



St. James Major Catholic School

Improvement Plan for Student Achievement and Well-Being 2020-2021

Guided by the Holy Spirit, our mission at St. James Major is to instill the joy of lifelong learning while encouraging our development as contributing members of the community.

"All Are Welcome in This Place"

Our Purpose and Our Why

As a community of learners, created in the image of God, we inspire and nurture:

- strong communities of Catholic faith – home, school, parish, and community.
- compassionate communities of service that give witness to Catholic social teaching, where we recognize that we are all called to be stewards of God's creation: to take care of ourselves, one another and the environment.
- a belief that all children can learn, when we design equitable, engaging and innovative learning opportunities that result in the highest level of achievement for all.

School Goals with Success Criteria	Monitoring Strategies
<ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. Nurture student-centered learning communities of faith that are welcoming, safe, caring, inclusive, equitable, respectful and healthy. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • All staff, through caring adult relationships, will model and explicitly teach social emotional learning skills and self-advocacy, using self-regulation resources and strategies from The Mehrit Centre, EOCCC, School Mental Health, Kids Have Stress Too, The Inside Out Program, and the Ontario Catholic School Graduate Expectations (OCSGE's). • Equity Goal- Create a culture of high expectations for <i>ALL</i>, while honouring the dignity of each student and his/her family. 2. Use the Religious and Family Life Education Program Resources on the Virtual Commons to integrate faith into all elements of school life; including through the curriculum, communications home and social life of the school. 3. Design learning experiences that are responsive and accessible to all learners. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Educators, students and families co-develop student learner profiles over the course of the year to better understand student strengths and needs. • Use The Universal Design for Learning (UDL) Framework when planning, instructing, assessing and making learning visible. • Staff will become comfortable with learning and assisting students and their families with our Board's online learning platforms (D2L-Brightspace and Teams). • Students will document their learning journeys using D2L-Brightspace and Teams, which will include synchronous and asynchronous learning. • Promote 21st century skill development through the use of critical thinking, collaboration, innovation and a variety of technology. 4. Math Goal- To help students develop increasingly sophisticated mental math skills in support of becoming more fluent and flexible with numbers and operations, through the explicit teaching of mental math strategies, at least 2 times per week, using Number Talks and Number Strings. 5. Reading Goal- To reach every reader by teaching decoding and language comprehension effectively (using the Science of Reading materials/resources). 6. Non-Fiction Writing Goal- To help students develop their non-fiction writing (recount, explanatory, persuasive, procedural/instructional, descriptive), by adding more detail and support. 7. Protect God's creations and resources through the refinement of a paper recycling program (recycling all paper products) and through boomerang lunches (students bring all items from their lunches home with them), thus reducing waste at school. 	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> -Audit Trail of SIPSAW Goals -“Conversations on the Go” -OCSGE's lived out at school -Growth Mindset as seen through observations -Middle Years Development Instrument (MDI) -Early Years Development Instrument (EDI) -Educator Long Range Plans -Use of the UDL Framework -Student Learner Profiles -Past EQAO Data (Reading, Writing, and Mathematics) -Math Problems and Multiple Choice Problems -Number Talks/Number Strings -PRIME Operations Diagnostic Tool -Early Numeracy Behaviour Tool -Non-Fiction Writing Samples -PM Benchmarks (K-3) -PASS (Sounds Skills Screener K-2) and PAST (for interventions) -CASI Assessment (Gr. 4-8) -Boomerang Lunches