



Provincial Achievement Tests and Diploma Examinations
Results Report 2012-2013
October 2013

*Presented to Board of Trustees, 01 October, 2013
Associate Superintendent Emilie Keane
Associate Superintendent Dianne McConnell*

Parkland School Division Student Performance Results Continue to Improve

Students in Parkland School Division are increasingly demonstrating success in provincial achievement tests and diploma examinations.

Diploma Examination Results Highlights:

Note:

- Grade 12 students have written Diploma examinations for two new courses in Mathematics, Mathematics 30-1 and Mathematics 30-2. The Pure Mathematics courses and the Applied Mathematics courses have been transitioned out of the Program of Studies at the high school level and replaced with the new Mathematics 30-1 and 30-2 courses.
 - Achievement results for the first year of full implementation and testing have been noteworthy, with students surpassing provincial results in
 - Mathematics 30-1 at the Acceptable Standard by 7% and
 - Mathematics 30-2 at the Acceptable Standard by 12.1% and at the Standard of Excellence by 2.7%.
- **Areas to Celebrate:**
 - Results have improved in 6 out of 9 Diploma Examinations at the Acceptable Standard, in 5 out of 9 Diploma Examinations at the Standard of Excellence. Participation Rates improved in 2 out of 9 Diploma Examinations. The new Mathematics 30-1 and 30-2 courses were not included in this comparison.
 - Results surpassed provincial results in 9 out of 11 Diploma Examinations at the Acceptable Standard, in 4 out of 11 Diploma Examinations at the Standard of Excellence and in 3 out of 11 Diploma Examinations on the Participation Rates.
 - Results in the French Language Arts 30-1, Social Studies 30-1 and 30-2 are outstanding. All students writing reached acceptable standards and standard of excellence in Social Studies was 46.2% and 50% respectfully.
- **Noteworthy Improvement of 4% or more was achieved in the following courses:**
 - ***English Language Arts 30-1***
 - Acceptable Standard improved by 4.2%
 - ***Science 30***
 - Acceptable Standard improved by 5.6%
 - ***French Language Arts 30-1***
 - French Language Arts 30-1 Diploma Examination results are outstanding:
 - 100% of students have reached the Acceptable Standard for the third year in a row
 - Achievement at the Standard of Excellence has steadily improved from 5% in 2008-2009 to 22.2% in 2012-2013, surpassing provincial results by nearly 10%. Standard of Excellence improved by 8.9% from last year

- **Areas to Improve:**

- Although the Division has demonstrated ongoing improvement in its results, it will continue to strive to improve results at the **Standard of Excellence** in order to equal or surpass provincial results especially in the following subjects which are 4% or greater below provincial results:
 - Social Studies 30-1
 - Biology 30
 - Chemistry 30
- Compared to provincial participation rates, PSD participation in the more academic courses is lower. The Division strives to increase the number of students writing the more academic courses (e.g. English Language Arts 30-1 instead of English Language Arts 30-2) as this would increase the opportunities students have for future choices in careers.
- It must also be noted that Parkland School Division students have higher rates of high school completion than do students across the province, including our FNMI learners whose results are not segregated out on this report. High schools make every effort to support all students and help them achieve high school completion. As a result, participation rates in the more academic courses are frequently lower than those of the province. Students who may have earned Certificates of Completion in other high schools are encouraged and supported to work toward a high school diploma in PSD high schools, and the great majority of those students are successful in writing the lesser academic diploma examinations. The Division is proud of the work of its staff to support all students and to help them achieve to high standards.

Provincial Achievement Test Results Highlights:

Areas to Celebrate:

- The great majority of Parkland School Division students write the Provincial Achievement Tests. As a result, PSD participation rates surpassed provincial rates on 20 out of 24 provincial tests.
- Parkland School Division maintained or demonstrated improvement in the following areas:
 - At the Acceptable Standard, in 12 out of 24 courses
 - At the Standard of Excellence, in 9 out of 24 courses
 - Participation Rates improved in 13 out of 24 courses
- Parkland School Division surpassed provincial results in the following areas:
 - At the Acceptable Standard, in 15 out of 24 courses
 - At the Standard of Excellence, in 2 out of 24 courses
 - Participation Rates improved in 20 out of 24 courses (in all courses except the Grade 9 French Immersion courses)
- **Noteworthy Improvement of 4% or more was achieved in the following courses:**
 - ***Gr 3 French Language Arts***
 - Acceptable Standard improved by 7.7%
 - ***Gr. 6 French Mathematics***
 - Acceptable Standard improved by 11.4%
 - Standard of Excellence improved by 9.1%
 - ***Gr. 9 K & E English Language Arts***
 - Acceptable Standard improved by 76.8%

- ***Gr. 9 K & E Science***
 - Acceptable Standard improved by 12.4%
 - Standard of Excellence improved by 11.9%
- ***Gr. 9 K & E Social Studies***
 - Acceptable Standard improved by 11.1%
- **Areas to Improve:**
 - Although the Division has demonstrated ongoing improvement in its results, it will continue to strive to improve results at the Standard of Excellence in order to equal or surpass provincial results.
 - Mathematics and Social Studies continue to be disciplines in which students achieve lower than in the other disciplines across the province. This also applies to Parkland students in Grades 6 and 9.
 - The Division will also strive to improve results at the Grade 9 level in all disciplines. School administrators will work with their staff to analyze results and determine appropriate strategies for improvement.

Note: There will be a transition at the Grade 3 level from Provincial Achievement Tests to Student Learning Assessments over the next couple of years. The Division will work closely with instructional staff to maximize the use of this new instrument.

Areas of Improvement:

- **Standard of Excellence**
 - Although we have improved our results at the Standard of Excellence over the past five years, we have continually remained below the provincial results in most Diploma examinations and in many of the Provincial Achievement Tests.
- **Participation Rates** (the percentage of students in the grade 10 cohort who have written four or more diploma exams by the end of their third year in high school, adjusted for attrition)
 - The participation rates on the Diploma Examinations are lower than the provincial participation rates except on the lesser academic courses (English Language Arts 30-2, Social Studies 30-2, and Science 30).

Diploma Examination Results 2012-2013

Applied Mathematics 30	2008-2009		2009-2010		2010-2011		2011-2012		2012-2013	
	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Excellence	16.6	13.5	16.3	12.6	11.1	9.8	9.7	10.3		
Acceptable	86.9	79.4	87.2	77.2	80.7	74.3	78.6	75.6		
Participation	23.4	22.0	22.5	21.8	22.6	22.1	22.4	21.6	0.0	0.2
Biology 30										
	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Excellence	19.6=	26.6=	20.1=	28.1+	21.1=	29.9+	21.6=	28.1=	23.6=	32.4+
Acceptable	83.2=	83.0=	77.4-	81.4-	81.1=	81.9=	85.6=	81.8=	79.3=	84.3+
Participation	35.3	44.3	39.3	45.3	35.9	46.7	31.1	47.1	33.1	42.4
Chemistry 30										
	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Excellence	29.3	27.7	21.5=	29.9+	21.4=	27.7-	26.4=	28.4=	22.3=	31.8+
Acceptable	82.1	76.3	76.1=	79.0+	74.0=	75.1-	78.8=	76.7=	80.4=	78.8+
Participation	25.5	33.3	28.0	39.1	29.9	39.8	28.5	40.4	23.4	31.7
English Language Arts 30-1										
	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Excellence	10.0-	12.3-	8.5-	10.1-	8.4=	10.1-	7.0=	11.3=	8.9=	10.5=
Acceptable	91.7=	86.1-	89.4=	84.9-	90.9=	84.4-	86.1-	86.0+	90.3=	85.9+
Participation	52.2	59.8	51.3	60.0	53.7	60.0	51.6	60.2	44.0	54.4
English Language Arts 30-2										
	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Excellence	10.8=	8.5=	13.6=	9.8+	9.3=	9.1=	11.9=	10.7+	12.2=	11.1+
Acceptable	94.8=	88.2=	93.2=	88.7=	94.1=	88.6=	90.5=	89.5+	92.2=	89.5=
Participation	36.3	27.5	37.7	28.2	37.9	29.3	38.9	29.1	36.1	27.2
Physics 30										
	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Excellence	31.0	23.1	22.9=	20.4-	24.4=	27.7+	29.9=	30.3+	33.6=	30.3+
Acceptable	90.8	79.3	85.4=	74.0-	78.2=	76.7=	87.2=	81.0+	87.9=	81.1+
Participation	10.9	19.8	13.2	22.3	15.0	22.9	16.5	22.5	13.4	17.4
Pure Mathematics 30										
	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Excellence	19.6	26.3	26.1	29.7	23.5	28.7	24.5	27.1		
Acceptable	88.1	82.1	84.1	82.8	79.3	81.0	81.0	81.8		
Participation	35.9	45.8	37.4	46.0	41.5	46.9	38.3	46.7	0.8	7.3
Mathematics 30-1										
	2008-2009		2009-2010		2010-2011		2011-2012		2012-2013	
	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Excellence	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	34.8	35.4
Acceptable	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	87.3	80.3
Participation	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	25.3	29.9

Mathematics 30-2	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Excellence	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	12.3	9.6
Acceptable	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	80.8	68.7
Participation	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	24.8	16.8
Science 30	PSD	Pro v.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Excellence	22.2=	20.9+	31.3=	22.8+	17.0-	20.9=	23.3=	22.0=	20.5=	25.8+
Acceptable	87.7=	86.0=	86.4=	80.1-	80.4-	80.3-	82.2=	79.8-	87.8=	84.1+
Participation	20.5	9.3	19.6	10.1	19.0	10.1	20.7	11.5	19.2	9.8
Social Studies 30-1	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Excellence	n/a	n/a	13.0	116.1	12.4=	14.9-	15.3=	16.7+	11.5=	15.2=
Acceptable	n/a	n/a	84.9	84.5	83.3=	82.8-	86.1=	86.2+	82.7=	85.4+
Participation	n/a	n/a	43.2	49.8	44.3	52.3	41.7	52.0	36.0	46.1
Social Studies 30-2	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Excellence	n/a	n/a	13.2	13.7	18.9+	15.9+	13.5=	13.7-	13.3=	13.9=
Acceptable	n/a	n/a	86.2	85.0	90.6=	85.6=	85.3=	83.0-	84.5=	82.4-
Participation	n/a	n/a	39.6	30.5	45.9	34.9	48.1	36.0	43.0	34.0
French Language Arts 30-1	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Excellence	5.0=	18.9-	6.9=	16.3-	12.5=	14.4-	13.3=	13.4-	22.2=	12.5=
Acceptable	90.0=	95.1=	86.2=	93.7=	100=	95.3=	100=	95.5=	100=	95.3=
Participation	2.6	3.0	3.9	3.2	2.2	3.0	2.2	2.9	2.4	2.7
French Social Studies 30-1	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Excellence									46.2	23.2
Acceptable									100	97.4
Participation										
French Social Studies 30-2	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Excellence									50.0	11.8
Acceptable									100	92.3
Participation										

Note: +, =, - The percentage of students meeting the standard is significantly above (+), not significantly different from (=), or significantly below (-) the previous three-year average. A difference is reported as significant when there is a 5% or smaller probability that a difference of that size could occur by chance. The fewer the number of students, the larger the difference must be from the expectation before it is considered significant. Significance is not calculated for fewer than 6 students.

Provincial Achievement Test Results 2012-2013

Gr. 3 English Language Arts	2008-2009		2009-2010		2010-2011		2011-2012		2012-2013	
	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Acceptable	84.1	81.3	88.7	81.6	86.9	81.8	86.5	81.9	85.9	81.5
Excellence	15.4	18.2	15.9	19.5	16.5	17.5	16.8	20.4	16.2	17.8
Participation	93.9	90.6	95.0	91.1	97.2	91.0	96.3	91.6	97.4	91.3
Gr. 3 French Language Arts	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Acceptable	89.5	83.8	84.1	84.1	90.5	80.6	80.8	82.1	87.1	79.7
Excellence	19.3	15.8	22.2	16.3	20.3	15.8	16.4	14.5	20.0	12.4
Participation	100	96.5	96.8	97.3	97.3	94.6	97.3	96.3	97.1	96.2
Gr. 3 English Mathematics	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Acceptable	82.9	79.2	86.9	75.3	79.4	76.8	79.5	76.1	82.4	75.7
Excellence	20.8	27.2	21.5	25.4	24.5	25.7	21.2	25.1	24.7	25.2
Participation	94.6	90.6	86.8	94.8	94.0	96.6	96.5	91.4	97.4	91.5
Gr. 3 French Mathematics	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Acceptable	87.7	84.0	97.4	83.8	94.5	83.9	84.5	84.2	88.4	84.6
Excellence	21.1	23.2	39.5	20.8	42.5	29.2	36.6	29.5	27.5	27.7
Participation	100	97.7	100	97.7	100	98.2	100	98.6	88.4	84.6
Gr. 6 English Language Arts	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Acceptable	83.6	81.8	87.3	83.3	83.3	83.0	86.6	82.7	82.6	82.6
Excellence	13.2	18.9	18.3	18.9	14.9	18.5	15.3	17.8	10.0	16.3
Participation	93.9	90.0	94.4	90.7	93.6	90.8	95.9	90.8	96.0	90.8
Gr. 6 French Language Arts	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Acceptable	88.5	91.5	92.5	88.3	85.5	89.4	88.8	89.3	82.8	88.6
Excellence	15.4	15.9	7.5	15.9	5.5	17.1	8.7	17.3	4.7	16.3
Participation	98.1	97.6	100	97.5	98.2	97.3	100	97.3	100	98.0
Gr. 6 English Mathematics	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Acceptable	76.1	75.8	75.8	72.8	71.8	72.8	76.7	74.1	69.5	72.1
Excellence	11.7	16.5	12.9	16.3	12.2	17.5	11.2	16.4	9.3	16.3
Participation	94.0	90.1	91.2	87.0	92.9	90.2	95.0	90.4	95.8	90.3
Gr. 6 French Mathematics	2008-2009		2009-2010		2010-2011		2011-2012		2012-2013	
	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Acceptable	92.3	89.0	90.0	86.6	90.9	85.5	76.1	83.8	87.5	85.2
Excellence	11.5	20.6	17.5	18.8	9.1	21.4	6.5	19.2	15.6	18.5
Participation	100	98.3	100	98.5	100	98.4	100	98.3	100	98.5

Gr. 6 English Science	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Acceptable	79.1	76.1	80.9	76.6	72.6	75.7	82.0	77.4	75.9	77.1
Excellence	2104	25.2	24.3	27.0	20.6	25.2	24.8	28.5	19.8	26.2
Participation	93.7	89.0	93.6	89.9	93.3	89.9	95.9	90.3	95.5	90.3
Gr. 6 French Science	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Acceptable	75.0	83.5	77.5	79.5	83.6	83.1	76.1	83.3	84.4	82.6
Excellence	21.2	18.7	15.0	18.3	18.2	22.2	15.2	24.2	6.3	21.0
Participation	98.1	97.9	100	98.5	100	98.2	100	98.4	100	98.4
Gr. 6 English Social Studies	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Acceptable	50	64.1	73.0	70.9	67.8	71.0	75.4	72.9	68.4	72.2
Excellence	0.0	21.5	14.3	16.7	13.1	19.0	16.2	20.1	11.8	19.3
Participation	60.0	76.0	93.8	89.8	93.4	89.9	95.9	90.1	95.3	89.5
Gr. 6 French Social Studies	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Acceptable	n/a	86.8	62.5	72.3	69.1	73.7	60.9	76.5	68.8	78.8
Excellence	n/a	20.8	2.5	12.0	1.8	12.8	2.2	10.3	4.7	15.1
Participation	n/a	97.4	100	98.3	100	98.5	100	98.7	100	98.0
Gr. 9 English Language Arts	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Acceptable	82.9	78.7	82.2	79.3	84.6	79.1	81.9	77.4	80.8	76.4
Excellence	13.5	14.7	11.6	15.0	13.4	16.3	13.9	16.4	13.1	14.7
Participation	93.8	89.7	94.0	89.8	94.3	88.9	94.5	88.9	93.3	87.5
Gr. 9 French Language Arts	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Acceptable	80.5	81.8	80.6	86.1	95.0	88.8	85.7	87.5	66.7	87.2
Excellence	19.5	10.3	16.7	12.4	7.5	15.0	12.2	12.2	2.8	13.9
Participation	87.8	95.2	97.2	98.0	100	97.0	98.0	97.4	91.7	97.1
Gr. 9 English Mathematics	2008-2009		2009-2010		2010-2011		2011-2012		2012-2013	
	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Acceptable	63.7	65.9	62.2	64.0	69.6	65.1	62.8	65.3	68.6	65.5
Excellence	13.2	18.0	11.2	19.0	14.3	17.2	12.2	17.5	12.9	18.0
Participation	91.7	89.2	92.5	85.4	94.6	88.9	93.8	89.2	94.3	87.8
Gr. 9 French Mathematics	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Acceptable	85.0	85.3	83.3	85.9	82.5	82.8	81.6	84.5	69.4	83.4
Excellence	22.5	28.0	47.2	26.6	12.5	19.9	12.2	22.1	5.6	21.8
Participation	97.5	98.5	97.2	98.3	100	98.2	98.0	98.2	91.7	97.5

Gr. 9 English Science	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Acceptable	74.4	71.6	74.6	72.9	80.5	74.1	75.5	73.4	78.9	72.0
Excellence	14.7	15.8	13.4	17.8	21.7	20.8	21.4	22.3	18.2	19.8
Participation	93.6	90.0	93.9	89.8	95.4	89.5	94.5	89.6	94.7	88.3
Gr. 9 French Science	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Acceptable	85.0	82.1	80.6	84.5	85.0	86.6	71.4	85.7	61.1	82.5
Excellence	17.5	15.6	27.8	17.3	12.5	21.0	16.3	24.4	16.7	22.3
Participation	97.5	98.5	97.2	98.7	100	98.6	98.0	98.2	91.7	98.0
Gr. 9 English Social Studies	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Acceptable	n/a	n/a	70.2	68.0	68.1	66.5	72.0	68.1	64.8	64.6
Excellence	n/a	n/a	17.3	18.8	15.4	19.3	16.1	19.5	15.3	19.0
Participation	n/a	n/a	94.2	89.7	93.4	88.2	94.0	88.5	94.0	87.7
Gr. 9 French Social Studies	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Acceptable	n/a	n/a	75.0	83.1	57.5	78.7	65.3	81.3	61.1	77.7
Excellence	n/a	n/a	27.8	18.3	5.0	14.0	6.1	11.9	5.6	14.0
Participation	n/a	n/a	97.2	98.5	100	97.9	98.0	97.4	91.7	98.2
Gr. 9 K&E English Language Arts	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Acceptable	91.7	64.7	92.3	66.8	79.5	67.3	11.0	61.4	88.2	62.4
Excellence	22.2	8.1	7.7	7.8	17.9	7.9	0	5.8	2.9	4.3
Participation	100	82.9	96.2	82.2	97.4	82.8	76.0	80.1	88.2	80.5
Gr. 9 K&E Mathematics	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Acceptable	73.3	64.5	80.0	65.5	65.9	64.7	62.5	62.3	66.7	65.8
Excellence	26.7	15.0	28.0	15.3	6.8	14.8	9.4	15.3	12.1	14.7
Participation	93.3	87.9	96.0	87.2	93.2	87.2	81.3	87.0	90.9	87.9
Gr. 9 K&E Science	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Acceptable	90.0	65.9	92.3	67.1	81.6	69.4	65.6	67.9	81.8	68.5
Excellence	50.0	14.0	7.7	14.3	115.8	15.2	6.3	17.4	18.2	17.1
Participation	96.7	87.1	100	86.6	100	87.0	84.4	95.6	90.9	86.9
Gr. 9 K&E Social Studies	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.	PSD	Prov.
Acceptable	n/a	n/a	69.2	64.5	72.2	61.9	74.2	63.5	85.3	64.6
Excellence	n/a	n/a	23.1	15.7	16.7	13.6	19.4	14.0	11.8	13.1
Participation	n/a	n/a	100	85.1	100	84.1	80.6	83.9	91.2	86.9