

ALONSA SCHOOL

COMMUNITY REPORT 2020/2021

Alonsa School Life

Alonsa School is a K-12 school with an enrollment of 110 students—a decrease from normal due to the pandemic. There is a professional staff of 11 and support staff of 7. There are one secretary, one librarian, one caretaker and one cleaner, one community connector and one support worker as well as five bus drivers. All staff work together to create a positive, clean, and supportive learning environment.

This year we had multiple changes due to the pandemic. First, we had to separate into cohorts of K to 6 and Gr. 7 to 12. Physical education was instructed by the classroom teachers for K to Grade 6. Second, there was no extracurricular activities nor invitations to visitors to the school.

School personnel worked to reduce the impact of the pandemic on the academic gains of students. In class, remote learning and homework packages addressed the challenges of learning under the new cir-



Alonsa School

cumstances. Between concern over the virus, attendance, self-isolating and illnesses, recognizing, encouraging and celebrating student learning became a challenge.

As a result of the Covid-19 pandemic, the importance of student and staff safety was paramount. The school operated at the restricted orange level for the year. Masks were required for all students Gr. 4 to 12 and all staff. Social distancing was promoted and practiced throughout the school.

Alonsa School had one posi-

tive case of covid within the the school although there were cases within the communities that were feeder communities to the school.

As learning gaps due to attendance was an area of concern, the school organization was changed to address the gaps. As the concerns stemmed from the previous year, the concerns over learning gaps remain.

The school continued and will continue to focus on literacy, numeracy, engagement, mental health and sustainable development next year.

June 2021

The year in review

Special points of interest:

- School Profile
- Priorities for student success
- Assessments
- Academic Achievement
- Pandemic Implications
 - On Sports
 - On Safety
 - Special Events
- Fond farewells and Passing the Torch

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School Priorities

#1. To build a positive school culture. Strategies:

- A) Virtual Presentations
- B) Modified Spirit weeks
- C) Encourage a positive and respectful environment

#2 To improve literacy and numeracy. Strategies

- A) Reading Recovery
- B) 6 Period Day
- C) Courses that run all year
- D) Incorporated use of technology
- E) Attendance tracking

3# To promote student independence. Strategies

- A) Encourage and support independence
- B) Self-directed learning
- C) Learning Centers
- D) Options in Assignments

Provincial Examinations, Assessments, Goals

In the past years, Alonsa School students wrote the Provincial, divisional or local examinations in June. However, this year, Grade 12 Provincial ELA and Math Assessments were cancelled. Students in Grade 9 to 11 complete final assessments, the forms of which were determined by individual teachers to meet the needs of students.

As the provincial exams were not written in June of last year, the information about performances is not available.

In previous years

- the ELA Provincial performance exam was about the provincial average.
- The school average on the Essential

Math provincial exam was slightly below the provincial average.

- The school average, on the applied math exam, was slightly below the provincial average.

Because of inconsistent student attendance around the province due to the pandemic, there were few examinations written. As no exams were written, we do not know how well our students would have performed on provincial assessments.

mRLC

Currently Gr. 4 to 9 follow the instruction pattern of the mRLC for math. To date, results for all levels have been positive.

Division and School Goals

We are working continuously on the issues of Mental Health as this factors into attendance, social interactions and academic performance in all grades.



Grade Level Success and Credit Attainment

This year students from K to Gr. 8 were challenged to complete the outcomes of the curriculums of courses. Learning gaps have occurred but they will be addressed next year.

Of the Grade 9 to 12 students, 6 of the 6 potential grads will graduate. The pandemic and precautions posed a challenge for students to complete curricular assess-

ments in each of the courses.

Computer hardware and internet connectivity offered opportunities and challenge for students completing courses.

Next year is still a guess as far as the pandemic levels. We hope that classes will be back to normal operations but that is a decision made from outside the school.

As a school we operate within the public guidelines and work the best way possible for the benefits of the students.



Continuous Improvement

Teachers and EA's assist students to develop their capability for working both successfully and independently.

This year, there was not the normal continued utilization of the opportunity room as an additional step in behavior intervention. Interventions were conducted within the classroom. Students who had difficulty self regulating were provided opportunities to self-regulate first in the classroom. The opportunity room became our covid isolation room for student before being

picked up by parents or guardians.

Phone calls were made when students were not in school, as attendance plays an important role in academic achievement. It was also a measure for ensuring that students displaying covid type symptoms would remain home.

As absences increase, instruction is missed and gaps in learning occur. After the recent suspension of classes, the gaps are larger and more diverse. We are and

All progress begins with a dream. What we can conceive we are able to achieve.

will be working to close these learning gaps, with the help of parents there will be success.

Our Breakfast program changed with the addition of a community connector support worker.

Sports

Our students performed well in the physical education classes. There has not been any scheduled sporting competitions between schools this past year with the exception of a virtual track and field meet. Our students want to be competitive and to positively represent this school.

Hopefully, next year will be a better year for between school competitions.

In the previous years, Alonsa students were tough competition for the other schools of this division. We have a small group of high school students who take part in most of the sporting activities of this division.

With this year being without competitions, Alonsa Students will be ready for the competitions beginning next year.



Safety and Security

This year the hold and secure safety protocol continued within the school safety procedures. All doors were locked at all times. East and south doors were monitored before school during breaks and at lunch time.

Any visitor arriving at the school was to come to the south door where there is door bell and camera for communication with the office of the school. Entry was gained

through the remote door opening if needed. Otherwise, staff or students went to the door to contact the person at the door..

This year, anyone entering the school was expected sanitize their hands, wear a mask and maintain a social distance of 6 feet.

For the end of day departures, students were called to load the buses and lined up in reverse order to drop off. Students were



placed in this order to minimize the close contact of students when loading and when on the bus. This was done for the purpose of student and staff safety.

Special Events

Special events were to interject novelty, spirit and information into the routine of the school. This years events have been no exception, although done virtually or with covid procedures in place.

School Presentations

Virtual presentations were available to teachers to access. Classes joined as they were able and where the presentations were appropriate.

Tell Them From Me Survey—which provides a student perspective of bullying, school climate and student engagement within the school was completed this school year.

Spirit Weeks were common this year. They involved dressing up according to themes over the course of the week. The Christmas Dinner, and Breakfast with Santa, was complete within individual classes with individually prepared food contain-

ers.

Other



events: Book Fair was on line and Remembrance Day was in the classroom

Graduation Ceremonies will be conducted on June 26th, 2021.

Alonsa School



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Making a Difference through Empowerment



Suspension of Classes

As classes were suspended last year, student progress has been a priority this year. Teachers worked to help students learn and understand the past as well as the current outcomes.

Given the absences of students for many reasons, teachers worked to address the learning gaps that have occurred due to the loss of instructional time. These learning gaps present a very diverse class composition.

The report card is issued at the end of June for all students. This report card presents an assessment of learning that has occurred over the course of the year.

Student Council;

This year, with students in school and class for the most of the school year, the student council was as active as it could be. The council members, however, were limited as to how they could encourage participation within the school.

There was no canteen in which to work. However, the drink machine was regularly stocked with the popular beverages.

They organized the spirit weeks that took place over this year. When held—Christmas, February, March, June—, they included themed dress up days and special activities to promote the participation of all students of the school.

Thank you to all that took part in Student Council activities. The student council plays an important role in Alonsa School.



A Fond See-You-Later and Good-Bye

This coming year we will have some new faces in the School. As there has been some changes to staff assignments, the class arrangements will be K/1, 1/2, 3, 4/5, 5/6, 7/8, 9, 10, 11, and 12.

As there is no longer Grade 4a and 4b, the Grade combinations will be 4/5 and 5/6.

We are saying good-bye to the Graduating Grade 12 students. Although a small graduating class of regular students during a pandemic year, the Grade 12 class embodies the spirit of graduation—the culmination of 12 years of formal education.

We are saying good-bye Ms. Steiner, Ms. Johnson, Mr. Dupasquier, Mrs. Cabak, and Mr. McMichael.

We wish them all well on their individual journeys of retirement plans or other challenges as the years pass.

We will have an opportunity to say our good-byes to our Graduates on June 26, 2021. It will be a graduation parade with all students.

For those students who will not be returning to Alonsa School we offer a fond



farewell. We hope that your time in this

school gave you many good memories.

As this school year closes another year is set to open for 2021/2022.

