2023-2024 ASSURANCE PLAN

Prepared By:

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COMMUNITY & SCHOOL PROFILE

Kindergarten - Grade 6
242 students
17 teachers
8 support staff (5 EAs)

New Sarepta, originally incorporated as a village in 1960 and renowned as "The Cartoon Capital of Canada," underwent a change in its community status in 2010 when it was reclassified as a hamlet. As of the 2021 Census, New Sarepta boasted a population of 495 residents residing in 194 private dwellings.

The educational heritage in our community traces its roots to 1906 when the New Sarepta School District #1548 was officially formed. Just 21 years later, in 1927, the New Sarepta Village School came into existence. Then, in 1995, a significant change occurred in our community's schooling system. It was part of a province-wide consolidation of multiple school boards, leading to the establishment of the Black Gold School Division. This governing body now manages the day-to-day operations of New Sarepta Elementary School.

New Sarepta Elementary School takes pride in its rural identity, with our school community being a blend of families from nearby farms, acreages, and the local hamlet. Within our close-knit community, both our staff and students bring a rich tapestry of talents, interests, and diverse backgrounds to the table. We foster an environment where staff members uphold mutual respect, provide encouragement, embrace challenges, and celebrate each other's achievements as we collectively strive for excellence.

New Sarepta Elementary School embodies a thriving educational community comprising exceptional children, engaged parents, and committed educators. Together, we cultivate a positive, secure, nurturing, and health-focused learning atmosphere.

CELEBRATIONS

At New Sarepta Elementary School, we take immense pride in offering a secure and nurturing setting for our students. Our school is a place of numerous accomplishments, supported by a vibrant community and a variety of noteworthy initiatives. Here are some key highlights to celebrate:

- Student Recognition
  - weekly student recognition, monthly student recognition, art awards
- Sports Teams
  - cross country, floor hockey, track, district high jump, basketball
- School Events
  - Sabre Days, intramurals, Jump Rope for Heart, Terry Fox Walk, Tom's Walk, Talent Show - Air Band & Oratory, Pancake Breakfast,, Truth and Reconciliation Week, Orange Shirt Day, Pink Shirt Day, Caught you being your Best Self, Art Show
- Wellness Initiatives
  - School-wide capacity building through character education classes led by our Wellness Instructional Support Teacher and our Mental Health Capacity Building Success Coach.
- Community Connections
  - Partner Assemblies with the High School (Remembrance Day, Year-End), Christmas Elves, Senior Appreciation Tea
- Alberta Education Assurance Report
  - Exceeding the provincial average for Student Learning Engagement, Citizenship, Education Quality, Welcoming, Caring, Respectful, and Safe Learning Environments, Access to Supports and Services and Parental Involvement
- Provincial Achievement Test
  - Our Provincial Achievement Test results for Mathematics, English Language Arts, Social Studies, and Science show that we are on par with provincial averages for both acceptable standard and standard of excellence.
- Appreciation Events
  - Volunteer Tea, Bus Driver Appreciation Drive Through Beverage and Snack Station, Custodian Appreciation, Support Staff Appreciation, Teacher Appreciation, Admin Assistant Appreciation

CHALLENGES

Similar to other educational institutions, New Sarepta Elementary School encounters its fair share of challenges. The following represent specific areas we have recognized as particularly formidable:

- Fluctuations in enrollment present both funding and class size challenges.
- Social and systemic obstacles exist that prevent optimal access to community services for NSES families.
- Geographic barriers result in challenges for families when accessing sports and extracurricular activities.
- Difficulties obtaining bussing and the continually rising cost of bussing result in obstacles to field trips.
- The new curriculum provides unique challenges for teachers and students as they navigate existing gaps in student knowledge.

Biggest questions we endeavour to find solutions for:

- How can we pay homage to our historical context and cherished traditions while embracing evolution and growth?

SCHOOL COUNCIL MESSAGE

We are very fortunate to have a dedicated group of parents who actively participate in council activities and appreciate the value of involvement with the school. Goals for the 2023-2024 school year include multiple fundraising events to help us continue supporting our school's educational programming and activities, such as funding the purchase of school agendas, the Accelerated Reader Program for all students and classroom budgets for every teacher. We intend to collaborate with the school and community to explore the possibility of a playground redevelopment. We look forward to another successful year of working together as a school community to enhance the educational experience of our children/students.

Nicole Pinheiro
School Council Chair

SCHOOL COUNCIL BOARD MEMBERS	
Chair	Nicole Pinheiro
Vice Chair	Tracy MacEachern
Treasurer	Jackie Basalt
Secretary	Alyssa Hansen

2023-2024 MEETING DATES	
September 18, 2023 (AGM)	March 18, 2024
October 16, 2023	April 15, 2024
November 20, 2023	May 27, 2024
January 15, 2024	June 17, 2024
February 12, 2024	

NSES GOAL 1

To foster a robust and inclusive parent-community partnership by implementing comprehensive strategies that enhance parent involvement in various aspects of our school community, including academics, extracurricular activities, and decision-making processes.

Alignment with Division Core Values:
    Relationships
    Safe, Supportive Environment

Timeline: 3 year goal

Rationale: Encouraging parent participation in school decisions fosters a sense of community and belonging. It reinforces the idea that the school is a shared space where educators and parents work together for the benefit of the students.

TIMELINE	STRATEGIES	SUPPORTING DATA
2022-2023	- Increased frequency of invitations to assemblies and school events via School Messenger - To increase School Council Meeting attendance, we will be offering snacks at meetings - Engaging parents with feedback opportunities to help influence school policy at School Council Nights - Creation of Read in Week to give parents an opportunity to read - Creation of a literacy and numeracy evening for parents - Organizing Cooking Up a Story family nights - Asking for parent volunteers for sports teams and school events such as our family dance - Setting up a table at each parent-teacher interview night outlining opportunities for parental involvement at our school - Offering monthly coffee with the principal to give opportunities for parents to discuss school-related issues	- Analysis of parent engagement % on Assurance Survey - Analysis of parent attendance at Parent Teacher Interviews - Analysis of parent engagement at School Council Meetings

Continued.

TIMELINE	STRATEGIES	SUPPORTING DATA
2023-2024	- Meet the Teacher Night with community partners - Extend invitations to parents to school events via Principal's Corner and classroom teacher communication - Cooking Up A Story family nights (October 2023 & Spring 2024) - Wellness Night (February 2024) - Setting up a table at each parent-teacher interview night outlining opportunities for parental involvement at our school - Participating in the creation and implementation of the Rural Engagement Survey with division office staff	- Analysis of Assurance Survey results - WIST qualitative feedback summary - Participation rates in wellness events - Number of engagement opportunities with community partners - Analysis of Rural Engagement Survey
2024-2025	To be determined based on results of the 2023-2024 strategy implementation.	

REVIEW & REFLECTION

2022-2023
- School event invitations were extended to families from teachers, and school-wide invitations were extended via the monthly newsletter.
- The NSES Oratory Assembly in April was very well attended.
- A table with Chromebooks was set up during the NSES Parent-Teacher Interview night, where parents were encouraged to complete the Assurance Survey as well as sign up to assist with NSES School Council and PIIE Committee events.
- The school is supported by tremendous parental support. As a token of appreciation, a school-wide invite was extended to parents to attend the Annual NSES Volunteer Appreciation Tea.
- The WIST and MHCB Coach organized two Cooking Up A Story events. These virtual events were positively received with 68 participants from 15 families attending the Fall 2022 event and 77 participants from 17 families at the Spring 2023 event.
- The NSES parent community eagerly participates in Kindergarten Rostering, classroom parties, hot lunches, School Council, PIIE, and Christmas concert decorating.

NSES GOAL 2

Utilize the foundations of Visible Learning to assess student progress and continuously refine teaching practices to maximize learning potential.

Alignment with Division Core Values:
Student-Centered Learning

Timeline: 3 year goal

Rationale: Visible Learning encourages schools to collect and analyze data on student performance, allowing educators to make informed decisions about instructional strategies, interventions, and curriculum improvements.

TIMELINE	STRATEGIES	SUPPORTING DATA
2023-2024	- School staff will expand foundational knowledge and awareness of Visible Learning Concepts - Collect data on selected focus - Use data collected to formulate an action plan focused on improving Teacher Clarity - Professional learning communities	- Administrators participation at division-led Professional Development opportunities focused on John Hattie's research supporting Visible Learning - Qualitative and quantitative analysis of Visible Learning data collected at the school-level - Administration of a survey to identify the impact of implemented strategies
2024-2025	To be determined based on results of the 2023-24 strategy implementation.	
2025-2026	To be determined based on results of the 2024-25 strategy implementation.	

REVIEW & REFLECTION

NSES GOAL 3

To maintain an intentional, data-driven literacy culture through developing and utilizing research-based best practices in literacy instruction.

Alignment with Division Core Values:
Student-centered learning

Timeline: 3 year goal

Rationale: The Alberta Curriculum has phonemic awareness and phonics-focused learning as part of the foundational learning in Division 1. Thus, identifying effective data-driven literacy practices rooted in empirical evidence and implementing them to create a common language throughout the school is essential for both classroom instruction and intervention.

TIMELINE	STRATEGIES	SUPPORTING DATA
2023-2024	- Participating in LIST program - Administration of the division literacy screeners - Analyzing screener data - Pull-out groups for targeted intervention - Cross-grade literacy groupings - Professional learning communities - Professional development - Visible learning professional development, data collection, and data analysis	- Analysis of 2Ts results - Qualitative and quantitative analysis by both LIST and classroom teachers - Analysis of quantitative data collected UFLI progress monitoring - Number of staff engaged in professional development related to literacy instruction
2024-2025	To be determined based on results of the 2023-24 strategy implementation.	
2025-2026	To be determined based on results of the 2024-25 strategy implementation.	

REVIEW & REFLECTION

ACCOUNTABILITY OVERALL SUMMARY
SPRING 2023

Required Alberta Education Assurance Measures - Overall Summary
School: 3221 New Sarepta Elementary School

Assurance Domain	Measure	New Sarepta Elementary School			Alberta			Measure Evaluation		
		Current Result	Prev Year Result	Prev 3 Year Average	Current Result	Prev Year Result	Prev 3 Year Average	Achievement	Improvement	Overall
Student Growth and Achievement	Student Learning Engagement	88.5	87.3	87.3	84.4	85.1	85.1	n/a	Maintained	n/a
	Citizenship	94.2	95.2	92.7	80.3	81.4	82.3	Very High	Maintained	Excellent
	3-year High School Completion	n/a	n/a	n/a	80.7	83.2	82.3	n/a	n/a	n/a
	5-year High School Completion	n/a	n/a	n/a	88.6	87.1	86.2	n/a	n/a	n/a
	PAT: Acceptable	n/a	80.6	n/a	n/a	67.3	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	PAT: Excellence	n/a	27.5	n/a	n/a	18.0	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Diploma: Acceptable	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	75.2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Diploma: Excellence	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	18.2	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a
Teaching & Leading	Education Quality	96.1	97.1	96.6	88.1	89.0	89.7	Very High	Maintained	Excellent
Learning Supports	Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning Environments (WCRSLE)	95.6	97.2	97.2	84.7	86.1	86.1	n/a	Maintained	n/a
	Access to Supports and Services	93.4	92.3	92.3	80.6	81.6	81.6	n/a	Maintained	n/a
Governance	Parental Involvement	88.9	84.5	85.4	79.1	78.8	80.3	Very High	Maintained	Excellent

Measure Evaluation Reference

Achievement evaluation is based upon a comparison of Current Year data to a set of standards which remain consistent over time. The Standards are calculated by taking the three-year average of baseline data for each measure across all school jurisdictions and calculating the 5th, 25th, 75th and 95th percentiles. Once calculated, these standards remain in place from year to year to allow for consistent planning and evaluation.
The table below shows the range of values defining the five achievement evaluation levels for each measure.

Measure	Very Low	Low	Intermediate	High	Very High
Citizenship	0.00 - 66.30	66.30 - 71.63	71.63 - 77.50	77.50 - 81.08	81.08 - 100.00
3-year High School Completion	0.00 - 65.95	65.95 - 74.10	74.10 - 84.79	84.79 - 89.00	89.00 - 100.00
5-year High School Completion	0.00 - 72.59	72.59 - 80.82	80.82 - 89.18	89.18 - 91.96	91.96 - 100.00
PAT: Acceptable	0.00 - 66.07	66.07 - 70.32	70.32 - 79.81	79.81 - 84.64	84.64 - 100.00
PAT: Excellence	0.00 - 9.97	9.97 - 13.44	13.44 - 19.56	19.56 - 25.83	25.83 - 100.00
Diploma: Acceptable	0.00 - 71.45	71.45 - 78.34	78.34 - 84.76	84.76 - 87.95	87.95 - 100.00
Diploma: Excellence	0.00 - 9.55	9.55 - 12.59	12.59 - 19.38	19.38 - 23.20	23.20 - 100.00
Education Quality	0.00 - 80.94	80.94 - 84.23	84.23 - 87.23	87.23 - 89.60	89.60 - 100.00
Parental Involvement	0.00 - 70.76	70.76 - 74.58	74.58 - 78.50	78.50 - 82.30	82.30 - 100.00