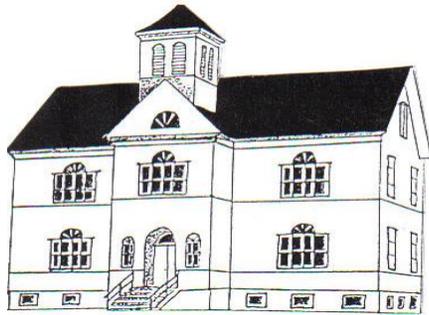


# Great Village Elementary School



## Annual Report 2014-2015

Great Village Elementary School is located in a small rural community serving students from Great Village and the surrounding communities of Londonderry, Folly Mountain, East Village and Highland Village. The school opened in 1904 and in 2004 received the designation of a Provincial Heritage Property. In 1989 a gymnasium was constructed adjacent to the school. At one time, students graduated Grade 12 from the school. Currently, the school has 48 students in grades Primary through Four.

At Great Village Elementary, students are taught in cooperative and student-centered classrooms where individual learning needs are recognized and nurtured.

We are fortunate to have a technology rich school. Each classroom has a minimum of four computers, an LCD projector, Apple TV and iPad, Mimeo Teach, as well as access to a set of four iPads, 16 Netbooks, and Mimiovote. Technology is integrated into all subject areas in our classrooms.

### School Advisory Council

The advisory council promotes school improvement through cooperation among the school, home, and the community. Our council consists of the principal, a teacher, administrative assistant, two parents, and two community members. Although Council met less frequently this year, there was regular email communication throughout the year. Through requests to appropriate departments, Council again addressed concerns related to the physical structure of our school property (e.g. deteriorating asphalt, pot holes, peeling paint). The committee encourages interested parents, guardians, or community member to become involved in the SAC.

### Our Students & Staff

There are presently 48 students registered in Grades Primary to Four.

Gr. Primary	Gr. 1/2	Gr.3/4
16	13	19

Our teaching staff has 4.7 teaching positions (3 Classroom Teachers, 0.60 Principal, 0.40 Program Support, 0.30 Early Literacy Support, and 0.20 each for Phys. Ed. and Music). An education assistant, an administrative assistant, custodian and two playground supervisors also provide support to our school. We share the services of literacy and math mentors, a speech-language pathologist, and a psychologist with other schools.

### Our Partners

We are fortunate to have an active and dedicated **Home & School Association**. Two successful fund raising activities (Christmas Raffle, Read-A-Thon) raised over \$2300.00 to support numerous school activities. This year's first-ever Read-A-Thon had students collect pledges from family members for reading a minimum of an hour a day on ten days over a two week period. Together, students read for hundreds of hours and raised \$1400.00. Through the Home & School, and community support, volunteers constructed a sandbox and two planters to enhance the school property.

A preschool program, Maggie's Place, is offered at the gymnasium once a week during the day, and the **Great Village Community School** coordinates a variety of evening programs for community members of all ages.

## CONTINUOUS

### School Improvement

A review of the data from Nova Scotia Provincial Assessments in literacy (RW3) and mathematics (M4) led to the following **Student Achievement Goal**:

*By the fall of 2017, 75% of Great Village Elementary students will achieve Level 3 or Level 4 on the Grade 4 Nova Scotia Provincial Math Assessment.*

**Strategy:** Review and Respond to Our Student Results on the M4

**Actions & Evidence:**

- All students identified as not meeting expectations were provided targeted support in the classroom and through Program Support.
- Teacher tracking sheets show evidence that students practiced the selected response question format at least once each week using a variety of methods (e.g. exit slip, Mimiovote) in all subject areas.

**Strategy:** Use Technology to Support Instruction & Learning

**Actions & Evidence:**

- A set of four iPads and storage cart were purchased to be available for classroom use.
- All teachers were trained and used the Educreation App to support instruction and student learning.

**Strategy:** Review Classroom Instruction and Assessment for the Measurement Strand

**Actions & Evidence:**

- Working through a developmental continuum from Grades Primary through Four Improved teacher understanding of the curriculum outcomes in measurement.
- Best practices in instruction focused on communication in the classroom (e.g. repeating, re-voicing) In a survey at the end of the year, all teachers reported to have increased their use of effective communication strategies in mathematics.

**Strategy:** Explore & Practice Strategies to Encourage Students to be Prepared to Learn

**Actions & Evidence:**

- Teachers were trained in the Zones of Regulation curriculum designed to foster self-regulation and emotional control.
- Students can identify the zones of regulation and strategies to be prepared for learning.

### Thank-You

Thank-you to everyone who contributed to our school this past year. Your interest and support make a difference.

### Other School Activities

Open House, Terry Fox Run, Stand Up Speak Out Stop Bullying Together (We Are Not Afraid), The Virtues Project, Peace Groups, Playground Activity Leaders, Noon Sports & Music Groups, International Walk to School, Gingerbread Houses, Christmas Concert (Rock and Roll at the North Pole), Choir, Take the Roof Off Winter, Peace Week, Family Night Out, Maritime Marionettes Puppet Making, Dare to Dance Zumba, Fluoride Rinse, Celebration of Reading, Volunteer Social, Classroom Café (special meals for Christmas, Easter, Peace Week Breakfast & Field Day), Yearbook, Kids Run Club, Learn 2 Fish, Earth Day Stations, Fundy Geological Museum, Field Day, Breakfast Program, Friday Smoothies, Vegetable Garden, **Charity Fund Raisers** (Terry Fox Run, Colchester Food Bank), **Presentations/Special Assemblies** (Fire Safety, Bus Safety, RCMP Stranger Awareness, Library, African Drumming, Maritime Marionettes, Remembrance Day, Northumberland Youth Ballet, Discovery Centre (Hocus Focus, Planetarium Classroom Presentations), **School Trips** (Cougar Dome, Colchester Balefill & Composting Facility, Victoria Park, West Colchester United Arena, Rath Eastlink Community Centre, Bible Hill Bowlacade, Agricultural Safety Day, Halifax Harbour Hopper, Halifax Public Gardens

