

Warren Collegiate Report to the Community June 2018

Over the course of the last year, our focus was on three priority areas.

1. Students valuing and engaged in their curricula outcomes
2. To reduce anxiety among the WCI student population. This will allow divisional priorities of literacy, numeracy, positive and respectful learning environment and student engagement to take effect.
3. To enhance student connectedness and mentorship

On our April 23rd planning day we as a staff reviewed our goals, celebrating our successes and identifying some next steps. Please see below for a summary of our reflection.

Priority Area 1

To improve student learning in this area our goal was that by June of 2018, students will engage in authentic learning experiences and assessment strategies.

We implemented a cross curricula project. Teachers from grade 10 ELA, math, science and social studies collaborated to create a project that addressed outcomes from each of these four courses. Students were given a lot of autonomy to choose a topic of interest to them. Students using a guided discovery learning model researched a topic and came up with an action plan to present to a panel of educators and peers for evaluation. Skills that were honed using this approach include; research, oral communication, critical thinking and collaboration. One student said, "Stop trying to teach us, we are trying to learn."

Mr. Gregovski procured an Education for Sustainable Development Grant for \$2000 for next year to allow teacher collaboration time for the project.

Priority Area 2

To improve student learning in this area our goal was that by June of 2018, students will feel less anxious at WCI. Anxiety and depression will be reduced to be at par with the national averages as identified on the OUR School Survey.

We had many speakers come to the school on the topic of wellness.

- TJ's Gift Foundation presentation with Karen Wiebe <https://www.tjsgift.com/>
- Teen Talk presentations
- Jarrett with AFM
- Canadian Mental Health Association week long presentation called 'Speak Up' to grade 10s. Speak Up uses an evidence-based approach which works toward 3 goals; increasing students' knowledge about mental health and mental illness, breaking down

stigma towards people living with mental health problems and illnesses, and increasing students' help seeking behaviors. Providing mental health literacy is an important foundation for young people in understanding mental health and mental illness, developing empathy and knowing how to get help early if and when they need it.

Priority Area 3

To improve student learning in this area our goal was that by June of 2018 students would gain a greater sense of belonging.

We made some changes to the physical space to allow for more interaction between students.

- We experimented with locker assignment this year and attempted to provide more interaction between the grades by mixing up locker assignments. We heard loudly from the Our School Survey that students were not in favour of this change. It did improve the flow of students in the hall way but did not provide better interaction for students. Next year we have grouped students in smaller grade groupings, to make them feel more comfortable with students in their grade, but also allowing for less congestion in the halls.
- We added conversation tables to the hallways. This has given students a space to collaborate with others for school work or for socializing.
- At the end of the year, we added some comfortable seating and a tv to the MPR. It increased the use of that room dramatically.
- We continue to add more Indigenous themed elements to our building. We finished a Seven Teaches Mural in the school. The Star quilt deck outside was completed.

We implemented some new activities.

- There were more clubs added to our school to try to give more students the opportunity to build relationships with others. New clubs included; Lego Mindstorm and Spaghetti Bridge building.
- The first annual grade 10 retreat occurred at Camp Manitou. Students participated in team building activities in the morning and did some planning for our school in the afternoon. Each student identified a goal for themselves to improve our school community.
- Pep rallies

PATH Our school PATH is posted by the front door and continues to be our vision for where we are headed. Our mission statement continues to be; to enable students to discover and develop their varied potentials and empower them to meet a multitude of diverse experiences, by providing a safe, healthy, respectful and engaging environment.