

## Sharing our Provincial Achievement Test Results for 2014

We have a strong tradition of excellence here at Sturgeon Heights School. Our teachers are creative and continue to push for innovative ways to engage students in learning. In turn, our students are inquisitive and engaged learners who continue to amaze us in with the work they do throughout the year. This past year, our provincial achievement results were stronger again than provincial average in nearly all areas. We continue to meet within our division or subject matter and discuss how to better to support our learners for this style of assessment.

Test Written in English	% of Students Achieving the <b>Acceptable</b> Standard		% of Students meeting the Standard of <b>Excellence</b>	
	Sturgeon Heights	All of Alberta	Sturgeon Heights	All of Alberta
Grade 3				
LA	N/A	N/A	N/A	N/A
Math				
Grade 6				
LA	96.4	81.9	28.6	17.6
Math	96.4	73.5	17.9	15.4
Science	96.4	75.9	25.0	24.9
Social	82.1	70.4	10.7	16.6
Grade 9				
LA	82.9	76.3	17.1	15.1
Math	75.6	67.1	31.7	17.3
Science	85.4	73.2	36.6	22.1
Social	78.0	65.5	26.8	19.9

\*Standards achieved by all students; excused students reported as achieving 0 on the test.

All parents should know that education in the province of Alberta is moving away from provincial achievement exams in favor of assessment that is aligned with growth and emerging curriculum. As we want our students to be engaged thinkers and ethical citizens with an entrepreneurial spirit we will need better ways to assess them and report their progress. This movement has already begun with our last year grade 3 class not writing a PAT, and this year our grade 3 class has written Student Learning Assessments in both Literacy and Numeracy. Soon we will phase out provincial achievement exams in 6, and 9, as well. Instead we will have student learning assessments at the beginning of those grades. This should provide teachers, students, and parents with a better understanding early in the year and create opportunities for growth. The new assessment will also help educators and parents understand how well students demonstrate competencies such as creativity, critical thinking and problem-solving. For more information, please go to the Alberta Education website, or their specific press release on the new exams; <http://bit.ly/PAT-press>. I would also invite anyone to drop by or call the school for further discussion in this area.