

Sharing our Provincial Achievement Test Results for 2015

We have a strong tradition of excellence here at Sturgeon Heights School. Our teachers have high expectations and continue to encourage and challenge our students in engaging learning environments. 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 strong again. We continue to achieve greater than provincial average in nearly all areas. When these results come out, we meet as division or subject area staff to discuss trends and look for ways to improve our practice in relation to preparing students for this provincial measure of achievement. These results are also presented each year to our School Council.

Test Written in English	% of Students Achieving the Acceptable Standard*		% of Students meeting the Standard of Excellence*	
	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	93.8	82.8	21.9	19.5
Math	87.5	73.3	12.5	14.1
Science	93.8	76.4	31.3	25.3
Social	93.8	69.8	25.0	18.1
Grade 9				
LA	92.6	75.6	22.2	14.4
Math	92.3	65.3	46.2	18.0
Science	88.5	74.1	46.2	22.9
Social	74.1	65.1	22.2	19.8

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

Information related to Student Learning Assessments

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 grade 3 students who now write Student Learning Assessments at the beginning of their year instead of the PATs. When this new style of assessment is providing clear and reliable information to our teachers, students and families, the province will be phasing out provincial achievement exams in 6, and 9, and instead 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.