

New Horizons School

The vision of the New Horizons School is to enable gifted students to strive for excellence in an environment that is positive with social and emotional support for each student

A Place for *Gifted Learners*

New Horizons is the only school in the Capital Region that provides instruction in a congregated setting to gifted learners from K-9. While the majority of our students live in Sherwood Park and Strathcona County, we attract students from Edmonton and surrounding communities.

Our *Accomplishments*

Academic Achievement

The October Accountability Pillar (2018) indicates that our students are performing at the "Very High" level on Provincial Achievement Tests, with respect to achievement at both the acceptable standard and the standard of excellence. The 2018 indicate some areas that require improvement

School Modernization

Our \$8 million modernization of the school facility began in November 2016. Fillmore Construction of Edmonton was awarded the construction contract for the project.

By the end of June, 2018, the project was completed. The renovations created a brighter learning environment and added new learning spaces. The newly renovated gym area, foods lab, and learning commons are welcomed upgrades. The fourteen outdated modular units were replaced with six new units with extra learning spaces in the hallways.

Meeting the Needs of Gifted Learners

New Horizons continues to be a school of choice for parents with gifted learners in Strathcona County and surrounding communities in such as Edmonton.

The need for gifted programming in our community is evident in our continuous population growth, Prior to our relocation, our population was 220 students. In the 2017-2018 school year, our population grew to 323.

Highlights and Challenges

Continuous Growth

The October Accountability Pillar suggests areas for improvement. In the area of Safe and Caring Schools, we are performing at an "Intermediate" level with 84.4 % of responding stake-holders agreeing that we have a safe and caring school. This is a decline from previous years.

Another area that has been identified as an issue is the area of Work Preparation with a satisfaction level of 77.4%. The drop in satisfaction was the result of the Grade 7-9 student responses.

A third area that was identified as an issue was school improvement. Only 74% of respondents believed that the school has improved or stayed the same over the last three years.

The strategies addressing these issues along with other strategies and initiatives are included in the 2018-2021 Education Plan,

Listening to Our Community

On February 5, 2018 student, parent, and staff representatives participated in a stakeholder forum facilitated by the Community Development Unit of Alberta : Tourism and Culture to help identify priorities for the next Education Plan. Feedback from this session is included in the 2018-2021 Education Plan.

Facility Needs

As our population grows, so does the need for space. In the 2017-2018 school year, we were awarded with one extramodular classroom to accommodate our second Grade 6 class.

A priority for the upcoming year will be to manage the installation of the new modular classroom which will be occupied by our second grade 6 class. As well, we will be seeking arrangements for three more modular classrooms to accommodate a second classroom for grades 7-9.

Other Priorities

Our main priority will be to continue to provide excellent learning educational activities and programs for gifted students in an environment that is inclusive and safe for all students and staff.

Other priorities will be to address the three areas identified as issues in the 2017-2018 Accountability Pillar.

By working closely with staff, students and parents, strategies to address these issues began in the 2017-2018 school year and will continue into the 2018-2019 school year.

Financial Stability

New Horizons School remains financially stable.

The 2017-2018 budget anticipated a surplus of \$158,000; however, the year ended with a surplus of \$38,197.

Revenues from Alberta Education grants for the year ending August 31, 2018 were \$3,657,441 which represented 96.99% of the total revenues. The remainder of \$112,987, or 2.57%, came from other sources such as student fees, other sales and services, and gifts & donations.

Summary 2017-2018

LINKS

Link to AFS: <https://www.newhorizons.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/12/Audited-Financial-Statement-2018.pdf>

Link to Complete AERR: <https://www.newhorizons.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/11/Ed-Plan-AERR-2018-11-30.pdf>