

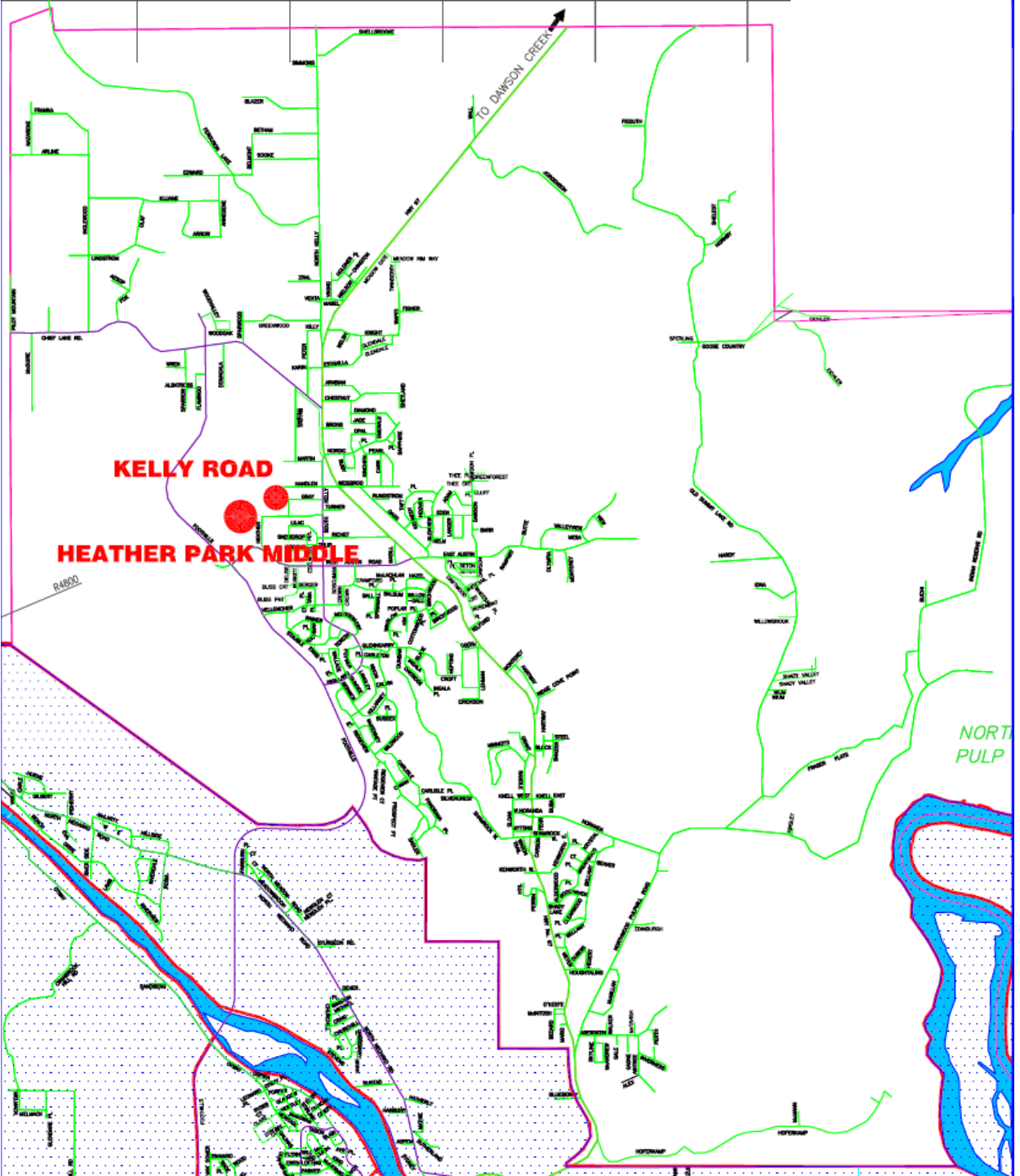
ÉCOLE HEATHER PARK MIDDLE SCHOOL

“The Middle is just the beginning”



A LITTLE ABOUT US...

- ◉ École Heather Park Middle School opened in September 2000
- ◉ We were the first, and have been the only, middle school in School District 57
- ◉ Our school is comprised of students in grades 6 to 8 (English Track) and grades 6 and 7 (French Immersion)
- ◉ The school serves the entire Hart area



HPMS SCHOOL MISSION STATEMENT

To prepare each student with the knowledge, skills, and attitudes needed to meet current and future challenges in an academically-engaging, supportive and safe environment.

HPMS SCHOOL PHILOSOPHY

- ◉ We believe that student education involves a partnership between the home and school, with the support of the community. We believe that École Heather Park Middle School is developmentally responsive to adolescents and children and is characterized by committed educators, a shared vision, high expectations for all and a positive school climate. We believe that exemplary middle schools have the following components:
 - ◉ a staff knowledgeable and committed to early adolescents
 - ◉ an interdisciplinary team organization
 - ◉ an advisory program
 - ◉ an exploratory program
 - ◉ a curriculum based on the needs and characteristics of early adolescents
 - ◉ a wide variety of instructional strategies
 - ◉ a flexible block master schedule
 - ◉ an emphasis on heterogeneous grouping with opportunities to group and re-group students
 - ◉ the inclusion and collaborative model of special education
 - ◉ administrators who are knowledgeable about and committed to our middle school philosophy, programs, practices and children

HOW IS HPMS UNIQUE?

- Our school is made up of “pods” - groups of around 4 classes from grades 6 to 8 who stay in this pod throughout their years at HPMS
- These are like smaller schools within the larger school - kids have referred to them as their school family.
- The teachers in each pod work collaboratively together, and get to know the kids in the pod throughout their time together
- Although students are assigned a home class, teachers often teach other classes within the pods

PODS

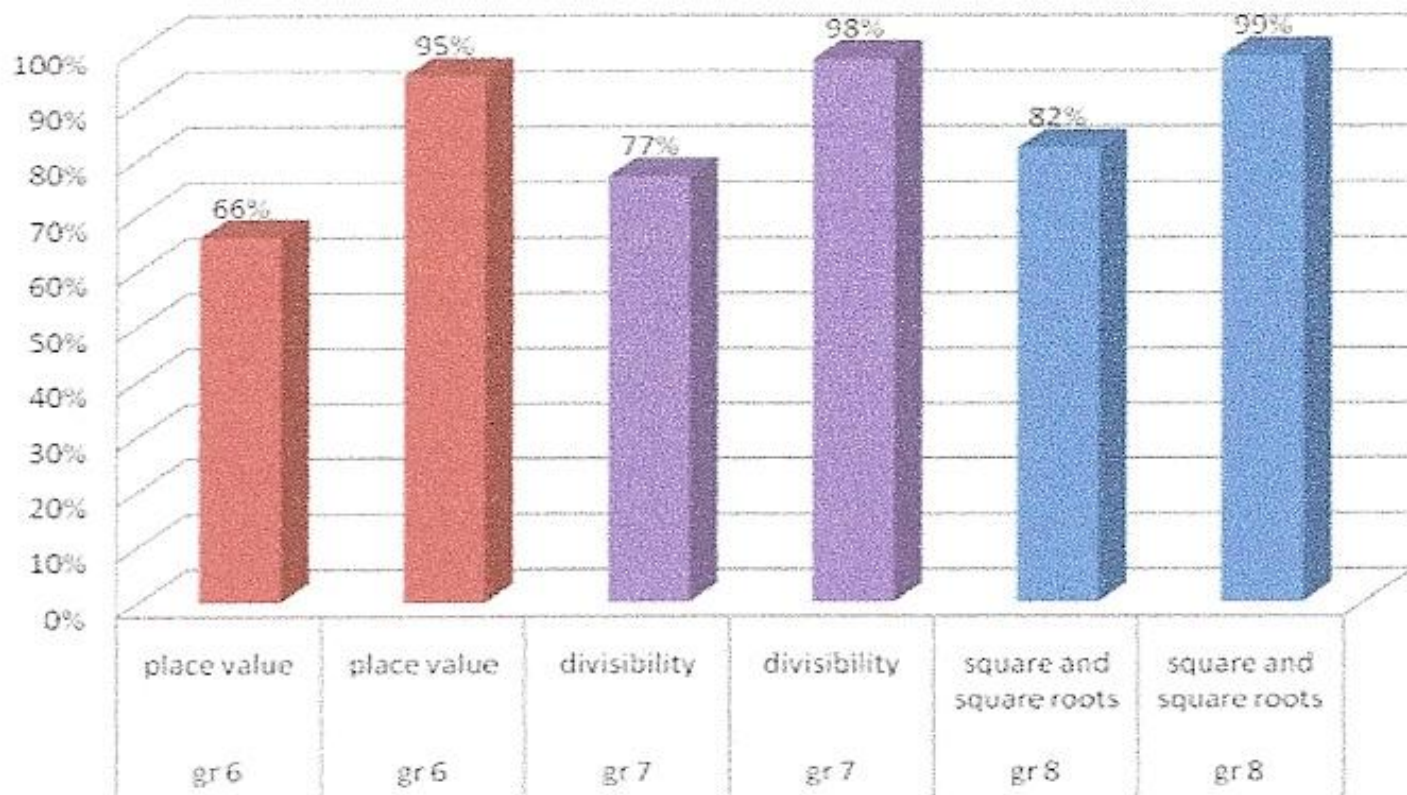
- Students like the pod concept for a few reasons:
 - They get to know their teachers well
 - They like having not only kids of their own grade in their pod but also kids both younger and older
 - It is a more personal approach

TUTORIALS

- This is a program designed to help students experiencing difficulty with core subjects of math and language arts
- Purpose of tutorial is to re-teach essential learning outcomes/key concepts, help with organization or provide an opportunity to catch up on homework.
- For those not requiring additional support, enrichment or extra curricular opportunities are available during this time
- The outcomes have been overwhelmingly positive, leading to not only improvement scholastically but also giving students a sense of accomplishment and increased self-esteem

Heather Park Math Tutorial

tutorial 2009-10 math



EXPLORATIONS

- We have 5 explorations at HPMS
- These are designed to help students find areas of interest, talent and ability
- Explorations at HPMS include:
 - Art
 - Technology Education
 - Digital Media
 - Digital Presentation
 - Outdoor Education

- ◉ I Days - for those students needing to complete assignments
- ◉ Action Room - an alternative to out of school suspension. Supervised by a youth care worker, it helps students look at their behaviour and motives behind it, as well as strategies to make better future choices. Also ensures schoolwork is kept up to date
- ◉ TAG (Together Achieving Greatness) - recognizes positive student behaviour

BULLYING AND HARASSMENT

- Treated very seriously at HPMS
- Have instituted online reporting of bullying and/or harassment

HOCKEY ACADEMY

- ⦿ High demand program - there is a waiting list to attend
- ⦿ Focus on not only hockey skills but scholastic achievement as well
- ⦿ Students in this program have shown strong academic standing as well as improved hockey skills

- Celebration of Learning - this occurred in conjunction with Aboriginal Awareness Week February 15-19/10
- Chance for our aboriginal students and their families to celebrate the students' achievements and participate in games and activities celebrating the aboriginal culture

SPORTS CLUBS AT HPMS

- Basketball
- Volleyball
- Rugby
- Wrestling
- Badminton
- Track and Field

OTHER EXTRA-CURRICULAR GROUPS AT HPMS

- ◉ Leadership
- ◉ Debating
- ◉ Library
- ◉ Yearbook
- ◉ Rock Club
- ◉ Band Hero
- ◉ Heather Park Idol
- ◉ Me to We
- ◉ Band
 - Beginner
 - Intermediate

- ◉ B.R.A.V.E. (Bully resistance and Violence Education) for Grade 6 students
- ◉ Canspell CanWest Regional Spelling Bee - our school sent 3 students to the regional finals
- ◉ Debating - we have a group going to the provincials in Vancouver this spring
- ◉ We will be holding a musical called “A Kid’s Life” - introducing students to acting, singing, dancing and set design. When a massive electromagnetic attack from outer space jams all technical systems and there is no electricity, no cell phones, no laptops...What's a kid to do for fun?
- ◉ Me to We - held a coat drive in December to provide coats for people in need, have volunteered to help serve meals at St. Vincent de Paul

- ⦿ Heather Park Helping Haiti - raised money for the Red Cross
- ⦿ Quebec Trip - 33 students went to Quebec City to celebrate Carnaval and get a first hand look at French Canadian culture



QUESTIONS

- ⦿ Program input - future of Explorations, Hockey Academy
- ⦿ Busing questions - those being bussed to HPMS who may no longer be in catchment; will busing to HPMS still be available?
- ⦿ Connections Camp - this could be a great way to start off a new school configuration if HPMS becomes a Kindergarten to Grade 7 school

CHANGE IS
INEVITABLE...WHAT
MATTERS MOST IS
HOW WE MAKE THAT
CHANGE THE MOST
POSITIVE IT CAN BE.
OUR CHILDREN
DESERVE NOTHING
LESS THAN THE
BEST, AND
TOGETHER WE WILL
WORK TO ENSURE
THAT THEY
CONTINUE TO
RECEIVE THE VERY
BEST.

