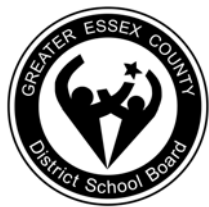


EQAO Community Report for 2008-2009

Northwood Public School



Greater Essex
County District
School Board

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About the Test

The Education Quality and Accountability Office (EQAO) primary and junior assessments are conducted annually in every publicly-funded Ontario elementary school. All Grade 3 and Grade 6 students are expected to participate in the assessments, which measure how well students are able to demonstrate the Ontario curriculum expectations in reading, writing and mathematics. Student results are reported by levels of achievement as outlined in the Ontario Curriculum (Level 1 is below the provincial standard, Level 2 is approaching the standard, Level 3 is meeting the standard, and Level 4 exceeds the provincial standard).

Highlights of School Results

We were extremely pleased with the performance of our grade 3 and 6 students on last year's EQAO assessment. In both grade 3 and 6, the percentage of students who met or exceeded provincial standards was above the board and the province in all areas assessed (Reading, Writing, and Mathematics). As you can see from the graphs on the back of this letter, our results show an increase over the previous year and an overall increase over a five year period. It is significant to report that a high percentage of our students (70% of grade 3 and 51% of grade 6) report that their first language learned at home was not English. We also have a high degree of transience (students moving in and out of the school) which makes it difficult to compare results from year to year. As well, many students are absent for extended periods of time, and they miss the instruction in various areas. We are pleased to report that we are closing the gender gap in reading and math. We will continue to monitor the gap in writing to improve in this area.

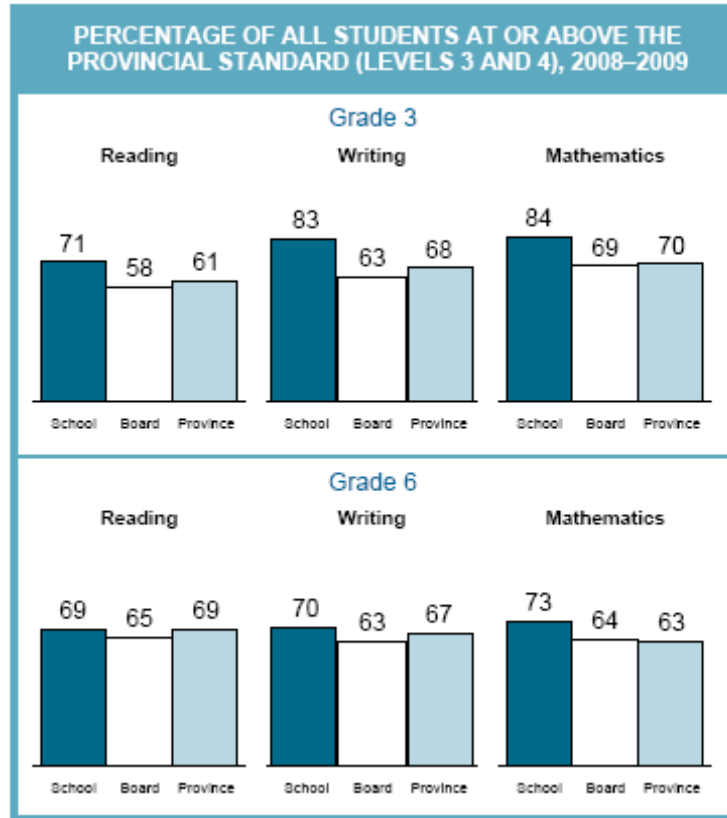
School Level Initiatives

Northwood Staff use a variety of methods to determine student strengths and areas of need. As part of our Strategic Learning Plan, teachers will be using the results of these assessments to set goals by grade level. These Learning Pathways direct teacher instruction in order to increase student achievement. Learning Support continues with both in-class and withdrawal support. The school continues to participate in the Math Tutor Program for students in various grades. The Literacy and Numeracy Support Teacher continues to be utilized to model and coach teachers in using effective strategies as well as to support the analysis of data to determine specific needs in whole class, small groups and individual students. School Council will work with the school to continue offering information sessions to assist parents in understanding the curriculum and how to work with their children at home to enjoy reading. We now have an ESL teacher on staff to work with English Language Learners and give support to teachers and students throughout the school.

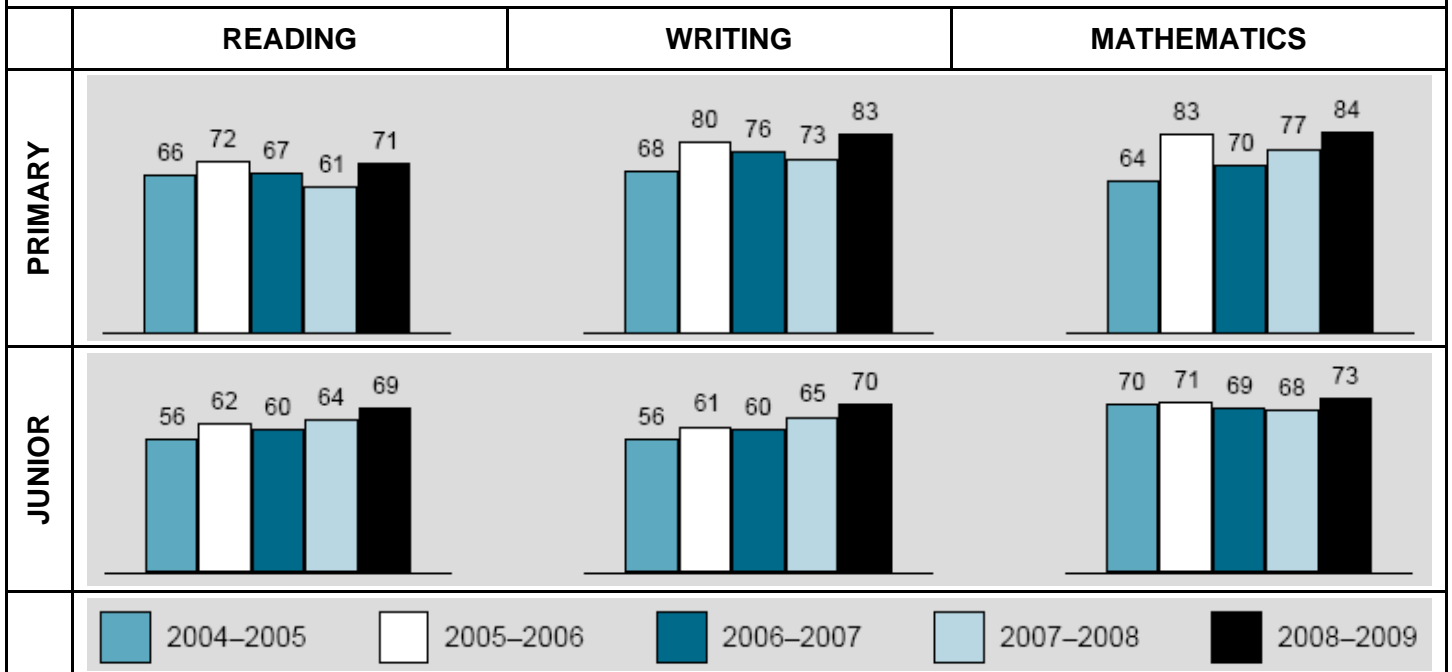
Next Steps

Our staff will be conducting a thorough analysis of both individual and school results, focusing on patterns and trends over time. Our analysis will lead to the identification of specific improvement goals in the areas of reading, writing and mathematics. We will identify the specific strategies which have supported our growth and success and, therefore, need to be maintained. As well, we will identify specific strategies which focus on the areas which require further development. The goals and strategies identified through this process are the key components of our Strategic Learning Plan. A copy of our plan is available in the school.

Percentage of All Students At or Above The Provincial Standard (Levels 3 and 4)



Percentage of All Students At or Above The Provincial Standard (Levels 3 and 4) Over Time at Northwood Public School



Additional information is available at www.eqao.com