



WESTMOUNT CHARTER SCHOOL: PLANNING AND RESULTS REPORTING SUMMARY November 2017

Priorities

Differentiated professional learning continued to be a primary focus to align practice with our new vision of fostering gifted education “*from the inside out.*” Research topics of relevance were accessed to develop expertise in various aspects of gifted education. Mentorship to teachers new to Westmount remains a focus to enhance their understanding of gifted children from the inside out.

Summary of Accomplishments

- The modernization project at the Mid-High campus was completed.
- The first phase of the outdoor classroom at the K-4 campus was completed.
- Westmount staff served as members of the Critical Incident Response Team (CIRT) established in partnership with all Charter schools in Calgary.
- A total of twenty (20) students enrolled in Dual Credit courses in biology at Mount Royal University and mathematics courses at the University of Calgary (U of C) during the 2016/2017 academic year.
- Westmount participated in the *Partner Research Schools* (PRS) initiative with the Werklund School of Education, U of C including presentations at the Field Experiences panel for visiting U.S. educators.
- We continued the partnership with Briar Hill Elementary School (CBE) in a longitudinal study of academic literacy with Dr. Hetty Roessingh, Werklund School of Education, at U of C.
- Two Westmount elementary teachers received a Community Environment Action Grant for \$149,200 related to our People for Energy and Environmental Literacy (PEEL) project to work with other schools in Alberta to better understand and address climate change.
- School Council updated its bylaws (1997) to a more current set of Operating Procedures.

Student Success

The recent provincial *Accountability Pillar Evaluation* (October 2017) summary indicates Westmount continues to rank highly in all measure categories.

Provincial Achievement Test (PAT): Acceptable standard; 97.2% of Westmount students achieved this standard compared to 73.4% of students across the province. PAT: excellence standard; 66.7% of Westmount students achieved this standard compared to 19.5% of students across the province.

Westmount students exceeded provincial results in both acceptable and excellence categories in all PATs written. DIPLOMA EXAM: acceptable standard; 92.1% of Westmount students achieved this overall standard as compared to 83.0% of students across the province. DIPLOMA EXAM: excellence; 47.8% of Westmount students achieved this standard compared to 22.2% of students across the province.

Westmount students exceeded provincial results in both acceptable and excellence categories on all Diploma exams written (January and June 2017).

Future Challenges

The following are challenges that Westmount will continue to face in seeking new opportunities for growth and innovation:

- identifying and utilizing pertinent research to inform our understanding and instructional design of giftedness from the inside out;
- improving teacher training and accessing outside resources to understand and meet the needs of our twice-exceptional learners;
- updating and maintaining the current technology infrastructure to support teaching and learning needs; and
- sharing innovative practices with the broader education community.



Collaborative Parental and Community Engagement

Opportunities for parental involvement include:

- Active monthly School Council meetings, dialogue with the principals (Coffee Chat with the Principal), or sessions on topics where parents interact with each other and the administration or special guest presenters.
- A parent volunteer committee that organizes dozens of parents to support various initiatives each year.
- Regular parent information sessions on various topics from giftedness to technology implementation, Internet safety, student anxiety, and new programming initiatives such as the Mid-High School Redesign Project.
- School Council and Charter Board engagement in the development of the Three-Year Education Plan and Annual Education Report
- Parent representation (4/9) on our Board of Directors.

Budget Summary – 2016/2017 School Year

Actual Revenue by Source	2017	2016	YoY Change
Alberta Education	14,181,893	14,524,830	-2%
Instructional and Transportation Fees	1,185,053	1,224,346	-3%
Other	306,974	348,397	-12%
	<u>15,673,920</u>	<u>16,097,573</u>	
Actual Expense by Source	2017	2016	YoY Change
Instruction (K-12)	11,914,102	12,055,897	-1%
PO&M and Rent	1,500,489	2,411,564	-38%
Transportation	1,018,002	991,045	3%
Board & System Administration	821,317	845,836	-3%
External Services	46,806	35,375	32%
	<u>15,300,716</u>	<u>16,339,717</u>	
Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>373,204</u>	<u>(242,144)</u>	
Accumulated Surplus	2017	2016	
Unrestricted net assets	1,314,365	1,556,509	
Operating Surplus/(Deficit)	<u>373,204</u>	<u>(242,144)</u>	
Total	<u>1,687,569</u>	<u>1,314,365</u>	

Westmount Charter School's Audited Financial Statements may be accessed from the provincial roll up of AFS information at: <https://education.alberta.ca/financial-statements/charter-schools/>

For additional information, please contact the Secretary-Treasurer at secretary-treasurer@westmountcharter.com.

The complete Three-Year Education Plan and Annual Education Results Report 2016/19 may be accessed at: http://www.westmountcharter.com/charter_board/index.html