

Great happens here



Black Mountain Elementary

Accounting for 1.9% of our district population, our school of 402 students boasts 50% female, 50% male students. Of this 11.4% are Aboriginal students, 1.5 % are English Language Learners (ELL), and 8.1% are special needs students.

Our Focus: Academic and Leadership

2016-2017

Black Mountain is an exciting learning community where we empower our students to be their best using their head, heart and hands. Our students are safe, connected, and valued in our school where we expect them to think, to have empathy, and to contribute. On a recent student feedback survey (2015), 71% stated the best things about Black Mountain are the friendly people, and the great environment. On one feedback form a student wrote, "The best thing about BME is the caring, loving teachers and students." And, one other student wrote, "The best thing about BME is everyone is happy, joyful, and kind to each other."

Our Commitment:

- We will maintain student interest by helping students see how what they are learning prepares them for life in the real world (eg. multi-age activities, field trips, Science Fair, Project-Based Learning, Mind Up).
- We will instill curiosity, which is fundamental to lifelong learning.
- We will excite learners to become even more resourceful so that they will continue to seek learning even outside the formal school day.

- We will continue to teach the attributes to improve students' ability to positively contribute to the classroom and school community and make the connections with our new redesigned curriculum's competencies.
- Award year-end recognition to those gr. 5 students who demonstrate the attributes of a learner.
- Continue to staff our Learning Commons to support co-planning and co-teaching instructional practices.
- Continue to train staff on Covey's 7 Habits of Happy Kids and implement the "Leader in Me" concept as a whole school approach to enhance and celebrate the character of our students; this vehicle will provide common language for all stake holders in our community to teach students the importance of leadership.
- NEW:** Use Fresh Grade as a vehicle to provide evidence and a portfolio for three-way communication between home, school, and student as a formal reporting tool.
- NEW:** Committed to explore, to plan, to reflect and to review daily in our teacher the Redesigned Curriculum published by the Ministry of Education.

GOAL #1

To continue to work towards the District Goal of 90% of K – Gr. 5 students meeting or exceeding in reading, writing and numeracy while increasing our overall level of achievement in all areas.

GOAL #2

All of our students, grades K-5, will be taught the relevance of the attributes of a 21st century learner - learner, thinker, innovator, contributor, and collaborator - empowering our students to positively contribute in the classroom and school community.

Every student. Every chance. Every day.

21st Century Students:

Black Mountain is a true learning community for the 21st century which honours collaboration, communication, connection, and creativity. We promote our district's one goal of ensuring our students understand and demonstrate what it means to be a learner, thinker, innovator, contributor, and collaborator.



i) **Thinker** - our staff provides our students an opportunity to critically think, to problem solve, to be open-minded, flexible, and reflective through activities like our Maker Space, Literature Circles, Daily 5, Math circles, Guided Reading, self-assessment, and Gr. 1 Golden Apple Reading Program.

ii) **Collaborator** - our staff provides our students an opportunity to appreciate diversity, communicate effectively, be

independent, while also being able to work well in groups through activities like Pink Shirt Day, earning "This Bear C.A.R.E.S. slip", the use of Kagan Structures, Big Buddy/Little Buddy groups, and Spirit Groups.

Our Mission: Through a safe, nurturing and inspiring learning environment, we encourage students to achieve to the best of their ability. Students will be provided with opportunities to set goals and to develop into confident learners. We believe all students need an opportunity to demonstrate in their learning styles the five attributes of a 21st century learner (collaborator, contributor, innovator, thinker, and learner). *Our goal is to develop in students a commitment to lifelong learning in order to become positive and productive healthy leaders of our community.*

iii) **Contributor** - our staff provides our students an opportunity to find, follow, and lead by their passions, act respectfully, to show integrity, and to embrace diverse cultures and lifestyles through activities like Social Justice Club, community field trips, and school wide recycling programs, Litter-less Lunches, student-led initiatives and Choir.



iv) **Learner** - our staff provides our students an opportunity to learn about reading, writing, math and healthy lifestyles demonstrating their learning through activities like Battle of the Books, Whole Body Listening, peer mentors, math elite group, Take a Break basket, sport team participation, students' portfolios, and student-led conferences.

v) **Innovator** – our staff provide our students an opportunity to use their curiosity, creativity, initiative, and imagination through activities like learning centers, project-based learning, service activities, school performances, Mind Up, Roots of Empathy, inclusive practices, and technology assisted learning.

Indicators:

- Early Development Index (K)
- Middle Years Development Index (gr. 4)
- PM Benchmarks (gr. 1 – 5)
- Early Learning Profiles (K – gr. 3)
- Foundation Skills Assessment (gr. 4)
- Satisfaction Survey (gr. 4)
- School Wide Write (gr. 3-6)
- Award List of recipients (gr. 5)
- Leadership Activity Participation Rate
- Participants in Student-led Conferences (K – gr. 5)
- Report Card Data (K – gr. 5)

ACADEMIC



Target: 95% of students will meet or exceed writing expectations by final term gr. 5.

Target: 95% of students will meet or exceed reading expectations by final term gr. 3, and on the gr. 4 FSA assessment.

Target: 95% of students will meet or exceed numeracy expectations by final term gr. 5, and on the gr. 4 FSA assessment.

Target: 95% of our students will meet or exceed oral language skills by final term gr. 3.

LEADERSHIP

Target: 95% of our students will take ownership of their learning and personal growth by setting goals, monitoring goals, and celebrating their successes.

- 97% of GR. 4 students on the 2015 Satisfaction Survey responded that they try their best at school all/most of the time.

Target: 90% of students will engage in a three-way dialogue each spring to share and demonstrate their learning in a personally meaningful way with parent and teacher.

Target: 95% of students will have the opportunity to access, process, express, and generate knowledge using a variety of technologies.

Target: 100% of students will be allowed to be a 'leader' in their class, school, and community.

Target: 100% of students will express their feeling that BME is a safe, caring community.

- 100% of gr. 4 students on the 2016 MDI responded that "at my school there is an adult who believe I will be a success".
- 91% of gr. 4 students on the 2015 Satisfaction Survey responded that they respect people who are different from themselves most/all the time.
- 91% of gr. 4 students on the 2016 MDI Survey responded "I feel like I am important to this school".