

Calmar Secondary School Education Success Plan – 2019/20 – 2021/22

# CALMAR SECONDARY SCHOOL



Believe ~ Rise ~ Achieve

### **School Profile:**

Calmar Secondary School is a grade 7 – 12 school located in the town of Calmar, Alberta and adjacent to Calmar Elementary School. It is in the Black Gold Regional School Division. Calmar is located 20 km. west of the city of Leduc and approximately 40 km. south west of the city of Edmonton.

### **2019-2020 Population**

The school has a total population of 225 Students

- Grade 7 – 52 students
- Grade 8 – 40 students
- Grade 9 – 30 students
- Grade 10 – 32 students
- Grade 11 – 30 students
- Grade 12 – 41 students

### **Celebrations & Challenges:**

#### **Celebrations**

It has been a great year at Calmar Secondary! The parent in the school community are kind and very supportive. We have a school population of approximately 230 students. This is a great size to personally get to know your student body and staff. This makes discipline issues very minor as most of the time you know the student on a personal level. Having the youthful enthusiasm of grade sevens in the building is great as it encourages our high school students to lighten up a bit. Our junior high students benefit as our high school students usually emulate positive and mature behavior.

On a more specific note, we had students win zones in women's golf, cross country running and volleyball. One student won provincials in golf. A student that was previously awarded a silver at the National Skills competition was awarded our first ever gold after an error in scoring was made. We also increased our course offerings last year by having two flex days in the fall. We had students participate in dual credit courses in both semesters. This has improved our ability to provide flexible programming for our students and give them more choice in our course offerings. We have also been working hard this year in our junior high health classes. We are having our wellness coach come in and deliver sessions on relationships, personal boundaries and kindness.

### **Challenges**

We have also had some challenging events last year. In October we had a grade 7 student pass away suddenly. This had a profound effect on our school community. In the spring we had a school lockdown due to a threat written in the school. These difficult situations increased the stress and fatigue on everyone in the building. I believe that these situations were handled remarkably well and after debriefing with staff, students and parents we increased the resiliency of our school community.

Academically we also have some challenges. With a small staff we struggle to offer a variety of complementary programming for our junior high and high school students. This dissatisfaction can be seen in our Accountability Pillar and Our School surveys as well as in discussions with members of our School Council. We will start to address this next year by offering more flexible programming in the arts. I plan to provide teacher time over the lunch hour to develop leadership, art and second language programming for high school students. In junior high, we will make more staff members available to teach CTF courses. This will allow us some flexibility to offer programming courses, photography and some music. Our academic results are excellent for the most part. We do have to improve both the acceptable and standard of excellence results in Mathematics. This will be done by insuring math is taught by staff with either a Mathematics major or minor next year.

### **Calmar Secondary School School Council Report**

The CSS School Council was officially formed on September , 2018. The executive positions were elected with the Chair being Nhung Tran-Davies, Vice Chair Patti Goudreau and Secretary Dawn Bauer.

The CSS School Council met on a bimonthly basis between September 2018 to June 2019. The topics that were discussed were as follows:

#### **1. Library Usage**

- We felt it was important to encourage literacy by having more books in the library and adding more comfortable furniture and chairs for the students. As well, we felt it was important to have a quiet space for students to get away from the noisy world, to have a place to think, reflect and study. A place where the imagination is nurtured, while other classrooms and foyer can be used for games, more active activities during breaks. The issue how to make the quiet space possible without adequate staffing to supervise the students. The library is currently closed at other times and opened only at lunch time.

#### **2. Language Program**

- It is important for kids to be introduced to and taught a second language, as it not only helps with brain development, but it can also help with cultural understanding as well as opening many opportunities for students. Our rural students are disadvantaged as compared to the students in the city. Online options are available, but it is never as ideal as having an actual teacher. Mr. Lake will look into options for how to make it possible.

### **3. Music options**

- Students benefit from having a vibrant art program that include music. Having instruments is costly though. The council discussed ways to offer this, whether to hire music teachers from the community or offer weekly after school courses.

### **4. Student Behaviour**

- Misbehaved students, including students caught vaping or committing other misconduct are suspended. There were suggestions re expecting students to do community service or service in the school, but currently, that expectation not possible. Mr. Lake has had several conversations with students involved in bullying, especially through cell phone texts. We also discussed dress codes and whether we need to penalize students for wearing hats. The majority felt expecting students to respect teachers and their rules is important, but perhaps we don't need to be too strict with the hat rule.

### **4. Cell phone usage**

- Cell phones have become major distractions to learning for individual students and the classroom as a whole. As well, they have become a means for students to bully one another. Therefore, the teachers and principals agreed to ban cell phone use during class time. Cell phones are to be left in locker or they will be confiscated.

### **5. Beautification of school**

- The CSS is relatively new with its renovations, but because of this the walls are all bland, grey and empty. The dismal lack of colour can contribute to low spirits in students and staff. We discussed ways to add colour and more furniture for students to congregate collegially. Some funds can come from PTA to help, and there may be funds in the school budget for some of this.

### **6. School Events**

The school council supported the Nowhere To Run event in support of physical and mental well-being for students. As well, the members of the council helped organize a Christmas Luncheon for the students and staff. During Education Week, the members helped provide nutritious snacks for the students, and a Staff Appreciation Lunch was also organized.

Overall, the 2018-19 school council meetings were productive. Positive actions came from the council meetings benefiting not only student's mental health and well-being, but also ensuring continued pursuit of excellence in teaching and learning for the students.

Sincerely,

Nhung N. Tran-Davies  
Calmar School Council Chair

Accountability Pillar Overall Summary  
 Annual Education Results Reports - Oct 2019  
 School: 3206 Calmar Secondary School



Measure Category	Measure	Calmar Secondary School			Alberta			Measure Evaluation		
		Current Result	Prev Year Result	Prev 3 Year Average	Current Result	Prev Year Result	Prev 3 Year Average	Achievement	Improvement	Overall
Safe and Caring Schools	<a href="#">Safe and Caring</a>	84.8	82.7	83.7	89.0	89.0	89.3	High	Maintained	Good
Student Learning Opportunities	<a href="#">Program of Studies</a>	62.2	66.6	62.3	82.2	81.8	81.9	Very Low	Maintained	Concern
	<a href="#">Education Quality</a>	82.9	79.0	82.3	90.2	90.0	90.1	Low	Maintained	Issue
	<a href="#">Drop Out Rate</a>	4.6	1.1	3.6	2.6	2.3	2.9	Intermediate	Maintained	Acceptable
	<a href="#">High School Completion Rate (3 yr)</a>	74.8	68.3	72.6	79.1	78.0	77.5	High	Maintained	Good
Student Learning Achievement (Grades K-9)	<a href="#">PAT: Acceptable</a>	56.4	78.6	78.7	73.8	73.6	73.6	Very Low	Declined Significantly	Concern
	<a href="#">PAT: Excellence</a>	5.0	21.4	16.0	20.6	19.9	19.6	Very Low	Declined	Concern
Student Learning Achievement (Grades 10-12)	<a href="#">Diploma: Acceptable</a>	83.1	80.4	84.0	83.6	83.7	83.1	Intermediate	Maintained	Acceptable
	<a href="#">Diploma: Excellence</a>	20.3	18.9	18.8	24.0	24.2	22.5	High	Maintained	Good
	<a href="#">Diploma Exam Participation Rate (4+ Exams)</a>	49.0	45.5	50.3	56.3	55.7	55.1	Intermediate	Maintained	Acceptable
	<a href="#">Rutherford Scholarship Eligibility Rate</a>	64.9	53.8	56.0	64.8	63.4	62.2	Intermediate	Maintained	Acceptable
Preparation for Lifelong Learning, World of Work, Citizenship	<a href="#">Transition Rate (6 yr)</a>	54.7	28.6	43.4	59.0	58.7	58.7	Intermediate	Maintained	Acceptable
	<a href="#">Work Preparation</a>	81.8	80.1	78.1	83.0	82.4	82.6	High	Maintained	Good
	<a href="#">Citizenship</a>	78.1	67.0	70.9	82.9	83.0	83.5	High	Improved	Good
Parental Involvement	<a href="#">Parental Involvement</a>	78.4	73.1	71.0	81.3	81.2	81.1	Intermediate	Maintained	Acceptable
Continuous Improvement	<a href="#">School Improvement</a>	72.9	70.2	73.0	81.0	80.3	81.0	Intermediate	Maintained	Acceptable

**School Goal 1: Utilize a strength based focus in programming for the development of our students in an inclusive environment.**

**Timeline: Beginning September 2016 ongoing.**

**Rationale:**

Our school is a safe and caring environment for children. Our 2018 Accountability Pillar results showed that we are still scoring low on the safe and caring school index. Rather than react we need to be intentional in improving over time. The renovation of the school took its toll on both the school staff and the students. This past year we added some new furniture to our library and outdoor furniture to our courtyard last year. We have also added a ping-pong table and piano to our main foyer. Students have plans to paint a mural for the foyer to add some colour and personality to the school. Our safe and caring school index went up from 82.7% (2018) to 84.8% this year. (2019-2020)

Timeline	Strategies	Supporting Data
Feb, 2017 Sept. 2017    2017-2018   Fall, 2019    Spring, 2020	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Youth Empowerment Day: dedicated to developing positive social skills and healthy interactions. (this will transition to a Mental Health Day in spring 2020)</li> <li>● Re-Introduce Quarterly Report Card Student Celebrations (Ongoing)</li> <li>● Community person led Heroes Program integrated into Jr. High Health (Discontinued 2018)</li> <li>● Teacher ownership of I.S.P. development supported by L.S.T (Ongoing)</li> <li>● Continue field trip to encourage leadership and improved mental health. Junior High students attended Robb Nash, Senior High students attended Thorsby Youth Appreciation Day and our Leadership students attended WE Day.</li> <li>● Continue to add new furniture to our foyer, outdoor spaces and library. We also hope to move our copier to a smaller space and turn the copier room into a</li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Newsletter, Parent Communications</li> <li>● Accountability Pillar Surveys</li> <li>● School Council</li> <li>● Student feedback</li> </ul>

	<p>student space for games, art and design. (Student Created Mural Completed in March 2020)</p>	
<p><b>School Goal 1 Review and Reflection</b>                  Results were really hampered by a low sample size. With only the grade 7's and 10's completing the survey, the Grade 10, Parent and Staff results were dramatically positive while the grade 7's were less positive. (2017-2018)                  Student discipline log entries dramatically reduced enabling a greater focus on support struggling learners. (2017-2018)</p> <p>This past year we are focused on using our FSLW to work in our health classes as well as in small group settings. She will cover topics such as; healthy relationships, the teenage brain, social media safety, personal space and kindness.                  Part of a safe and caring school is the physical space itself. We have a blank canvas with completion of the modernization. This year we will work to create inviting spaces for our students to congregate. We have plans to improve seating options in the library while extending the time in which students have access. We will also develop the courtyard space adjacent to the library. A plan will be developed to add colour and functionality to the entry of our school.                  By the end of this year we will put a school leadership team in place. This team will plan activities and theme days and work with students and staff to diversify clubs running in the school to appeal to a wider student population. I believe this will contribute to making our school more inclusive and caring. (2019-2020)</p>		

**School Goal 2: Enhance student goal setting working towards increased high school completion in 3 years.**

**Timeline:** *Beginning September 2017 ongoing.*

**Rationale:** Students should complete high school in three years. For most students this will occur through the natural course of high school. Increased post secondary planning will insure that the courses they take will be appropriate for their employment or post secondary plans. Regular meetings with teachers and discussions with parents are necessary so that no students fall through the cracks. *(new 2019)*

<b>Timeline</b>	<b>Strategies</b>	<b>Supporting Data</b>
Months / Year 2	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Focus on career counseling <i>(on-going)</i></li> <li>● My Blueprint extensive integration <i>(re-visit)</i></li> <li>● ALIS Alberta Provincial Careers Website</li> <li>● Individual student timetable and goal correlation meetings <i>(on-going)</i></li> <li>● Continue Alternative Education individualized course opportunities for students under the supervision of a teacher.</li> <li>● Pair Alternative Education existing programming practices to incorporate Dual Credit post secondary programming</li> <li>● Guest Speakers focuses on life after High School <i>(on-going)</i></li> <li>● Report Card Celebrations sharing the achievements of all students and staff and the range of activities. <i>(on-going)</i></li> </ul>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>● Accountability Pillar results</li> <li>● Student My Blueprint accounts</li>   <li>● Individual High School student meetings</li>   <li>● Number of Alt. Ed. Courses, dual credit courses and High School Completion</li> </ul>

**Goal 2 Reflection****Timeline: 1 - 3 year goal**

**Review & Reflection:** As the Principal, meeting with students and going through timetables, goal setting and post-high school directions is something done at minimum twice per year (Ongoing in 2019-2020 My Blueprint was not used regularly last year (2017-2018). This year (2018-2019) it has not been used again. I will meet with Joyce Macdonald this year to make a plan for next year (Completed in 2019-2020). Two staff members attended PD for My Blueprint). One of the strategies may be to have one teacher teach all of the health and CALM in order to have continuity in how we work with our students in terms of goal setting for both secondary and post-secondary schooling. (2018-2019)

**Revised Goal:** No revision. We need to continue working on many aspects of this goal. We will continue using MyBlueprint in grades 8-10 where appropriate. We definitely need to do a better job of exposing our high school students to different career pathways. In 2019-20 we attended the NAIT open house. We also had a significant increase in the number of students taking dual credit courses. While this increased our exposure to post-secondary options there is still more to do. Next year we will create some incentives for our grade 11 and 12 students to attend career fairs offered by other school. This could be built around additional credit in CTR 2310 and CTR 3310.