



School District No. 51 (Boundary)  
 West Boundary Elementary  
 2011 – 2012  
 Academic Achievement

**School Mission:**

To provide a nurturing, respectful and equal opportunity environment that promotes student responsibility and active learning.

**School Context:**

West Boundary is a Kindergarten to Grade 7 school located in Rock Creek, BC with an enrollment of 122 students derived from four small unincorporated communities. Approximately 23% of the students are Aboriginal and 20% have an IEP. Virtually all of the students are bussed to school. Children have access to some recreational activities in the various communities, but the school is still the major focus for many. The staff consists of an administrator, 7 teachers and 2 support staff. There is an active Parent Advisory who offer support for learning opportunities and hold special events throughout the year. Parents in the area value education and are strong supporters of the school. Thanks to the strong staff, ongoing support from the Parent Advisory council and parent support and involvement, West Boundary Elementary is a vibrant and caring community school.

**Our Plan:**

We believe that in order to promote achievement and life long learning we are responsible for providing our students with a strong foundation in reading, writing and social responsibility. We also understand the importance of staying abreast of 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning, the ever increasing use of technology, and the importance of engaging students in their learning. To help engage students in their learning we have created our “Passions” program. We envision each student advancing in achievement levels regardless of their starting point. We have created a Professional Learning Community and are using it to improve our use of technology in the classroom as well as a means to better understand effective assessment strategies. We are proud of our ‘healthy school’ status, our Green Team, our outdoor classroom and our community garden. We continue to use different strategies to improve in these areas. Our plan is a working document and as the year progresses targets and strategies will be reviewed and edited as necessary. The common goal is for West Boundary Elementary to be an effective school that meets the needs of all learners.

<p><b>GOAL #1:</b>          To embrace 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning that will allow improved options and choices for student that in turn will help improve student achievement.</p>	<p><b>2011 – 2012 Objectives:</b>          To help each child find their passion and thereby create a greater connection to their learning.</p>
<p><b>Rationale</b>          When students use educational technologies to apply knowledge to new situations, collaborate, problem solve and make decisions their learning is impacted in a positive way. Literacy will be supported through this goal as it continues to be an essential building block for establishing a good foundation in all areas of student achievement. Using technology (ie Smart Boards, personal devices) in the classroom will support literacy and help engage our students in their learning.</p>	
<p><b>Evidence/Results</b>  <b>Literacy:</b> Assessment strategies, including school wide read and writes and formal reports are tools that are used to get a better understanding of student achievement. Samples of student work and report card data also help with benchmarks.   <b>Engagement:</b> An increased passion for learning will create a stronger learning environment and increase student achievement.</p>	<p><b>Targets for 2011 - 2012</b>          Use these assessment strategies as a tool to help understand ability levels so that we may better help students achieve to the best of their ability.           PLC will focus on the strengths and challenges of using technology in the classroom</p>

<p>School wide read and writes show a marked improvement from Fall to Spring.</p> <p>If teachers are using technology in the classroom with an increased level of confidence then that will be the evidence.</p> <p>Grade 4 2011 FSA – of the students who wrote: 80% meet or exceed expectations in Reading 86% meet or exceed expectations in Writing</p> <p>Grade 7 2011 FSA – of the students who wrote: 91% meet or exceed expectations in Reading 66% meet or exceed expectations in Writing</p>	<p><b>Targets for 2011-12 (con't)</b></p> <p>Increase the percentage of students meeting expectations in writing</p> <p>Increase and encourage the use of technology both in and out of the classroom – ie personal devices, greater use of smartboard</p> <p>Continue to encourage those meeting expectations to push themselves to exceed expectations.</p> <p>Encourage at risk students to challenge themselves to meet their IEP goals.</p> <p>We understand that data are affected from cohort to cohort therefore, our goal is to continue to use our school wide read and writes as an opportunity to create professional conversation within our PLC. The conversation will give us a better understanding of student ability.</p> <p>Continue to use our PLC to improve our understanding of assessment in order to gain insight into areas of concern.</p>
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**Strategies**

- Use our PLC (Professional Learning Community) to guide our technology growth
- Personal Growth Plans for teachers
- Increase our use of personal devices (each teacher has been assigned a personal device)
- Purchased a class set of iPods
- Increase the use of technology in each classroom through SMART board use
- Develop our ‘passions’ program
- Continue with Wild 45 Literacy block
- One to one reading program for those not meeting or minimally meeting expectations
- Spring & Fall School-Wide Read and Writes
- School-wide use of Performance Standards, IRPs and holistic rubrics
- Continue to provide opportunities to support reading at home
- School-Wide home reading program (Wild About Reading)
- Scheduled Library time
- Pre School Library time
- Breakfast Program
- Fruit and Vegetable program
- Weekly salad bar
- Recognition Assemblies

**Structures**

- Literacy Block (45 minutes 3 out of 4 mornings)
- Wild BC Pro D
- Nature Trails/Outdoor Classroom/Community Garden
- Passions Pogram
- Professional Learning Community (instrumental in strengthening our literacy block)
- Literacy Pro D
- .2 Learning Assistance Teacher
- Staff meetings
- Use of BC Performance Standards in their instruction and assessments.
- Network of Performance Based Schools (NPBS)
- Teacher's Professional Growth Plans

**GOAL #2:**

To promote a safe, respectful and caring school culture that expects, supports, recognizes and celebrates student success.

**2011 – 2012 Objectives:**

To engage students in their learning through helping them find their passion  
 To ensure that all students feel safe and welcome at school.  
 To instill a respect for distinct cultures.  
 To increase the 'sense of belonging' for all students  
 To encourage, recognize and celebrate student success on all levels

**Rationale**

When students feel safe and welcome at school they are better able achieve to their potential and for productive learning to occur, it is important that students feel a 'sense of belonging'. As we continue to develop our Passions program and students become more engaged in their learning, we expect to see a greater sense of accomplishment and increased student success. Students who are happy with their learning are more likely to demonstrate a respect and caring for their school community. The relationships the students will build with community members will also strengthen their sense of community. Our programs, strategies and collaborative efforts serve to provide a safe and welcoming environment for all students. The outdoor classroom/nature trails and community garden are helping create a sense of respect for the environment and a sense of pride in what we as a school have accomplished. By providing opportunities for students to learn respect, caring and responsibility, we are helping them become well-rounded members of society.

**Evidence/Results**

Students who are engaged in their passion have a higher connection to their learning and a greater level of achievement.

Sense of pride in the nature trails, outdoor classroom and community garden

Satisfaction Survey results show that 94% grade 4 and 81% of grade 7 students feel safe at school.

86% of grade 4 and 88% of grade 7 students know how WBE expects students to behave. This is an increase.

**Targets for 2011-12**

Continue to grow our Passions program

Continue with these projects and increase the opportunities for all students to participate in the outdoor classroom, nature trail activities and the community garden project

Continue to promote anti bullying campaign and increase the percentage of students who feel safe at school.

Increase student awareness of expectations and increase the percentage of understanding.

87% of grade 4 students and 88% of grade 7 students report that teachers help them when asked	Increase the percentage of students reporting that teachers help them when asked.
A decrease in the number of behaviours requiring office intervention	Continue to promote/recognize good student behaviours

### Strategies

- Promoting virtues at morning assemblies and carry it through the week
- Continue with volunteers bin for ‘caught making tracks’
- Expand the use of Performance Standards for Social Responsibility with the goal of having students self monitor their own behaviours
- Implement a Healthy Schools Survey
- Continue to model and display appropriate behaviours
- Communicate expectations of student behaviour not only to students, but to parents
- Invite parents to participate in Pro D sessions, school community conversations, etc
- Continue to provide opportunities for interaction with distinct cultural groups
- Continue to promote student pride and ownership through the building of nature trails and use of outdoor classroom
- Interim Report template
- Display expectations for socially appropriate behaviour in prominent places – halls, classrooms, entrance
- Continue to initiate positive communication home (agenda, phone calls, impromptu encounter, etc)
- Continue with recognition assemblies (invite parents)
- Continue to offer leadership opportunities for students
- Continue to encourage independent learning behaviours (homework done, improved attendance, good test score etc) by rewarding through recognition
- Continue to celebrate success for all learners
- Revise the staff handbook

### Structures

- Nature trails/outdoor classroom/community garden
- Passions Project
- Professional Learning Community
- Virtues Program
- Breakfast Program
- Action Schools BC
- Healthy Schools Program
- Green Team
- Agenda Program
- Caught Making Tracks
- PRO D opportunities
- Student Agenda as a communication tool
- Teacher Professional Growth Plans
- Growth of our child care worker program

## **Communication**

We continue to tell our story and market our school to all stakeholders. We believe our communication between school/home/community has improved through the use of various structures/strategies. To facilitate communication the following mediums will be utilized:

- Television in foyer with school events, achievements, pictures, etc
- Defend existing clerical time (cutbacks would negatively impact communication between home & school)
- Newsletters, classroom notices
- Recognition assemblies – invite parents
- Report cards and informal reports
- Student agendas (notes to and from home entered in agenda)
- Principal attends PAC meetings to inform parents about school achievements, goals and events.
- Open House
- Notices and events posted on school bulletin boards
- PAC/SPC mtgs
- Newspaper
- Teacher websites

## **Ongoing priorities:**

We are determined that budget constraints will not have a negative impact on our education programs. We recognize the importance of implementing technology in the classroom and we are committed to exploring 21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning with our students. We will also continue to build a strong professional learning community – one that will embrace all learners and allow them to become the best they can be.

Parental involvement also remains an ongoing priority. Through PAC, SPC, volunteering and supporting their children at home, parents contribute in many ways to student achievement. By strengthening our relationship with our parents we hope to improve on our ‘learning together’ and involve families in their child’s education from the moment they enter school. Other priorities include:

- Continue to build a successful Professional Learning Community
- Classroom websites
- Parent/School evening conversations
- Increase community involvement through our Passions program
- Increase engagement in student learning
- Increase the number of students meeting expectations in all areas
- Increase student responsibility and accountability
- Increase awareness and use of nature trails and outdoor classroom
- Opportunities for student leadership
- Increase use of performance standards
- Improve communication between home and school
- Continue collaborative relationship with PAC and SPC
- Increase awareness and respect for Aboriginal culture
- Improve school climate
- Utilize Literacy block to its full potential
- Make school an enjoyable experience for all learners
- Recognizing and celebrating student success

**The undersigned as members of the School Planning Council authorize this 2010/20101 School Plan and submit it on behalf of the school community:**

_____ <b>Principal (printed name)</b>	_____ <b>Signature</b>	_____ <b>Date</b>
_____ <b>Teacher Rep (printed name)</b>	_____ <b>Signature</b>	_____ <b>Date</b>
_____ <b>Parent Rep (printed name)</b>	_____ <b>Signature</b>	_____ <b>Date</b>
_____ <b>Parent Rep (printed name)</b>	_____ <b>Signature</b>	_____ <b>Date</b>
_____ <b>Parent Rep (printed name)</b>	_____ <b>Signature</b>	_____ <b>Date</b>