

NEW HORIZONS SCHOOL

2012-2013

FAST facts

OUR students

NHS priorities

BEING innovative

DOLLARS and sense

The VISION of the New Horizons School is to enable gifted students to strive for excellence in a positive academic learning environment that fosters social and emotional support for each student.

We have:

- ◆ 205 Kindergarten to Grade 9 Students.
- ◆ 22 full and part time staff members including teachers, counselor, administration and support staff.
- ◆ Kindergarten class sizes of 11 students, primary class sizes of 22 students, and grade 4-9 class sizes of 24 or fewer.
- ◆ Wait lists at many grade levels.

Most of our students reside in Sherwood Park and surrounding area. Some come from Edmonton and other nearby communities.

We are a publicly funded school and do not charge tuition fees.



Our students:

- ◆ Are all identified as gifted learners.
- ◆ Attend the only school in the Edmonton area that focusses on meeting the needs of gifted learners in a congregated setting.
- ◆ Have Individual Program Plans that identify learning goals which are addressed throughout the year.
- ◆ Are often among the highest achievers in Alberta on provincial achievement tests in grades 3, 6, and 9.
- ◆ Are not as homogeneous as one might think - each class is composed of students with a variety of academic, social, and emotional needs.
- ◆ Find our school to be a safe and caring place.
- ◆ Enjoy a high level of accessible technology such as our current 1 to 1 student to laptop ratio from grades 6-9.

- ◆ Develop ways to more effectively address differentiated instruction to meet varied learning styles and needs.
- ◆ Improve our ability to support the social and emotional needs of gifted learners.
- ◆ Use sound research to guide our practice.
- ◆ Develop a new admissions policy.
- ◆ Connect with other organizations and institutions to undertake research and support learning for gifted students.
- ◆ Conduct independent research with a view toward developing in-house innovations that will be shared with other educational stakeholders.
- ◆ Secure a facility that meets our learning and instructional needs.

- ◆ All of our students are provided the opportunity to pursue individual interests through independent studies.
- ◆ We have a school-wide accelerated math program allowing students to learn math with their ability peers.
- ◆ We offer mixed-grade Book Clubs as part of the junior high Language Arts program so that students can increase their reading skills.
- ◆ Two classes are learning how to increase student questioning skills so that students can become better skilled at asking the right questions to guide their learning. This research project will be shared with other schools.
- ◆ We are learning how we can increase the creative capacity of our students, our staff, and our school. We will share the framework we develop with other schools.

- ◆ Budgeted revenues for 2012/2013 are \$2.16 million. Of this, 95% will come in the form of grants from the government of Alberta, with the remainder arriving primarily via student fees, other sales and services, and gifts & donations.
- ◆ Expenses in 2012/2013 are expected to be \$2.2 million, yielding an anticipated deficit of \$40,000.00. This will be covered by surpluses accumulated in previous years.
- ◆ As our school population grows, securing and equipping a facility that more adequately meets our needs is becoming increasingly apparent.
- ◆ Over the years, New Horizons has been able to provide free bus transportation for students. As revenues to support transportation funding diminish, alternative funding sources of revenue will be investigated.