade 8 level.

SCHOOL PLAN GOAL 2: To improve proficiency in mathematics of students in grade 8.

- In summary, and as per the 2009/2010, and 2010/2011, School Planning Documents, our analysis of Report Card data shows inconclusive evidence. Unfortunately, data accumulated over time indicated that many of the students having difficulty in mathematics were moving out of mainstream math or had withdrawn from the school by the time data was collected in their grade 10 year. This made comparing and tracking students very difficult and the data less reliable than required.

- As with our first goal we will be using data collected at the completion of grade 10. In the case of mathematics we will be looking to determine student success in each student's chosen math

program. It is felt that by doing so our measures will better reflect increases in success for those students who are identified in grade 8, but often do not continue on with mainstream mathematics. Identification of at risk, or struggling, students will occur through the transition process, the school based resource team (SBRT), and data acquired from first term reports at the grade 8 level.

-

Opportunities for Further Development:

- To build upon the success of the Peer Tutoring Program and its impact on improving student achievement in both English and Math as evidenced in the 2008/2009 school year by helping more students become involved in their grade 8 year.
- To add opportunities to intervene, and provide supports (academic/counselling) for students in their grade 9 year.
- To better use transition data (grade 7 to grade 8) to identify students who may require extra help earlier in secondary school.

School Goals for 2011-2012:

Based on the review of student achievement using Provincial, District and school evidence, the goals set out in the Handsworth School Plan for 2011/2012 are:

School Goal #1. : To increase the number of students demonstrating success in reading and writing proficiency based on grade 10 provincial exam results.

Goal Rationale:
ANALYSIS/RATIONALE:

Reading and writing are the foundation of student learning in all areas of the curriculum. The Handsworth community has high expectations for student achievement in reading and writing and data indicates a strong performance by Handsworth students in these areas.

Objective 1.1: To improve the reading and writing success rate of students in grade 10 as measured by report card data.

Strategies/Structures:

- Collect Grade 7 Report Card data for incoming Grade 8s
- Collect report card data for Term 1 in the respective school year
- Identify students who do not meet expectations using:
  - the notes from the grade 7 transition meetings
  - the results from the grade 7 FSA assessments
  - the Term and Final Report card marks

- both formal and informal classroom assessments
- Collect and review student-writing samples to monitor student progress
- Support identified students through the Learning Centre and the Peer Tutoring program
- Discuss and share strategies regarding students "at risk" at grade 8 team meetings, School Based Resource Team (SBRT) meetings, department meetings, and information sharing sessions
- Adapt classroom instruction for grade 8 students who do not meet expectations
- Continue to provide cross-curricular reading in-service, employing the Reading 44 Program and strategies with an emphasis on reading comprehension skills
- Support all grade 8 students by providing an overview of effective organizational and study skills through their regular classroom teachers
- Establish and enhance the home/school partnership through actively liaising with the parents
- Review and enhance students' understanding and use of Reading 44 and Writing 44 strategies
- Provide writing strategies for students to respond to a wide variety of purposes and to communicate in a variety of written styles

Evidence: Key Performance Measure: Percentage of students achieving a final grade in their English 10 class of C (60%) or higher

Key Performance Measure: Grade 10 Final Percentage over C (60%) – includes exam	2008	2009	2010	Target	2011 Actual
	78.10	83.51	74.72	80	

School Goal # 2 : To increase the number of students demonstrating success in mathematics based on grade 10 provincial exam results

Goal Rationale:

Mathematics is a critical foundation of a student academic and learning profile. The Handsworth community has high expectations for student achievement in the area of mathematics. Some students have more difficulty than others at understanding and applying principles and concepts of mathematics.

Overall, provincial exam data indicates a strong performance by Handsworth students in the area of mathematics. A review of the data provided by FSA results, term marks, and final report cards indicates that there are a small percentage of students that do not meet expectations. Focusing the school's resources on identifying and supporting students who struggle with mathematics is consistent with the District goal of improving proficiency in the area of mathematics.

Objective 2.1:

To improve the mathematics success rate of students in grade 10 as measured by report card data.

Strategies/Structures:

- Using the notes from the grade 7 transition meetings, identify students who do not meet expectations
- Using the results from the grade 7 FSA assessments, identify students who do not meet expectations
- Using the Term and Final Report card marks, identify students who do not meet expectations
- Using both formal and informal classroom assessments, identify students who do not meet expectations
- Implement a Math Skills Development Program: A program focused on Grade 8 and Grade 9 students, which provides "one-on-one" support in an effort to improve student numeracy skills.
- Analyze North Vancouver Mathematics Assessment for Grade 8's and implement support strategies to improve the success rates of these students
- Review strategies for differentiated instruction, such as Math 44 initiatives, and Instructional Integration
- Encourage students to attend optional tutorials offered by the Math teachers before, during, and after school
- Discuss and share strategies regarding students "at risk" at grade 8 team meetings, department meetings, and information sharing sessions
- Support identified students through the Learning Centre
- Adapt classroom instruction for grade 8 students who do not meet expectations
- Support all grade 8 students by providing an overview of effective organizational and study skills through their regular classroom teachers
- Connect and maintain home support from parent partners and their children
- Provide counselling, to students and parents, to determine the best fit between a students mathematics course and their post secondary plans

Evidence: Key Performance Measure: Percentage of students achieving a final grade in their Mathematics 10 class of C (60%) or higher

Key Performance Measure: Grade 10 Final Percentage over C (60%) – includes exam	2008	2009	2010	Target	2011 Actual
	93.24	89.58	90.94	95	

Connections:

Connections to Family of School's School Plans and/or District Achievement Plan:

Below are goals listed by the Handsworth Family of Schools which demonstrate that Handsworth's goals are part of a systemic process to assist students struggling with reading, writing and mathematics.

Goal 1: To achieve high success rates or proficiency in Reading (and or Writing)

Objectives

- Use the Test of Phonological Awareness as well as other indicators to identify at risk Kindergarten students and improve their reading ability
- Identify students at risk at all grade levels (elementary and secondary) and improve their Reading/Writing ability
- Focus on quality Reading practices and programs (Reading 44) that improve Reading and Writing and develop student interest in these subjects

Goal 2: To maintain or improve success rates in Mathematics

Objectives

- To identify students at risk in Mathematics (elementary and secondary), improve their performance and monitor their progress
- Improve the transition from elementary to secondary
- To maintain or exceed current levels of achievement in Mathematics at elementary and secondary
- To continue to implement Math 44 and best teaching practice
- To foster interest, self confidence and positive attitudes toward Mathematics

Family of Schools Meetings

- Five principals meet regularly to discuss issues, ideas and school plans
- Benefit from each others experience and bring new ideas back to our school or identify a common area of need
- Learning Centre teacher attends the FOS meeting to provide an overview of Handsworth's special education services
- Peer Tutoring teacher attends the FOS meeting to provide an overview of Peer Tutoring program and its effectiveness in improving student achievement.

Consultation Process of Handsworth's School Planning Council:

☒ School administrators, staff, parents and students have been actively involved in the development of the School Plan.

☒ A summary of the approved Handsworth School Plan will be posted on the school web site by October 31, 2011.

School Planning Council Approval of Proposed School Plan:

Date: May 1, 2011

	Name	Signature
Chairperson (Principal)	Mr Mark James	*Original Document signed by SPC members*
Teacher		
Parent	Mike McGraw	
Parent	Dawn Strong	
Parent	Gwen Groberman	
Student	Julia Kirby	

Board Approval of School Plan:

Approved by:

Bryn Roberts, Assistant Superintendent
June 13, 2011