



Parkland School Division

Provincial Achievement Tests & June Diploma Examinations Summary Results Report 2015 – 2016

EXECUTIVE SUMMARY

The chart on page 2 reports Parkland School Division student achievement on both Provincial Achievement Tests and Diploma Examinations. Individual subjects are provided in historical detail on the pages that follow. Some considerations:

French Immersion experiences significant growth and strong results, some challenges remain:

- Standard of excellence increased in 6 French Immersion subjects;
- Acceptable standard increased in 7 French Immersion subjects;
- PSD exceeds the province at a standard of excellence in French Language Arts 30-1 by 5.6%;
- PSD exceeds provincial achievement in French Immersion at the acceptable standard in 5 subjects;
- Although the Division continues to reduce the achievement gap in French Immersion, 7 subjects performed below the provincial average at the standard of excellence;
- French Immersion in the sixth grade outperformed achievement performance in the ninth grade.

Parkland School Division continues to produce very strong Diploma results:

- 50% of Physics 30 students achieved a standard of excellence;
- At an acceptable standard, 11 of 11 diploma subjects exceed 90%, notably:
 - 100% acceptable standard for Social 30-1 and French Language Arts 30-1;
 - 99.5% acceptable standard for English 30-1 and 98.7% for English 30-2;
 - 98.4% acceptable standard for Biology 30;
 - 98% acceptable standard for Social 30-2;
- 10 Diploma subjects exceed provincial performance.

Grade nine results identify areas for growth:

- Notwithstanding French and K&E subjects, Parkland School Division performed below the provincial average for grade 9 core subjects at both the acceptable standard and the standard of excellence (Math, Social, Science and English Language Arts);
- Social Studies 9 experienced the greatest challenge of all Achievement Tests and Diploma Examinations with 55.6% of students achieving an acceptable standard;
 - Social Studies 9 has a three-year average performance of 59.9% of students achieving an acceptable standard and will be a focal area for PSD until results improve.

Grade six experienced growth in all subjects:

- Grade 6 students achieved growth at both the standard of excellence and at an acceptable standard in all subjects except math
- Math 6 experienced only a small decline of less than 1%

After a strong year in 2014-2015 K&E, results returned to historical norms in 2015-2016:

- With such a small sample of students (9), K&E is subject to greater variances from year to year.

Math remains as an area for increased focus:

- Although PSD has stronger performance at an acceptable standard, the province exceeded PSD at a standard of excellence in Math 30-1 by 23%
- Math 30-1 grew at an acceptable standard, as did Math 6 and French Math 6 and 9. All other areas for math will require increased focus to reduce the gap.



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Successes		Challenges	
PSD Growth	PSD Exceeds Province	Province Exceeds PSD	PSD Decline
<p>Standard of Excellence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Physics 30 (+19.9) Social 30-1 (+10.0) Fr Science 6 (+9.1) Fr Science 9 (+7.4) Biology 30 (+5.2) Social 6 (+3.0) English LA 6 (+1.9) English 30-1 (+1.7) Fr Social 6 (+1.6) Fr LA 6 (+1.5) Fr Math 6 (+1.5) Science 6 (+1.5) Fr Math 9 (+1.3) Math 6 (+1.0) <p>Acceptable Standard</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fr Social 6 (+21.2) Fr Science 6 (+18.1) Fr LA 9 (+13.0) Fr LA 6 (+12.1) Fr Math 6 (+10.6) Science 30 (+5.1) Biology 30 (+4.5) Fr Social 9 (+3.6) Social 6 (+2.3) Math 30-1 (+2.1) English 30-2 (+1.9) English 30-1 (+1.4) English LA 6 (+1.4) Fr Science 9 (+1.1) Social 30-1 (+1.0) Science 6 (+0.6) Social 30-2 (+0.4) 	<p>Standard of Excellence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fr Lang 30-1 (+5.6) Physics 30 (+4.6) English 30-2 (+0.4) <p>Acceptable Standard</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> K&E Science 9 (14.2) K&E LA 9 (+6.9) Fr LA 6 (+6.2) Fr LA 9 (+3.5) Math 30-1 (+2.9) English 30-2 (+2.4) Biology 30 (+2.3) English LA 6 (+2.3) Fr Social 6 (+2.2) English 30-1 (+1.9) Science 6 (+1.6) Social 30-1 (+1.1) Fr Science 6 (+1.0) Science 30 (+0.7) Fr Lang 30-1 (+0.5) Fr Social 9 (+0.1) 	<p>Standard of Excellence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Math 30-1 (+23.2) K&E Science 9 (14.5) K&E Math 9 (+12.7) K&E Social 9 (+11.8) Science 30 (+10.8) Fr Math 9 (+10.3) Social 6 (+8.6) Science 6 (+8.6) Fr Social 9 (+8.5) Social 9 (+8.1) Fr Science 9 (+7.6) Fr Social 6 (+7.1) Fr LA 9 (+7.0) Science 9 (+6.8) K&E LA 9 (+6.2) English LA 9 (+5.9) Chemistry 30 (+5.7) Math 9 (+5.2) Fr LA 6 (+5.1) Math 30-2 (+5.0) Biology 30 (+4.7) Fr Math 6 (+4.7) English LA 6 (+4.5) Math 6 (+3.0) Fr Science 6 (+2.4) English 30-1 (+1.9) Social 30-1 (+1.4) English 30-2 (+0.4) <p>Acceptable Standard</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> Fr Math 9 (+12.5) Social 9 (+8.4) Math 9 (+5.8) English LA 9 (+4.3) Chemistry 30 (+3.6) Science 9 (+3.2) Fr Science 9 (+2.7) K&E Social 9 (+2.1) Math 6 (+1.7) Fr Math 6 (+1.7) Social 6 (+1.4) Math 30-2 (+1.2) K&E Math 9 (+0.7) Physics 30 (+0.4) 	<p>Standard of Excellence</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> K&E Math 9 (-26.7) Math 30-1 (-24.6) K&E Social 9 (-13.3) Math 30-2 (-8.0) Science 9 (-6.8) Social 9 (-4.6) K&E Science 9 (-4.5) Chemistry 30 (-3.9) Fr LA 9 (-2.3) English 30-2 (-1.5) Science 30 (-1.4) Math 9 (-0.6) English LA 9 (-0.5) Fr Social 9 (-0.3) <p>Acceptable Standard</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> K&E LA 9 (-25.0) K&E Science 9 (-20.0) K&E Social 9 (-11.1) Fr Math 9 (-10.4) Social 9 (-9.7) Science 9 (-8.8) K&E Math 9 (-6.7) Math 9 (-5.6) English LA 9 (-4.8) Math 30-2 (-4.7) Chemistry 30 (-4.4) Math 6 (-0.6) Physics 30 (-0.1)

JUNE DIPLOMA EXAMINATIONS

Subject	2016 Participation Amount by # students		Standard	Province			Parkland School Division			
				2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	+/-
Math 30-1	Prov.	PSD	Acceptable	86.4	86.7	91.2	85.2	92.0	94.1	+2.1
	8,384	51	Excellence	29.6	32.7	35.0	19.3	36.4	11.8	-24.6

Subject	2016 Participation Amount by # students		Standard	Province			Parkland School Division			
				2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	+/-
Math 30-2	Prov.	PSD	Acceptable	83.4	86.4	91.9	85.6	95.4	90.7	-4.7
	6,765	129	Excellence	14.4	17.5	17.4	13.5	20.4	12.4	-8.0

Subject	2016 Participation Amount by # students		Standard	Province			Parkland School Division			
				2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	+/-
Biology 30	Prov.	PSD	Acceptable	94.5	94.1	96.3	97.7	93.9	98.4	+4.5
	11,943	123	Excellence	37.1	37.2	39.7	28.6	29.8	35.0	+5.2

Subject	2016 Participation Amount by # students		Standard	Province			Parkland School Division			
				2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	+/-
Chemistry 30	Prov.	PSD	Acceptable	92.3	92.8	95.1	91.7	95.9	91.5	-4.4
	9,811	82	Excellence	38.5	41.0	42.3	32.3	40.5	36.6	-3.9

Subject	2016 Participation Amount by # students		Standard	Province			Parkland School Division			
				2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	+/-
Physics 30	Prov.	PSD	Acceptable	93.2	93.5	96.2	93.0	95.9	95.8	-0.1
	5,438	48	Excellence	40.2	39.3	45.4	32.6	30.1	50.0	+19.9

Subject	2016 Participation Amount by # students		Standard	Province			Parkland School Division			
				2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	+/-
Science 30	Prov.	PSD	Acceptable	94.2	93.6	96.1	98.6	91.7	96.8	+5.1
	5,023	93	Excellence	26.5	27.4	30.2	31.9	20.8	19.4	-1.4

Subject	2016 Participation Amount by # students		Standard	Province			Parkland School Division			
				2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	+/-
English Language Arts 30-1	Prov.	PSD	Acceptable	96.5	96.5	97.6	97.0	98.1	99.5	+1.4
	14,410	198	Excellence	17.1	18.2	21.1	16.8	17.5	19.2	+1.7

Subject	2016 Participation Amount by # students		Standard	Province			Parkland School Division			
				2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	+/-
English Language Arts 30-2	Prov.	PSD	Acceptable	96.2	95.4	96.3	99.4	96.8	98.7	+1.9
	7,376	155	Excellence	9.6	7.8	8.6	14.6	10.5	9.0	-1.5

Subject	2016 Participation Amount by # students		Standard	Province			Parkland School Division			
				2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	+/-
Social Studies 30-1	Prov.	PSD	Acceptable	97.5	97.8	98.9	96.8	99.0	100.0	+1.0
	10,490	132	Excellence	21.8	24.2	27.9	21.0	16.5	26.5	+10.0

Subject	2016 Participation Amount by # students		Standard	Province			Parkland School Division			
				2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	+/-
Social Studies 30-2	Prov.	PSD	Acceptable	93.1	92.3	94.8	95.6	97.6	98.0	+0.4
	9,590	152	Excellence	13.3	12.3	13.2	16.4	13.9	11.2	-2.7

Subject	2016 Participation Amount by # students		Standard	Province			Parkland School Division			
				2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	+/-
French Language Arts 30-1	Prov.	PSD	Acceptable	NA	NA	99.5	NA	NA	100	
	662	16	Excellence	NA	NA	31.9	NA	NA	37.5	

PROVINCIAL ACHIEVEMENT TESTS

The great majority of Parkland School Division students write the Provincial Achievement Tests. As a result, PSD participation rates surpassed provincial rates on 13 out of 20 provincial tests.

Subject	2016 Participation Amount (674 of 711)		Standard	Province			Parkland School Division			
				2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	+/-
English Language Arts 6	Prov.	PSD	Acceptable	81.9	82.8	82.9	82.6	83.8	85.2	+1.4
	90.6%	94.8%	Excellence	17.6	19.5	20.4	13.1	14.0	15.9	+1.9

Subject	2016 Participation Amount (66 of 66)		Standard	Province			Parkland School Division			
				2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	+/-
French Language Arts 6	Prov.	PSD	Acceptable	86.5	87.5	87.7	80.8	81.8	93.9	+12.1
	97.9%	100%	Excellence	11.1	13.6	14.2	3.8	7.6	9.1	+1.5

Subject	2016 Participation Amount (606 of 644)		Standard	Province			Parkland School Division			
				2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	+/-
Mathematics 6	Prov.	PSD	Acceptable	72.7	72.5	71.4	72.0	70.3	69.7	-0.6
	90.4%	94.1%	Excellence	15.3	13.8	13.8	11.2	7.2	8.2	+1.0

Subject	2016 Participation Amount (66 of 66)		Standard	Province			Parkland School Division			
				2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	+/-
French Mathematics 6	Prov.	PSD	Acceptable	83.9	82.4	82.0	72.4	69.7	80.3	+10.6
	98.3%	100%	Excellence	16.7	17.9	16.8	6.6	10.6	12.1	+1.5

Subject	2016 Participation Amount (608 of 644)		Standard	Province			Parkland School Division			
				2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	+/-
Science 6	Prov.	PSD	Acceptable	75.4	76.0	77.6	76.9	78.6	79.2	+0.6
	90.0%	94.4%	Excellence	25.3	25.9	27.7	23.3	17.6	19.1	+1.5

Subject	2016 Participation Amount (65 of 66)		Standard	Province			Parkland School Division			
				2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	+/-
French Science 6	Prov.	PSD	Acceptable	82.7	80.3	83.8	68.4	66.7	84.8	+18.1
	98.3%	98.5%	Excellence	19.4	18.4	19.1	5.3	7.6	16.7	+9.1

Subject	2016 Participation Amount (606 of 644)		Standard	Province			Parkland School Division			
				2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	+/-
Social Studies 6	Prov.	PSD	Acceptable	70.4	69.6	71.1	70.2	67.4	69.7	+2.3
	89.6%	94.1%	Excellence	12.6	18.7	22.6	17.1	11.0	14.0	+3.0

Subject	2016 Participation Amount (65 of 66)		Standard	Province			Parkland School Division			
				2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	+/-
French Social Studies 6	Prov.	PSD	Acceptable	73.8	72.1	75.1	47.4	56.1	77.3	+21.2
	97.9%	98.5%	Excellence	10.9	9.9	13.7	6.6	4.5	6.1	+1.6

Subject	2016 Participation Amount (661 of 721)		Standard	Province			Parkland School Division			
				2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	+/-
English Language Arts 9	Prov.	PSD	Acceptable	76.3	75.6	77.0	74.0	77.5	72.7	-4.8
	88.8%	91.7%	Excellence	15.0	14.4	15.2	10.2	9.8	9.3	-0.5

Subject	2016 Participation Amount (51 of 52)		Standard	Province			Parkland School Division			
				2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	+/-
French Language Arts 9	Prov.	PSD	Acceptable	86.5	85.8	83.0	80.8	73.5	86.5	+13.0
	96.7%	98.1%	Excellence	11.1	10.1	10.8	3.8	6.1	3.8	-2.3

Subject	2016 Participation Amount (9 of 9)		Standard	Province			Parkland School Division			
				2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	+/-
K&E Language Arts 9	Prov.	PSD	Acceptable	62.8	63.0	59.8	61.5	91.7	66.7	-25.0
	80.0%	100%	Excellence	3.5	4.5	6.2	0	0	0	-

Subject	2016 Participation Amount (616 of 668)		Standard	Province			Parkland School Division			
				2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	+/-
Mathematics 9	Prov.	PSD	Acceptable	65.9	64.0	66.7	62.8	66.5	60.9	-5.6
	88.9%	92.2%	Excellence	16.9	17.5	17.2	11.6	11.4	12.0	-0.6

Subject	2016 Participation Amount (51 of 52)		Standard	Province			Parkland School Division			
				2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	+/-
French Mathematics 9	Prov.	PSD	Acceptable	84.4	84.0	83.7	67.3	81.6	71.2	-10.4
	97.7%	98.1%	Excellence	22.5	24.4	21.8	3.8	10.2	11.5	+1.3

Subject	2016 Participation Amount (10 of 10)		Standard	Province			Parkland School Division			
				2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	+/-
K&E Mathematics 9	Prov.	PSD	Acceptable	63.4	60.6	60.7	61.5	66.7	60.0	-6.7
	86.7%	100%	Excellence	14.5	14.4	12.7	7.7	26.7	-	-26.7

Subject	2016 Participation Amount (620 of 669)		Standard	Province			Parkland School Division			
				2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	+/-
Science 9	Prov.	PSD	Acceptable	72.5	73.3	73.5	73.8	79.1	70.3	-8.8
	89.3%	92.7%	Excellence	22.0	22.8	22.5	17.3	21.3	15.7	-6.8

Subject	2016 Participation Amount (51 of 52)		Standard	Province			Parkland School Division			
				2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	+/-
French Science 9	Prov.	PSD	Acceptable	82.8	84.8	85.4	65.4	81.6	82.7	+1.1
	97.8%	98.1%	Excellence	23.1	23.0	21.1	5.8	6.1	13.5	+7.4

Subject	2016 Participation Amount (9 of 9)		Standard	Province			Parkland School Division			
				2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	+/-
K&E Science 9	Prov.	PSD	Acceptable	64.6	64.6	63.6	69.2	73.3	77.8	-4.5
	85.3%	100%	Excellence	15.1	15.3	14.5	23.1	20.0	-	-20.0

Subject	2016 Participation Amount (613 of 669)		Standard	Province			Parkland School Division			
				2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	+/-
Social Studies 9	Prov.	PSD	Acceptable	64.8	64.4	64.0	58.7	65.3	55.6	-9.7
	88.4%	91.6%	Excellence	20.3	20.0	18.3	14.0	14.8	10.2	-4.6

Subject	2016 Participation Amount (51 of 52)		Standard	Province			Parkland School Division			
				2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	+/-
French Social Studies 9	Prov.	PSD	Acceptable	74.9	74.6	74.9	57.7	71.4	75.0	+3.6
	97.7%	98.1%	Excellence	14.6	17.6	14.3	3.8	6.1	5.8	-0.3

Subject	2016 Participation Amount (9 of 9)		Standard	Province			Parkland School Division			
				2014	2015	2016	2014	2015	2016	+/-
K&E Social Studies 9	Prov.	PSD	Acceptable	61.9	57.3	57.7	61.5	66.7	55.6	-11.1
	83.3%	100%	Excellence	10.8	11.1	11.8	7.7	13.3	-	-13.3

Diploma Exams Provincial Achievement Tests

On October 7th, 2016, results of the Provincial Achievement Tests (PATs) and Diploma Exams will be released to the public. The following messaging has been developed to assist school authorities and partners in discussing the results with their communities. These high level messages may be helpful as school authorities develop messaging specific to their local results.

Overarching Messages:

- Results of provincial assessments are one way of assuring Albertans that the system is meeting provincial standards and the needs of students. These results are used as reporting mechanisms in several Accountability Pillar measures.
- Standardized provincial assessments are meant to complement, not replace, day-to-day teacher observations and classroom assessment.
- Standardized tests are one way of enabling Alberta Education, as well as parents, teachers, and school boards, to assess student achievement and to identify strengths and areas for growth.
- As with previous years' results, there are subjects in which Alberta students have excelled, and others where there is opportunity for growth. These strengths and areas for growth tend to fluctuate from year to year.

Diploma Exams:

- Alberta high school students performed well on diploma exams, most notably in the sciences at the high school level – Biology, Chemistry, Physics and Science.
- Performance in other core subjects at the high school level fluctuated.

- Math at the high school level does not have enough comparable data to comment on results and trends at this time. This is due to the fact that we do not have five years to make statistical comparisons.

Provincial Achievement Tests:

- Across many subjects and grades, students have continued to perform well. As always, there is a fluctuation in results, but there are few substantive trends.
- Students continue to perform well in Grades 6 and 9 English Language and Science.
- We know elementary math continues to need further attention, and we are in the process of addressing that need through dedicated actions related to Math.

Elementary Mathematics:

- We continue to monitor student results on math assessments closely, and have already taken a number of steps to improve factors that contribute to our students being successful in Math.
- Alberta Education is responding to concerns in elementary math specifically through a number of key areas, including the addition of number operations to the 2017 Grade 6 Math PAT.
- Alberta Education is committed to working with our education partners - including post-secondary institutions and teachers – to ensure the elementary math program is meeting student needs.