



Kawartha Pine Ridge
District School Board

2023

Our Community Report Card



Rita Russo
Director of Education



Steve Russell
Chairperson



Our Message to You

It is with sincere pleasure that we present to you our Community Report Card for 2023. Once again, we take pride in sharing highlights from our journey over the past year, and celebrate everything that makes KPR such a special place.

This collection of moments throughout the year showcases the energy and joy our students and staff create with, and for, each other every day. We are pleased to share some of the unique ways we make learning and success possible for each student, and our ongoing work to ensure our students and staff feel supported and welcome at school.

As always, we extend our sincere thanks to our passionate and dedicated staff for building places of learning that are rich and engaging for our students, are clean and safe, and celebrate the diversity and lived experiences of everyone in our KPR community. We are also grateful to the many family and community volunteers, bus drivers and crossing guards who support our students and enrich our schools each day.

It has been truly wonderful that this year, our students have been able to pursue their passions and interests beyond the classroom walls – on stage, in concert, on our fields, in our gyms, and in our communities – wherever their shared interests take them.

Our Community Report Card is a small glimpse of all the great work that happens daily in our schools, and demonstrates students and staff excelling in learning, inspiring each other to succeed in life, and enriching our communities.

Please take a moment and join us as we showcase all that was amazing in KPR this past year. #WeAreKPR

Making a Difference at Kaawaate East City Public School

Educational Assistants (EAs) in KPR support equitable and inclusive schools by working one-on-one with students and creating learning environments that are responsive to student strengths, needs and well-being.

At Kaawaate East City Public School (PS), Brittany Pyche is an EA recognized for her kindness and caring relationships with all students – and particularly, those who face challenges at school or may be in need of extra support. Brittany also cultivates strong relationships with families and parents to ensure students are supported in every way possible along their educational journey.

For one parent in particular, Brittany has made a very positive impact over the three years that she has been working with their child.

“Brittany supports my son in such a way that eases my mind because I know he is in good hands. She is flexible, caring, kind and works so hard to support children so they have all of the same opportunities as everyone else and it’s obvious the kids just love her!”

In addition to her dedication to students, Brittany also has a passion for supporting school activities and extra-curriculars.

“Brittany regularly helps with the distribution of our weekend food packages that some students take home at the end of the week, and coaches one of our sports teams. When an extra hand is needed, Brittany is always willing to step up and pitch in!” says Marguerite Masterson, Principal of Kaawaate East City PS.

Brittany builds positive relationships with everyone she works with, and cares deeply about the students and families she supports – making it a priority to ensure every student feels welcome and safe at school.

“I have the privilege of supporting students, witnessing their progress and working hard to make a positive impact,” says Brittany.

“I truly believe that building relationships is at the very core of what I do every day,” she adds.

Brittany is an incredible ambassador for Kaawaate East City PS and KPR. Thank you, Brittany!



Fostering Well-Being and Literacy

Early Intervention Teachers at 22 KPR elementary schools have been supporting intentional reading instruction for students who have needs in both reading and social emotional learning. Through reading instruction and mindfulness, educators help children develop knowledge and tools to manage stress, regulate emotions and face challenges with optimism, resilience and compassion.

Working alongside educators in their classrooms, the Early Intervention Teachers support reading development of Grade 1 students at the same time as supporting students’ social emotional learning skills using a framework called MindUP.

This intentional pairing of mindfulness and literacy is fostering social and emotional awareness, enhancing well-being and promoting academic success.

#WeAreKPR

ACCOLADES



Remembrance Day Contest Winner

Hundreds of KPR students participate in Royal Canadian Legion poster and literary contests each year. Through creative art and writing, students honour Canada's Veterans and foster learning and remembrance. Congratulations to Rowyn, Baltimore Public School Grade 6 student, who won second place at the provincial Royal Canadian Legion Contest for her essay titled 'Remembrance' in the Junior category. The Grafton Legion presented her with the award at a school assembly.



The Evolution of Coding in the Classroom

Students at Waverley Public School and Westmount Public School take coding to the next level! From practising indoors using learning carpets and Bee Bots (programmable robots designed for early learning), to practicing outdoors with sidewalk chalk, students in JK – Grade 8 are gaining hands-on experience and learning new approaches to science and math every day.



World Math Day Winners

Isaac and Tristen, intermediate students at Hastings Public School, had impressive results in an international online math contest on World Math Day, March 8. Isaac placed 13th in Canada and 303rd in the world. Tristen placed 1st in Canada and 18th in the world. Congratulations to Isaac and Tristen for their incredible accomplishments!

'Be Yourself' Initiative

The Ganaraska Trail Public School Genders and Sexualities Alliance (GSA) spread kindness and compassion in the hallways this year by sharing words of love on their "Be Yourself" bulletin board.



ENSS Science Fair Winners

Twenty-two students from East Northumberland Secondary School in Brighton presented projects at the Peterborough Regional Science Fair, held at Trent University on April 11, and they combined efforts to win the award for the top high school at the Fair!

Kent PS Students Participate in Take TECH 2023 Design Challenge

Over 1,800 intermediate students across KPR participated in the Take TECH 2023 Design Challenge. Kent Public School (PS) was one of many schools whose students joined this exciting event.



Students were asked to reflect on the UN's Sustainable Development Goals and design a product that would improve sustainability or help solve a problem in their community and beyond.

Each class received toolboxes and prototype kits. In addition to construction supplies, students were provided with electrical materials such as LED lights and were encouraged to use school supplies like micro bits and sensors to incorporate elements of coding and technology into their work.

From building miniature houses to address homelessness in the community, to incorporating energy efficient features such as solar panels, students gained valuable experience in problem solving and innovation.

Through teamwork, creativity and innovation, the Take TECH design challenge participants are leading us to a brighter future.



Celebrating Volunteers at KPR

Each year, thousands of incredible volunteers support our schools and bring to life the mission, vision and values of our school board.

As part of our recognition of National Volunteer Week, nine award recipients – Cassie Connell, Lea Cooke, Mary Coulas, Denise Dunford, Deb Hoogwerf, Kelly Glover, Corinne Lessif, Shelise Morgan and Alec Reid – were recognized for their exceptional volunteer service at the April Board meeting.

Kelly Glover was among the volunteers honoured and is described as a "true ambassador" of the school community at Colborne Public School. Kelly sits on School Council, supports the nutrition program, helps with fieldtrips, serves weekly hot lunches, plans and supervises school dances, bakes with Learning and Life Skills and Kindergarten classes, organizes fundraising initiatives and coordinates involvement in community events among many other significant contributions. "In over 25 years in education, I have not encountered a more dedicated volunteer than Kelly Glover," shares Lyn Westlake, Principal.



Shelise Morgan at Burnham Public School dedicates countless hours of her time to the breakfast and snack program – ordering, preparing, and organizing healthy snacks and meals to ensure every student has the opportunity to start the day in a positive way and is ready to learn. In her role as Chair of School Council, Shelise promotes parent engagement and is seen at every school event, either running an activity, helping with set up or take down, handing out treats, or simply participating in the fun. "Without her, Burnham would be a very different place," shares Martha Harp-McMurray, Principal.

Thank you to the thousands of volunteers in KPR schools who support student success and well-being in so many ways. Read more about outstanding volunteers in the News section of our website.

Urban Indigenous Alternative Secondary School Program

This year, KPR launched the urban Indigenous Alternative Secondary School Program (ASSP) in partnership with the Nogojiwanong Friendship Centre.

The program, also called Waawiye Kinoomaagzijiig (Circle of Learning) was developed for urban Indigenous students who may be having difficulty in the traditional classroom setting or who would benefit from a learning structure supported by Indigenous knowledge systems, community capacity, and resources to help them reach their goals and achieve success.

Students earn credits and work towards their Ontario Secondary School Diploma (OSSD), with a focus on Indigenous knowledge, Indigenous languages, and land-based experiential learning. Through a trauma-informed, culture-based education model, the ASSP supports Indigenous student success and well-being, fosters positive self-identification, promotes strong Indigenous leadership and provides learners with the skills, knowledge, attitudes and values needed to fully participate in their communities and society.



"The program gives us a community to belong to, we see ourselves reflected in our peers and are able to build long-lasting friendships and connections. It is incredibly beneficial to our healing in all aspects of our lives; culturally, emotionally, mentally, and spiritually, giving us the space we need to be successful in school," shares a student in the program.

Families and students interested in applying or learning more can visit the Indigenous Education Department on our website.

STSCO's First Rider Program

All children who will ride a school bus for the first time this September are invited to attend a free First Rider session.

Each session lasts about 20 minutes and will include a safety video and a 10 minute ride on a school bus for children and their parents or guardians.

For more information, visit www.stsco.ca.



Equity-Based Learning and Action in Support of Newcomers and Refugees

Students at Harold Longworth Public School (PS) showed their humanitarian spirit by creating artwork and postcards with welcome messages for young refugees who have been displaced by war or other crises, as part of the Students Rebuild “Welcoming Refugees Project.”

“The goal was for our students to build community and increase their understanding of global issues. This year, the focus was on building compassion and understanding of the realities that refugees and their families face,” shares Tanya Doyle, Principal.

Students reflected on their experience with the project:

“I found out that refugees basically have to leave everything behind and restart their lives. Making these postcards was a way that we can encourage refugees and welcome them to our country,” shares Grade 6 student, Reed.

“When we were learning about refugees, I felt sad because they have to leave their home country. I am happy that we are a safe place for them and they can come to Canada. I hope my postcard makes them feel like this is home for them,” says Grade 7 student, Ella.

For every piece of art received, Students Rebuild made a \$5 donation to refugee-aid organizations. Students in Grades JK – 8 produced many bright and colourful postcards and raised \$1,450. Way to go Harold Longworth PS!



United Against Islamophobia

In May, the Board of Trustees welcomed and honoured students and a staff member from Courtice Secondary School (SS) for their collective response and advocacy to address Islamophobia in their school and community.

Courtice SS students, supported by their teachers, were recently honoured by the National Council of Canadian Muslims with a Courage Award in recognition of their advocacy, courage and commitment to justice.

Islamophobia, anti-Muslim hate, and all acts of hate, cause serious, ongoing harm to students, staff, families and community members. Understanding, disrupting and dismantling Islamophobia is a priority that requires ongoing commitment. In the Kawartha Pine Ridge District School Board, we continue to work alongside students, families and community groups to support welcoming, inclusive environments.

Literacy and Numeracy Supports

To support strong foundations in essential literacy and numeracy skills, early intervention teachers, coaches, and consultants work directly with students, educators and principals to support success.

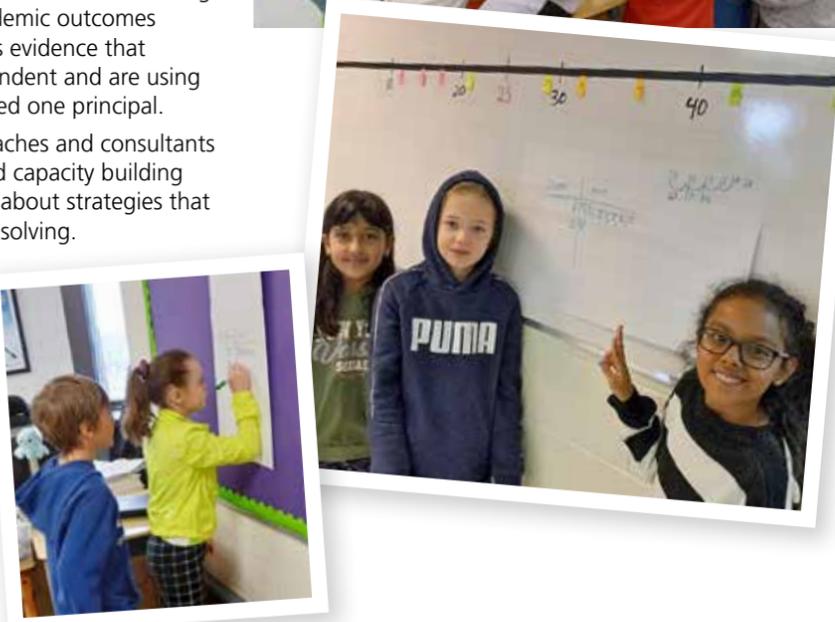
KPR’s “Readers Now/Lecteurs Maintenant” helps educators apply learning about four areas of reading to guide instruction. This builds educators’ own capacity and supports students to become increasingly independent and confident in literacy.

“Teachers are even more intentional in their planning. They are using the resources provided by the system along with the ideas/strategies that our coach has been sharing with them... When sharing the academic outcomes students are experiencing, there was evidence that students are becoming more independent and are using the strategies being taught,” reflected one principal.

The work of embedded math coaches and consultants in seven of our schools, has provided capacity building opportunities for educators to learn about strategies that improve student success in problem solving.

“Something new that was brought in that was helpful to me is number lines because they are easier for me than using pictures... I could use them in a different way,” said a James Strath student.

Students and educators across KPR will continue to benefit from these supports next year, as we support all students in achieving success.



“Welcome to School” Sessions

In partnership with the New Canadians Centre and the local Catholic school board, KPR is pleased to offer regional “Welcome to School” introduction sessions for families who are new to Canada as well as current families with Multilingual Language Learners who may benefit from the opportunity!

The half-day sessions will be held on August 21 (Peterborough), August 23 (Bowmanville), and August 25 (Cobourg) at 1:00pm. Families will visit elementary and secondary schools, learn what to expect at school and ask questions!

To register or learn more, scan the QR code to the right.



ARTS

Drama, dance, art and music support expression, critical thinking, well-being and student success every day, in so many ways.



Clarington Central Secondary School (CCSS) students brought Mamma Mia to life this spring with enthusiastic song and dance. The photo shown above was taken by CCSS graduate Ashleigh McCordle.



Thomas A. Stewart Secondary School students shared their artistic talents painting the set for the school's production of The Wizard of Oz.

ATHLETICS

Thank you to all of the staff and volunteers who made intramurals, practices, events and tournaments possible. Congratulations to the thousands of students who participated in activities this year.



Port Hope High School students (photo left) qualified for East Regional Track and Field in Ottawa.

Kaawaate East City Public School (photo right) students of all ages and abilities came together for a track and field day focused on fun, inclusion and friendship. Way to go Navigators!



Aubree (Bowmanville High School) and Hailey (Crestwood Secondary School) were selected as part of the top 20 women in the country to play for the Canadian Women's National Para Ice Hockey Team – way to go Aubree and Hailey!

Responsible and Accountable Fiscal Management

In June 2023, the Board approved a balanced operating budget of \$483,759,334 and capital budget of almost \$45 million for the upcoming school year. The budget is in compliance with Ministry of Education requirements and reflects priorities set out within the Board Action Plan, and overall Board goals.

Next year elementary enrolment is projected to increase by 765 students from the previous year, with secondary enrolment expected to increase by 130 students.

Board grant revenues are determined provincially based on elementary and secondary student enrolment. Total board enrolment for 2023–2024 is expected to be 35,723 students.

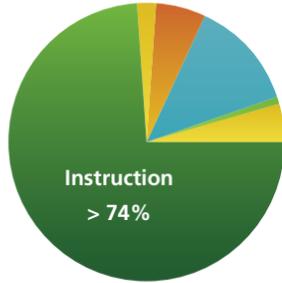
Our budget also includes over \$68 million in support for students with special needs and funding to advance a number of key strategic priorities.

Capital project highlights for 2023–2024 will include over \$17 million for construction of the new Northglen neighbourhood elementary school in Bowmanville, and \$3 million for a school addition at Murray Centennial Public School in Trenton, in addition to a number of capital building and school improvement projects.

We annually allocate significant investments in improvements and enhancements to our schools. We want to ensure that our physical spaces can keep pace with the advanced programming and instructional practices envisioned by our amazing staff.

EXPENDITURE BY PERCENTAGE

Instruction	74.06 %
Administration	2.20 %
Transportation	5.69 %
Pupil Accommodation	12.86 %
School Funded Activities	0.92 %
Other	4.28 %



Your Voice – Your Plan!

Every four years, KPR's Board of Trustees start a process to develop a renewed Strategic Plan for the school board. A strategic plan is like a roadmap for the organization; it focuses our efforts on student success goals and informs decision-making and budget priorities.

Nearly 2,400 people shared their thoughts and applied over 83,000 priority ratings in two online Strategic Planning conversations. And over 250 students, staff, parents/caregivers and community members participated in face-to-face focus group sessions about future priorities.

This important feedback will support the renewal of KPR's Strategic Priorities. The new Strategic Plan will be approved by the Board of Trustees in December 2023.



Elevate – Student Leadership Event

Student leaders from KPR secondary schools came together for a day of learning, leading and connecting at KPR Elevate 2023 in May. Five student leaders from each secondary school were invited to participate in a series of activities designed to build capacity and promote fun. The day was also an opportunity to celebrate the accomplishments of these amazing students, who have been working alongside other students and staff to support many meaningful activities – from student government and decision making, to student activities, spirit weeks and dances.



It was a great day of networking, planning and fun led by staff advisors and Student Trustees Maria Mahfuz and Kelly Mitchell.

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Educating for Success!



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“ Our mission is to educate our students to excel in learning, to succeed in life, and to enrich our communities. ”