

# *Veritas School Learning Plan*

*Updated: December 2024*



Catholic  
Independent  
Schools  
Diocese of Prince George

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## CATHOLIC INDEPENDENT SCHOOLS, DIOCESE OF PRINCE GEORGE

Veritas School is one of eight Catholic Independent Schools in the Diocese of Prince George. Catholic Independent Schools, Diocese of Prince George (CISPG) comprises the northern half of British Columbia and includes Catholic schools located in the communities of Prince Rupert, Terrace, Kitimat, Smithers, Prince George and Dawson Creek - a geographic span of 1200 kilometers. The CISPG community acknowledges, respects, and honours the following traditional territories in which they work and learn: the Lheidli T'enneh First Nation in Prince George; the Tsimshian Nation in Prince Rupert and Terrace; the Haisla Nation in Kitimat; the Wet'suwe'ten Nation in Smithers; and the West Moberly and Saulteau First Nations in Dawson Creek.

### CISPG Purpose/Mission

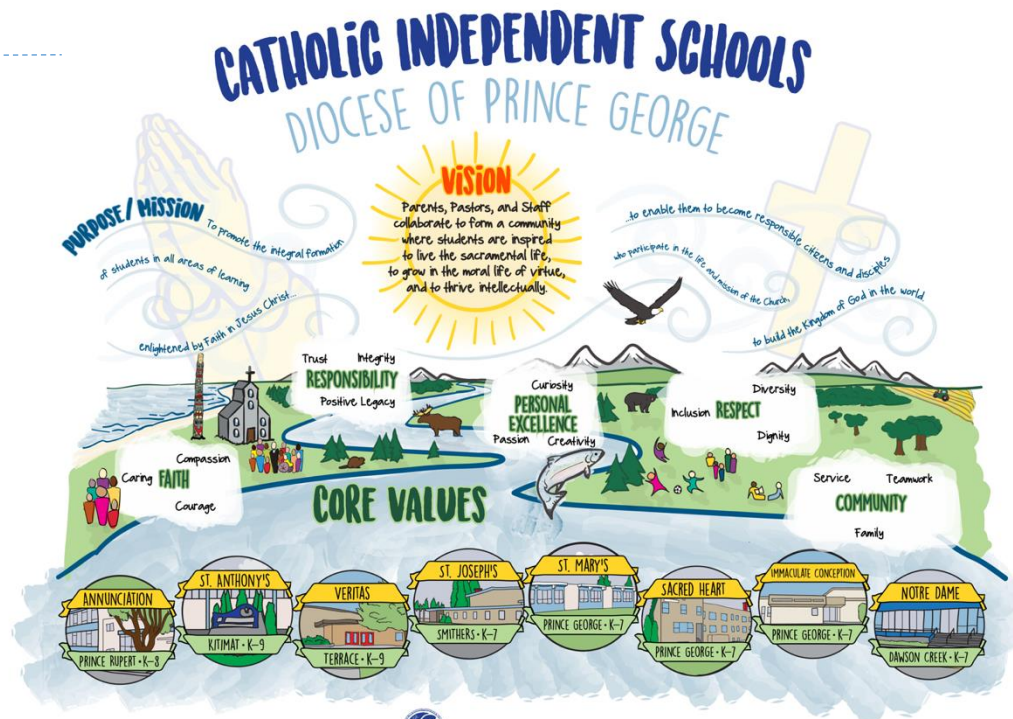
To promote the integral formation of students in all areas of learning enlightened by Faith in Jesus Christ to enable them to become responsible citizens and disciples who participate in the life and mission of the church to build the Kingdom of God in the world.

### CISPG Vision

Parents, Pastors, and Staff collaborate to form a community where students are inspired to live the sacramental life, to grow in the moral life of virtue, and to thrive intellectually.

### CISPG Values

- **Faith:** caring, compassion, courage
- **Responsibility:** trust, integrity, positive legacy
- **Personal Excellence:** passion, curiosity, creativity
- **Respect:** inclusion, diversity, dignity
- **Community:** service, teamwork, family



Approved by the CISPG Board 2017



## CISPG Learning Plan Purpose

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CISPG has developed a Learning Plan with learning goals in three focus areas of the current BC Curriculum:

- literacy/numeracy foundations.
- assessment for learning practice.
- social-emotional learning.

As well, the plan addresses the need for embedding the Catholic worldview and Indigenous perspectives and knowledge throughout the curriculum. The learning goals are focused specifically on student performance and behaviour, while the Catholic worldview and Indigenous perspectives are presented as recommended priority practices. The CISPG Learning Plan is meant to be flexible and presents educators with opportunities for innovative design as they inquire, collaborate, and take action in order to meet the needs of their learners (both students and adults) within the life and mission of the Catholic Faith within each school setting.

Throughout the year, each school engages in a process to continuously monitor and revise its own school story to demonstrate how the school is working on improving learning outcomes for students by setting a focus to improve student achievement based on a continual cycle of inquiry. CISPG's story demonstrates how the district is working to improve student outcomes in the Strategic Learning Plan. CISPG's story is driven by examples from all eight school's stories as well as CISPG and ministry level data.

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## VERITAS SCHOOL – ABOUT US

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Veritas School acknowledges that we work and play on the unceded, ancestral lands of the Tsimshian First Nations People. We understand that this land was very important for Indigenous Peoples who lived on it before us and that this land is still important for Indigenous Peoples today. We are grateful that it is on this land that we support and work for our students.

Veritas School opened in 1959. The original site of the school was on Lakelse Avenue in the current Skeena Mall location. The original eight classrooms were moved to the present site in 1973 and attached to the newly built administration wing, classroom (the current kindergarten classroom), and gymnasium. A new classroom (the current music room) and staff room were built in 1981. A new wing was added in 1997 containing the current library, another classroom and the learning assistance room.

Veritas School was staffed for many years by the Sisters of St. Joseph of Toronto and by Frontier Apostles. The school presently relies on lay teachers and offers complete academic programs for Kindergarten to Grade 9. Veritas School's academic curriculum fully follows the guidelines of the British Columbia Ministry of Education. Our students receive a solid grounding in Religious Education, Language Arts, Science, Mathematics, Social Studies, Physical Education, Core French in Grades 5 to 9, Computers & Technology, Music & Band and Art. Learning Assistance is provided both within and outside the classes. We also offer Applied Skills in Grades 7 – 9, and many extra-curricular sports activities and clubs.



## Our Purpose/Mission

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The primary aim of Veritas School is to enable children to grow in their knowledge, love, and practice of the Catholic Faith, and to achieve their full potential in all the talents God has given them.

## Veritas School's Learning Plan Purpose

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Veritas School has developed a learning plan which aligns with learning goals in CISP's three focus areas and most importantly the needs of our students.

### Goal 1: Literacy Foundations (Primary Focus)

What are we focusing on?

- Can we improve the basic reading, phonetical, and decoding skills of primary students to build them as strong readers in the older grades?

How will we know if we are making a difference?

- Students will demonstrate growth in reading success as demonstrated through regular reading assessments.

Veritas School's Goal

- All primary students demonstrate improvement in reading skills through the Core Phonics and UFLI assessments.
- All grade 1-3 students 'minimally meeting' and beyond in the PM Benchmark assessment.
- All grade 4 and 7 students meet 'on track' or 'extending' literacy standards on the FSA.

To develop best practices in literacy instruction in primary grades, Veritas School will ...

- Learn about the Science of Reading in primary grades and begin implementing some strategies, with a focus on UFLI.
- Use a small reading group strategy to meet students where they are and promote scaffolded growth.
- Meet as a primary cohort team to share experiences, reflections, and next steps with colleagues.
- Collaborate, co-plan, and co-develop instructional materials for early literacy as a primary cohort.
- Collaborate with other schools across the Diocese and locally.
- Consider the use of the Early Literacy Profile (ELP) as a method of compiling and sharing data from year to year.
- Investigate and consider the use of strong literacy resources in intermediate and senior grades to continue the work of the primary team into upper cohorts.

Resources:

- Testing kits: PM Benchmarks, NFRA
- Science of Reading resources (UFLI)
- Orton Gillingham resources
- PM literacy kits

Collection of Evidence for 2024-2025:



## Veritas School LEARNING PLAN



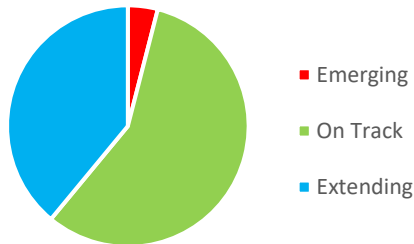
- Complete reading assessments (PM in grades 1-3 and NFRA in grades 4-9) in the fall (October) and late Spring (May) of each school year.
- Complete Core Phonics survey in beginning, mid, and end of school year in primary grades

### Veritas School Literacy Data:

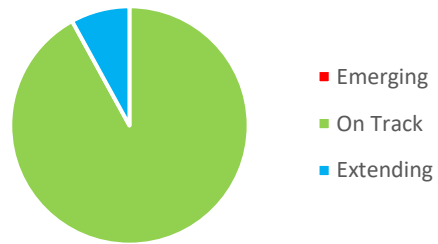
#### Grade 4 & 7 FSA Reading Data

	Emerging	On Track	Extending
<b>Grade 4 Reading (FSA)</b>	Fall 2021: 11% Fall 2022: 9% Fall 2023: 4% Fall 2024: 4%	Fall 2021: 75% Fall 2022: 48% Fall 2023: 57% Fall 2024: 48%	Fall 2021: 14% Fall 2022: 43% Fall 2023: 39% Fall 2024: 48%
<b>Grade 7 Reading (FSA)</b>	Fall 2021: 0% Fall 2022: 0% Fall 2023: 0% Fall 2024: 12%	Fall 2021: 100% Fall 2022: 88% Fall 2023: 92% Fall 2024: 72%	Fall 2021: 0% Fall 2022: 12% Fall 2023: 8% Fall 2024: 16%

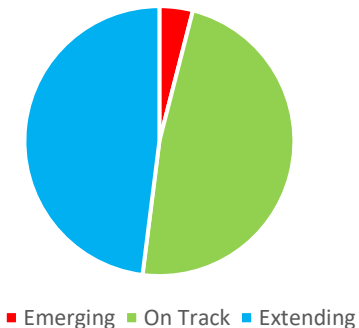
FSA - Reading: Grade 4 Fall 2023



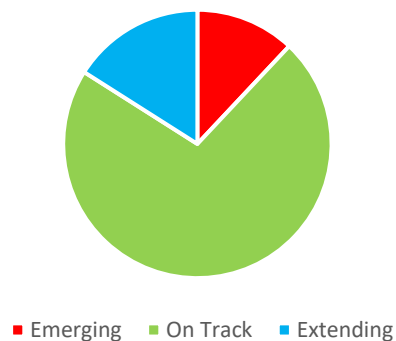
FSA - Reading: Grade 7 Fall 2023



FSA - Literacy: Grade 4 Fall 2024



FSA - Literacy: Grade 7 Fall 2024



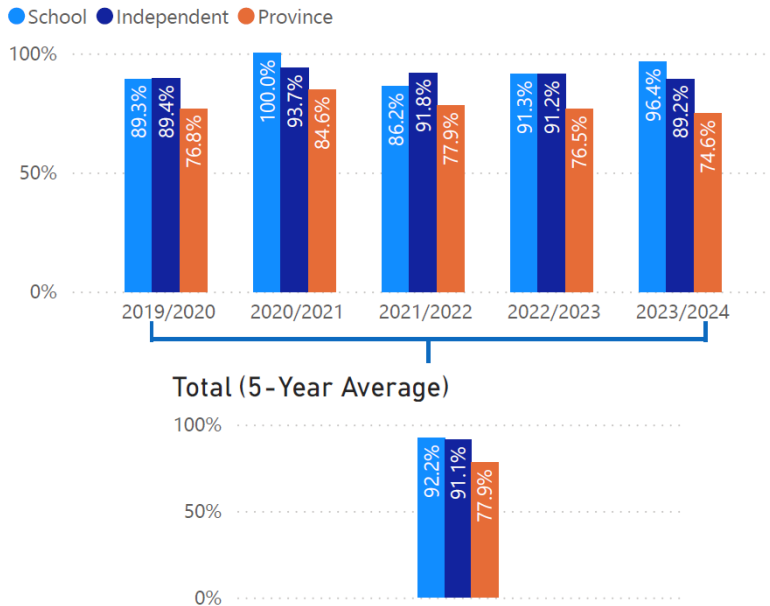


# Foundation Skills Assessment Overview

## Literacy

### Grade 04

#### On Track and Extending Rate



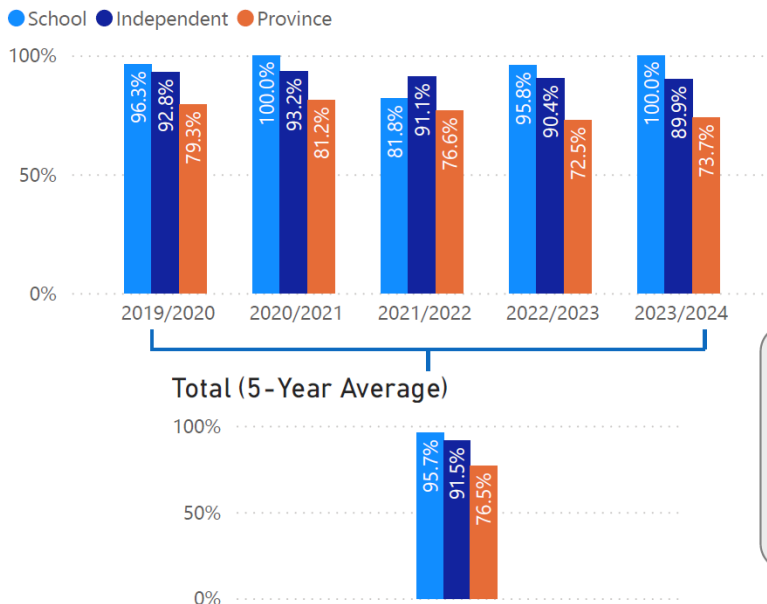
#### Participation Rate

Year	Writers	School Rate	Ind. Rate	Prov. Rate
2019/20	28	100.0%	91.6%	74.6%
2020/21	21	95.5%	87.3%	67.1%
2021/22	29	100.0%	89.4%	73.0%
2022/23	23	88.5%	89.3%	74.4%
2023/24	28	96.6%	90.2%	79.6%

**Note:** The FSA Writing question was discontinued beginning in FSA 2021/22, and the Reading Comprehension component was renamed to Literacy. For accurate comparisons across school years, this page only shows Literacy / Reading Comprehension. See notes at the end of this document for more details.

### Grade 07

#### On Track and Extending Rate



#### Participation Rate

Year	Writers	School Rate	Ind. Rate	Prov. Rate
2019/20	27	100.0%	91.6%	73.8%
2020/21	20	80.0%	87.7%	64.1%
2021/22	11	91.7%	89.3%	71.7%
2022/23	24	96.0%	90.6%	72.7%
2023/24	12	85.7%	91.2%	78.7%

**Note:** The Total (5-Year Average) over the individual years shown has been included for those cases where a school's Writer count in a given year is too small to make meaningful comparisons to the sector. The Total is a weighted average of results for Writers across the past 5 years, and is intended to provide a larger cohort of Writers with which to compare a school's results to other sectors.



## Veritas School LEARNING PLAN



### Grade 1-9 Reading Data:

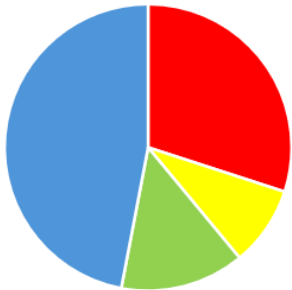
	Emerging	Developing	Proficient	Extending
<b>Grade 1-3 Reading (PM Benchmark)</b>	Fall 2021: 19% Spring 2022: 21% --- Fall 2022: 29% Spring 2023: 24% --- Fall 2023: 26% Spring 2024: 22% --- Fall 2024: 30% Spring 2025:	Fall 2021: 21% Spring 2022: 8% --- Fall 2022: 22% Spring 2023: 16% --- Fall 2023: 14% Spring 2024: 9% --- Fall 2024: 9% Spring 2025:	Fall 2021: 26% Spring 2022: 9% --- Fall 2022: 21% Spring 2023: 7% --- Fall 2023: 12% Spring 2024: 12% --- Fall 2024: 14% Spring 2025:	Fall 2021: 34% Spring 2022: 62% --- Fall 2022: 28% Spring 2023: 53% --- Fall 2023: 48% Spring 2024: 57% --- Fall 2024: 47% Spring 2025:
<b>Grade 4-6 Reading (RAD / NFRA)</b>	Spring 2022: 8% --- Fall 2022: 1% Spring 2023: 1% --- Fall 2023: Delayed Spring 2024: 8% --- Fall 2024: 2% Spring 2025:	Spring 2022: 46% --- Fall 2022: 57% Spring 2023: 36% --- Fall 2023: Delayed Spring 2024: 35% --- Fall 2024: 60% Spring 2025:	Spring 2022: 42% --- Fall 2022: 42% Spring 2023: 60% --- Fall 2023: Delayed Spring 2024: 55% --- Fall 2024: 38% Spring 2025:	Spring 2022: 4% --- Fall 2022: 0% Spring 2023: 3% --- Fall 2023: Delayed Spring 2024: 2% --- Fall 2024: 0% Spring 2025:
<b>Grade 7-9 Reading (RAD / NFRA)</b>	Spring 2022: 0% --- Fall 2022: 8% Spring 2023: 2% --- Fall 2023: Delayed Spring 2024: 4% --- Fall 2024: 3% Spring 2025:	Spring 2022: 30% --- Fall 2022: 47% Spring 2023: 30% --- Fall 2023: Delayed Spring 2024: 45% --- Fall 2024: 58% Spring 2025:	Spring 2022: 55% --- Fall 2022: 45% Spring 2023: 66% --- Fall 2023: Delayed Spring 2024: 51% --- Fall 2024: 39% Spring 2025:	Spring 2022: 15% --- Fall 2022: 0% Spring 2023: 0% --- Fall 2023: Delayed Spring 2024: 0% --- Fall 2024: 0% Spring 2025:



# Veritas School LEARNING PLAN

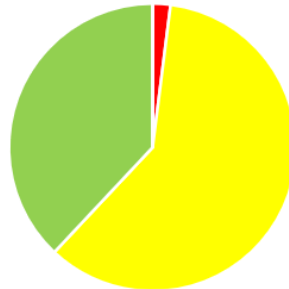


PM Benchmark Gr 2-3 Fall 2024



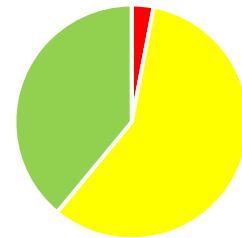
■ Emerging ■ Developing ■ Proficient ■ Extending

NFRA Gr 4-6 Fall 2024



■ Emerging ■ Developing ■ Proficient ■ Extending

NFRA Gr 7-9 Fall 2024



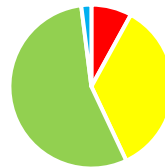
■ Emerging ■ Developing ■ Proficient ■ Extending

PM Benchmark Gr 1-3 Spring 2024



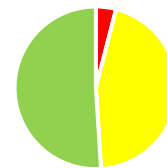
■ Emerging ■ Developing  
■ Proficient ■ Extending

NFRA Gr 4-6 Spring 2024



■ Emerging ■ Developing  
■ Proficient ■ Extending

NFRA Gr 7-9 Spring 2024



■ Emerging ■ Developing  
■ Proficient ■ Extending





## Veritas School LEARNING PLAN



### Grade 1-9 Writing Data:

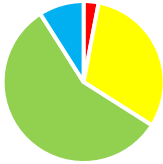
	Emerging	Developing	Proficient	Extending
<b>Grade 1-3 Writing (SWW)</b>	Fall 2021: 13% Spring 2022: 11% --- Fall 2022: 35% Spring 2023: 2% --- Fall 2023: Delayed Spring 2024: 3% --- Fall 2024: Delayed Spring 2025:	Fall 2021: 41% Spring 2022: 41% --- Fall 2022: 27% Spring 2023: 24% --- Fall 2023: Delayed Spring 2024: 31% --- Fall 2024: Delayed Spring 2025:	Fall 2021: 46% Spring 2022: 33% --- Fall 2022: 35% Spring 2023: 68% --- Fall 2023: Delayed Spring 2024: 57% --- Fall 2024: Delayed Spring 2025:	Fall 2021: 0% Spring 2022: 15% --- Fall 2022: 3% Spring 2023: 6% --- Fall 2023: Delayed Spring 2024: 9% --- Fall 2024: Delayed Spring 2025:
<b>Grade 4-6 Writing (SWW)</b> <i>* Spring 2023 missing grade 6 data</i>	Fall 2021: 8% Spring 2022: 6% --- Fall 2022: 8% Spring 2023: 3% --- Fall 2023: 5% Spring 2024: 2% --- Fall 2024: 6% Spring 2025:	Fall 2021: 51% Spring 2022: 34% --- Fall 2022: 33% Spring 2023: 34% --- Fall 2023: 35% Spring 2024: 22% --- Fall 2024: 40% Spring 2025:	Fall 2021: 40% Spring 2022: 50% --- Fall 2022: 55% Spring 2023: 51% --- Fall 2023: 58% Spring 2024: 60% --- Fall 2024: 50% Spring 2025:	Fall 2021: 1% Spring 2022: 10% --- Fall 2022: 4% Spring 2023: 12% --- Fall 2023: 2% Spring 2024: 16% --- Fall 2024: 4% Spring 2025:
<b>Grade 7-9 Writing (SWW)</b>	Fall 2021: 10% Spring 2022: 3% --- Fall 2022: 0% Spring 2023: 0% --- Fall 2023: 2% Spring 2024: 0% --- Fall 2024: 11% Spring 2025:	Fall 2021: 40% Spring 2022: 38% --- Fall 2022: 29% Spring 2023: 10% --- Fall 2023: 31% Spring 2024: 34% --- Fall 2024: 45% Spring 2025:	Fall 2021: 40% Spring 2022: 31% --- Fall 2022: 69% Spring 2023: 67% --- Fall 2023: 52% Spring 2024: 51% --- Fall 2024: 38% Spring 2025:	Fall 2021: 10% Spring 2022: 28% --- Fall 2022: 2% Spring 2023: 22% --- Fall 2023: 15% Spring 2024: 15% --- Fall 2024: 6% Spring 2025:



# Veritas School LEARNING PLAN

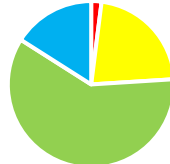


SWW Grade 1-3 Spring 2024



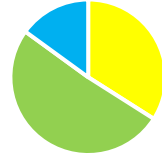
Emerging    Developing  
Proficient    Extending

SWW Grade 4-6 Spring 2024



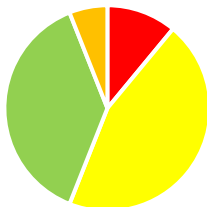
Emerging    Developing  
Proficient    Extending

SWW Gr 7-9 Spring 2024



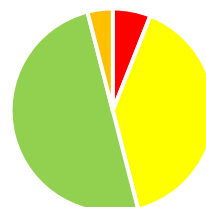
Emerging    Developing  
Proficient    Extending

SWW Grade 4-6 Fall 2024



Emerging    Developing    Proficient    Extending

SWW Grade 7-9 Fall 2024



Emerging    Developing    Proficient    Extending



## Goal 2: Numeracy Foundations (Intermediate)

What are we focusing on?

- Can students work with numbers to know basic multiplication and division fact families?
- Can students explain their mathematical thinking?

How will we know if we are making a difference?

- Students will demonstrate growth in mathematical success as demonstrated through testing results.
- Students will demonstrate growth in mathematical thinking as demonstrated through number talks and their ability to explain their thinking process.

Veritas School's Goal

- All grade 4 and 7 students meet 'on track' or 'extending' numeracy standards on the FSA.
- All students in grades 4-6 demonstrate proficiency on the SNAP or the Island Numeracy Assessment.

To develop about best practices in mathematical instruction in all grades, Veritas School will ...

- Develop staff understanding of number talks and translate this into the classrooms to develop students' ability to explain their thinking,
- Develop staff understanding of the importance of number sense and number operations and translate this into the classroom to build foundational numeracy skills.
- Implement "high leverage" practices that will engage students in deep thinking, collaboration, and problem solving such as using Vertical Non-Permanent Surfaces and "rich" tasks (see FREE ACTIVITIES AND LESSONS for Numeracy Tasks for Grades K-8 by Dr. Peter Liljedahl: <https://www.peterliljedahl.com/teachers/numeracy-tasks>)
- Explore excellent websites (e.g., [NRICH Math](#) and [youcubed](#), the amazing Coast Metro site: <https://coastmetro.ca/elementary-math-project/> and the BC Numeracy Network @bcnumeracy: <https://sites.google.com/view/bc-numeracy-network>).
- Engage in virtual or face to face professional learning sessions with "math gurus" such as Janice Novakowski (<https://blogs.sd38.bc.ca/sd38mathandscience/>), Marian Small and her MathUp program (<https://www.onetwoinfinity.ca/>) and Carole Fullerton and her Mind-Full Math Resources (<https://mindfull.ecwid.com/>) and WDTK (What Do They Know) assessments.
- Use the SNAP – "SNAP is a unique, student-friendly assessment and practice tool that enhances any balanced math program. The templates and rubrics are simple, straightforward and provide a clear snapshot of learning evidence. The SNAP is a formative assessment tool that can be used over and over again – to build student fluency, confidence, comprehension, and skills".
- Use Interactive Student Notebooks to communicate with parents and support student learning and review.
- Meet in cohort groups to share experiences and reflections with one another.
- Explore co-developing numeracy instructional materials much like the literacy instructional materials.
- Utilize the CISPG Numeracy channel on TEAMS for more resources.

Resources:

- Testing kits: ANIE, SNAP, WDTK
- *Good Questions* by Carole Fullerton
- *Building Thinking Classrooms in Mathematics* by Peter Liljedahl



# Veritas School LEARNING PLAN



### Collection of Evidence:

- Complete the ANIE, SNAP (Student Numeracy Assessment & Practice), or Island Numeracy Assessment in the spring of each school year for grades 4-7.

### Grade 4 & 7 FSA Numeracy Data

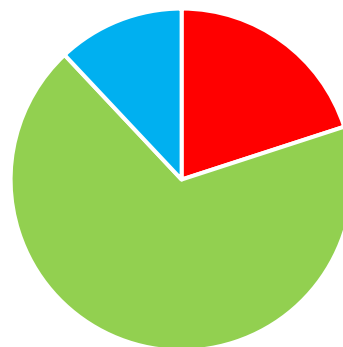
	Emerging	On Track	Extending
<b>Grade 4 Numeracy (FSA)</b>	Fall 2021: 25% Fall 2022: 4% Fall 2023: 4% Fall 2024: 8%	Fall 2021: 64% Fall 2022: 84% Fall 2023: 86% Fall 2024: 84%	Fall 2021: 11% Fall 2022: 12% Fall 2023: 10% Fall 2024: 8%
<b>Grade 7 Numeracy (FSA)</b>	Fall 2021: 20% Fall 2022: 29% Fall 2023: 8% Fall 2024: 20%	Fall 2021: 60% Fall 2022: 67% Fall 2023: 92% Fall 2024: 68%	Fall 2021: 20% Fall 2022: 4% Fall 2023: 0% Fall 2024: 12%

FSA - Numeracy: Grade 4 Fall 2024



■ Emerging ■ On Track ■ Extending

FSA - Numeracy: Grade 7 Fall 2024



■ Emerging ■ On Track ■ Extending

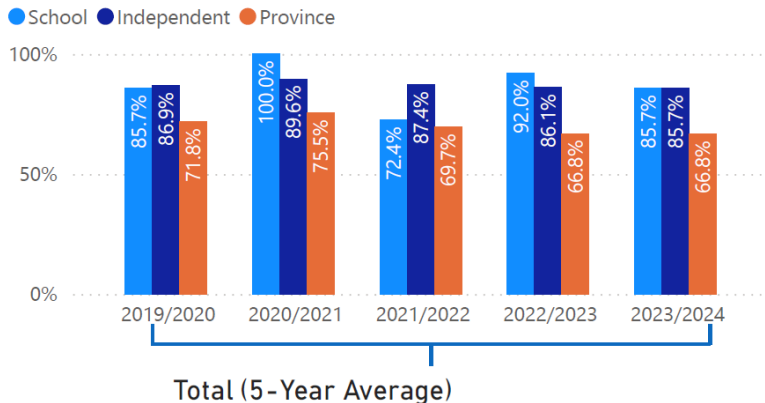


# Foundation Skills Assessment Overview

## Numeracy

### Grade 04

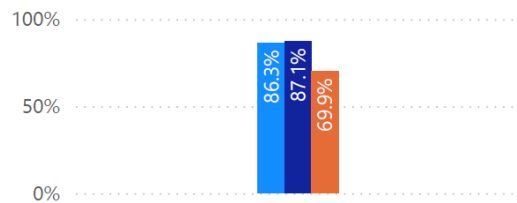
#### On Track and Extending Rate



#### Participation Rate

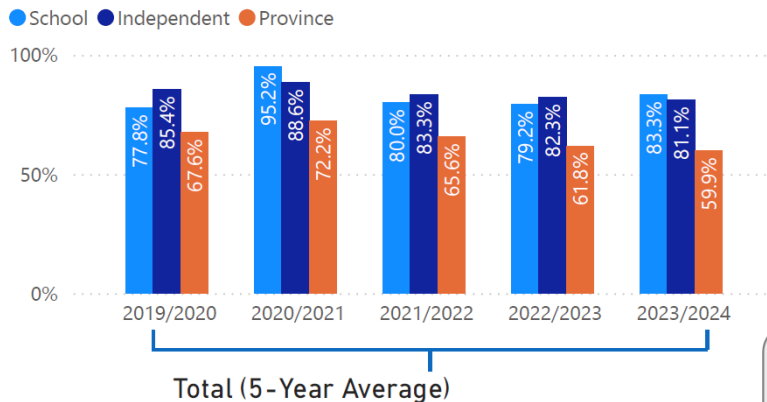
	Writers	School Rate	Ind. Rate	Prov. Rate
2019/20	28	100.0%	91.6%	74.4%
2020/21	21	95.5%	87.2%	66.8%
2021/22	29	100.0%	89.9%	72.9%
2022/23	25	96.2%	89.5%	74.3%
2023/24	28	96.6%	90.2%	79.6%

#### Total (5-Year Average)



### Grade 07

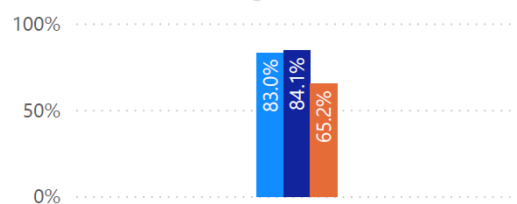
#### On Track and Extending Rate



#### Participation Rate

	Writers	School Rate	Ind. Rate	Prov. Rate
2019/20	27	100.0%	91.4%	73.6%
2020/21	21	84.0%	87.6%	63.9%
2021/22	10	83.3%	89.0%	71.5%
2022/23	24	96.0%	90.3%	72.3%
2023/24	12	85.7%	91.0%	78.7%

#### Total (5-Year Average)



**Note:** The Total (5-Year Average) over the individual years shown has been included for those cases where a school's Writer count in a given year is too small to make meaningful comparisons to the sector. The Total is a weighted average of results for Writers across the past 5 years, and is intended to provide a larger cohort of Writers with which to compare a school's results to other sectors.



### Goal 3: Socio-Emotional Learning (Senior)

What are we focusing on?

The current BC curriculum explicitly recognizes the “missing piece” in education, social-emotional learning. These proficiencies are most apparent in the “Personal and Social” Core Competencies, essential life skills that students continually develop as they grow into educated citizens and lifelong learners. Personal and social competency encompasses what students need to thrive as individuals, to understand and care about themselves and others, and to find and achieve their purposes in the world. The Core Competencies are developed primarily through student reflection and self-assessment.

How will we know if we are making a difference?

Students will be able to reflect on and self-assess personal growth, including understanding/managing emotions, setting, and achieving positive goals, demonstrating empathy for others, establishing and maintaining positive relationships, and making responsible decisions. These reflections/self-assessments will be shared with parents throughout the year. Results of subsequent MDI surveys for grades 4 and 8 will also be analyzed.

Veritas School’s Goal

- Grade 8 MDI data will improve from 70% Low (2021-2022) to 50% Low, with a long-term goal of 10% Low.

Veritas School will ...

- Embed social-emotional learning into daily classroom practice.
- Utilize Open Parachute resources as part of the health program.
- Embed core competencies into daily classroom practice.
- Provide additional activities outside of the classroom for students (sports, lunch hour clubs, etc)
- Create a sensory room that can be accessed by all students as they need.
- Explore and share excellent resources with each other, such as Secondary ESL Teacher Supports from Nanaimo Ladysmith SD, beginning with using Talking Circles.
- Use AFL (assessment for learning) strategies visibly and intentionally in daily classroom practice.
  - Have ‘I Can’ Statements visible to students and review with students often.
  - Have grade appropriate criteria, perhaps co-developed with students, visible and share with students.
  - Provide timely and on-going feedback to students.
  - Explore AFL using the Delta SD “Delta Learns” site: <https://deltalearns.ca/powerfullearning/>.
- Meet in cohort groups to share experiences and reflections with one another.
- Consider utilizing tools from the body of research on **Self-Regulated Learning**, particularly from the NOIE (Network of Inquiry and Indigenous Education) website. (Template as an example of SRL in practice: <https://noiie.ca/wp-content/uploads/2023/08/4.-Looking-at-Learning-2023-Supportive-Prompt-Guide-Final.pdf>).
- Consider implementing the Delta SD “Decision Making Framework” in senior classrooms.

Resources:

- Seesaw digital portfolios



## Veritas School LEARNING PLAN



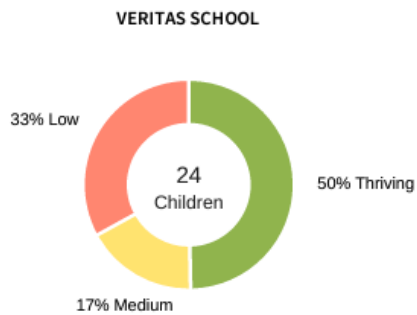
- Seesaw webinars
- In-school counselling services
- Deltalearns.ca
- NOIIE (Network of Inquiry and Indigenous Education) website
- Delta SD "Decision Making Framework"

### Collection of Evidence:

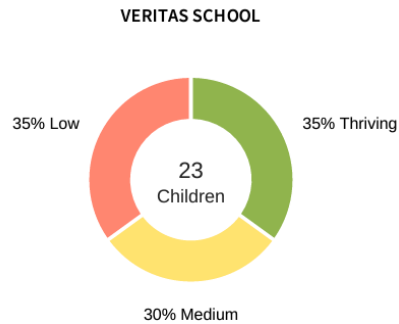
- MDI survey in grades 4 & 8
- Student participation and response to Open Parachute lessons.
- Decrease in negative behaviours (data collected through student incident reports)
- Anecdotal reports of improvement from counselling services

### Veritas School MDI Data for 2023-2024:

Grade 4 MDI Data for 2023-2024

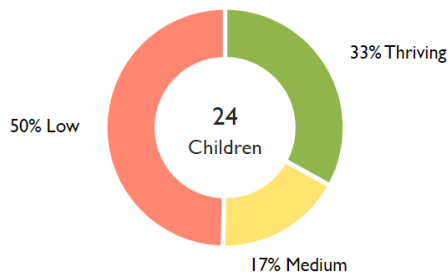


Grade 8 MDI Data for 2023-2024



### Veritas School MDI Data for 2021-2022:

Grade 4 MDI Data for 2021-2022



Grade 8 MDI Data for 2021-2022

