

**2010-2011  
Annual Report  
And  
Three Year Plan**

## Message from the Principal

The 2010 - 2011 school year was a successful year in many ways. Students at St. Joseph Catholic School excelled in the areas of academics, fine arts, community participation and leadership. The successes of these achievements were represented in the Accountability Pillar Survey results and the Provincial Achievement Testing results.

I am pleased to report a high level of satisfaction from all St. Joseph Catholic School stakeholders. Parents, students and staff responded favourably in our Accountability Pillar Surveys and through ongoing dialogue throughout the school year. Therefore, St. Joseph Catholic School will maintain many of its existing practices and activities in the upcoming year.

However, status quo is not acceptable in our rapidly changing society. Past results do not ensure future successes. For this reason St. Joseph Catholic School in conjunction with other schools in ECSRD NO.2 are engaged in cooperative planning discussions to plan for the needs of our students to be successful learners in this 21<sup>st</sup> century. The strategies in this report speak to some of the planning that has already been initiated.

These are exciting times in education and exciting times for St. Joseph Catholic School. Spruce Grove will see two new schools open next year to meet the needs of our rapidly growing population. This year's theme, "Ever Growing, Learning, and Living in Christ" speaks to the challenge and excitement of this year and years to come. As a vibrant Catholic community, we will continue to work together to meet the challenges we face. Thank-you to our parents, students, staff and parish for your ongoing efforts to support Catholic Education in our community.

Sincerely,

Ray Renaud  
Principal

**October 2011 Accountability Pillar Overall Summary**

Measure Category	Measure Category Evaluation	Measure	St. Joseph School			Alberta			Measure Evaluation		
			Current Result	Prev Year Result	Prev 3 yr Average	Current Result	Prev Year Result	Prev 3 Yr Average	Achievement	Improvement	Overall
Safe and Caring Schools	Excellent	Safe and Caring	92.0	90.2	90.5	88.1	87.6	86.6	Very High	Maintained	Excellent
Student Learning Opportunities	n/a	Program of Studies	89.2	90.0	88.8	80.9	80.5	80.1	Very High	Maintained	Excellent
		Education Quality	96.5	95.9	96.0	89.4	89.2	88.9	Very High	Maintained	Excellent
		Drop Out Rate	n/a	n/a	n/a	4.2	4.3	4.7	n/a	n/a	n/a
		High School Completion Rate (3 yr)	n/a	n/a	n/a	72.6	71.5	71.1	n/a	n/a	n/a
Student Learning Achievement (Grades K-9)	Excellent	PAT: Acceptable	93.5	93.2	93.1	79.3	79.1	78.0	Very High	Maintained	Excellent
		PAT: Excellence	25.8	25.6	22.2	19.6	19.4	18.5	Very High	Maintained	Excellent
Student Learning Achievement (Grades 10-12)	n/a	Diploma: Acceptable	n/a	n/a	n/a	82.6	83.4	84.0	n/a	n/a	n/a
		Diploma: Excellence	n/a	n/a	n/a	18.7	19.0	18.9	n/a	n/a	n/a
		Diploma Exam Participation Rate (4+ Exams)	n/a	n/a	n/a	54.9	53.5	53.5	n/a	n/a	n/a
		Rutherford Scholarship Eligibility Rate (Revised)	n/a	n/a	n/a	59.6	56.9	57.0	n/a	n/a	n/a
Preparation for Lifelong Learning, World of Work, Citizenship	n/a	Transition Rate (6 yr)	n/a	n/a	n/a	59.3	59.8	59.3	n/a	n/a	n/a
		Work Preparation	87.2	78.2	83.3	80.1	79.9	79.8	Very High	Maintained	Excellent
		Citizenship	90.1	89.9	88.8	81.9	81.4	79.9	Very High	Maintained	Excellent
Parental Involvement	Excellent	Parental Involvement	89.0	89.0	90.8	79.9	80.0	79.4	Very High	Maintained	Excellent
Continuous Improvement	Excellent	School Improvement	92.0	86.0	89.6	80.1	79.9	78.8	Very High	Maintained	Excellent

Notes:

- PAT results are a weighted average of the percent meeting standards (Acceptable, Excellence) on Provincial Achievement Tests. The weights are the number of students enrolled in each course. Courses included: English Language Arts (Grades 3, 6, 9), Science (Grades 6, 9), French Language Arts (Grades 6, 9), Français (Grades 6, 9).
- Diploma results are a weighted average of percent meeting standards (Acceptable, Excellence) on Diploma Examinations. The weights are the number of students writing the Diploma Examination for each course. Courses included: English Language Arts 30-1, English Language Arts 30-2, French Language Arts 30-1, Français 30-1, Pure Mathematics 30, Applied Mathematics 30, Biology 30, Science 30.
- Overall evaluations can only be calculated if both improvement and achievement evaluations are available.
- The subsequent pages include evaluations for each performance measure. If jurisdictions desire not to present this information for each performance measure in the subsequent pages, please include a reference to this overall summary page for each performance measure.
- Data values have been suppressed where the number of students is less than 6. Suppression is marked with an asterisk (\*).

## Goal One: Success for Every Student

**Outcome:** *Students demonstrate proficiency in literacy and numeracy*

*Note – This outcome replaces the following outcome from the 2010/11 – 2012/13 three year education plan:*

- Students demonstrate high standards in learner outcomes (K-9 portion only)*

Performance Measure	Results (in percentages)					Target <sup>1</sup>	Evaluation			Targets <sup>2</sup>		
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2011	Achievement	Improvement	Overall	2012	2013	2014
Overall percentage of students in Grades 3, 6 and 9 who achieved the acceptable standard on Provincial Achievement Tests (overall cohort results).	91.6	95.2	91.0	93.2	93.5	90	Very High	Maintained	Excellent	90	90	90
Overall percentage of students in Grades 3, 6 and 9 who achieved the standard of excellence on Provincial Achievement Tests (overall cohort results).	20.6	22.9	18.0	25.6	25.8	20	Very High	Maintained	Excellent	20	20	20

### Comment on Results

The stakeholders of St. Joseph Catholic School (students, staff and parents) are very pleased with our 2011 PAT results. Once again our students achieved above provincial average in both the *Acceptable Standard* and *Standard of Excellence* categories.

Teachers worked together in grade level meetings to discuss the new 2011 grade three Math curriculum and they attended a video conference session sponsored by Alberta Education to inform them about the new expectations and structure of the 2011 Math PAT exam. Most importantly, our teachers continue to work collaboratively in grade level meetings to discuss “best practices” to improve student learning.

### Strategies

- All grade level teams will send a teacher to the locally sponsored erlc sessions focusing on math assessment. These teachers will report back to their grade level team using the “train the trainer” model.
- All teachers will be given the opportunity to meet in grade level/PLC groups to engage in professional dialogue to review “best practices” to enhance student learning.
- Teacher’s participation in our AISI project (Inquiry /Teaching Critical Thinking) enters its third year. Teachers will continue to implement teaching strategies to enhance student’s abilities to think critically. Inquiry based learning continues to increase student engagement in the learning process.
- Grade three teachers will continue to be encouraged to mark PAT exams in the summer as a professional development activity where they can network with other grade three teachers from around the province.

### Notes:

1. Aggregated PAT results are based upon a weighted average of percent meeting standards (Acceptable, Excellence). The weights are the number of students enrolled in each course. Courses included: English Language Arts (Grades 3, 6, 9), Science (Grades 6, 9), French Language Arts (Grades 6, 9), Français (Grades 6, 9). The percentages achieving the acceptable standard include the percentages achieving the standard of excellence.
2. Data values have been suppressed where the number of students is less than 6. Suppression is marked with an asterisk (\*).

**Outcome:** *Students are prepared for the 21<sup>st</sup> century*

*Note – This outcome combines the following outcomes from the 2010/11 – 2012/13 three year education plan:*

- *Students model the characteristics of active citizenship*
- *Students are well prepared for employment*

Performance Measure	Results (in percentages)					Target	Evaluation			Targets		
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2011	Achievement	Improvement	Overall	2012	2013	2014
Percentages of teachers, parents and students who are satisfied that students model the characteristics of active citizenship.	85.5	91.3	85.3	89.9	90.1	85	Very High	Maintained	Excellent	85	85	85
Percentages of teachers and parents who agree that students are taught attitudes and behaviours that will make them successful at work when they finish school.	78.6	91.9	79.9	78.2	87.2	85	Very High	Maintained	Excellent	85	85	85

**Comment on Results**

St. Joseph Catholic school stakeholders are very proud of these results as we are well above provincial average in these categories. Our students are always encouraged to be active positive citizens in our school and community. St. Joseph Catholic School students and staff participate in a wide variety of charitable initiatives and social justice projects.

The second question requires both students and parents to look far into the future as our school serves only K-4 students. However, our school does promote the attitudes of “life-long” learning, cooperation, punctuality, mutual respect and critical thinking. Student growth in these areas over the next ten years should assist them in being successful and responsible citizens.

**Strategies**

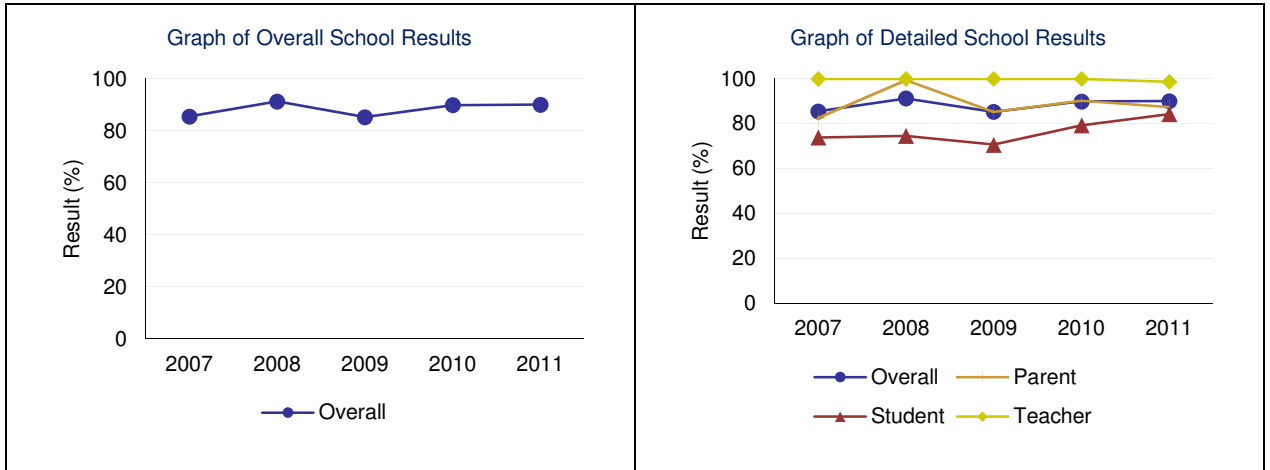
- Use our 2011-2012 school year theme, “Ever Growing, Learning, and Living in Christ” to promote desirable traits in our students through school wide celebrations, charitable initiatives and class room instruction.
- Staff will continue to develop “21<sup>st</sup> century” classrooms that promote critical thinking skills through inquiry based learning.
- Continue to teach our students the intrinsic value of “giving” and supporting others in need through participation in charitable initiatives.
- Continue our positive partnership with Holy Trinity Parish staff to enhance our student’s understanding of their faith.

Note: Data values have been suppressed where the number of respondents is less than 6. Suppression is marked with an asterisk (\*).

**Citizenship – Measure Details**

Percentages of teachers, parents and students who are satisfied that students model the characteristics of active citizenship.

	School					Authority					Province				
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Overall	85.5	91.3	85.3	89.9	90.1	79.2	82.8	82.3	87.2	84.2	76.6	77.9	80.3	81.4	81.9
Teacher	100.0	100.0	100.0	100.0	98.7	95.3	95.9	96.6	99.0	97.3	89.9	90.6	91.8	93.0	92.7
Parent	82.5	99.4	85.2	90.3	87.4	73.9	86.0	79.3	83.0	78.8	72.6	74.7	77.4	78.5	78.6
Student	73.9	74.6	70.7	79.3	84.3	68.3	66.5	71.1	79.5	76.5	67.1	68.5	71.8	72.7	74.5

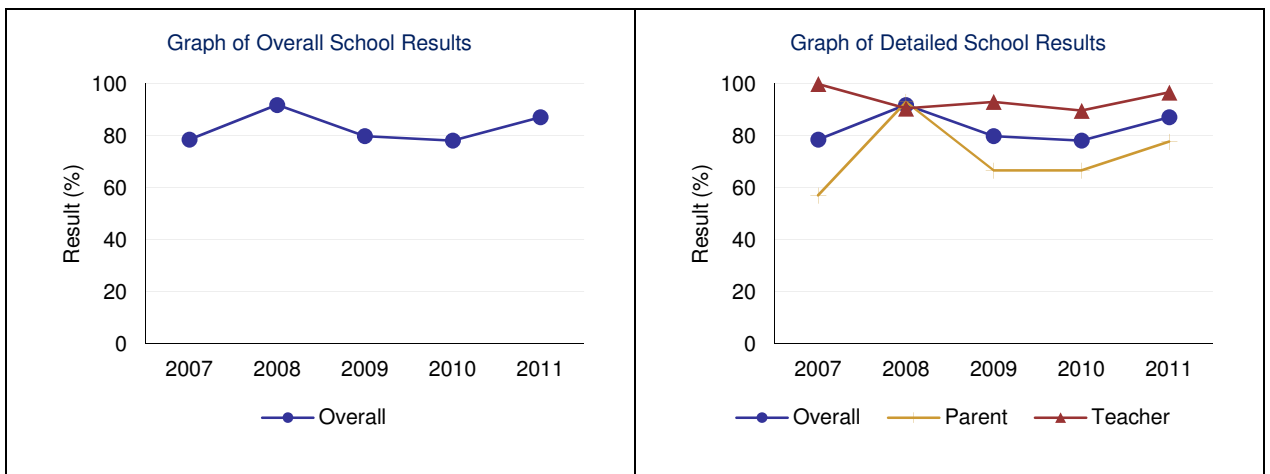


Note: Data values have been suppressed where the number of respondents is less than 6. Suppression is marked with an asterisk (\*).

**Work Preparation – Measure Details**

Percentages of teachers and parents who agree that students are taught attitudes and behaviours that will make them successful at work when they finish school.

	School					Authority					Province				
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Overall	78.6	91.9	79.9	78.2	87.2	82.2	87.1	81.9	83.4	81.4	77.1	80.1	79.6	79.9	80.1
Teacher	100.0	90.6	93.1	89.7	96.7	95.0	91.7	94.5	95.1	93.6	89.2	89.3	88.9	90.0	89.6
Parent	57.1	93.1	66.7	66.7	77.8	69.4	82.6	69.3	71.7	69.2	65.1	70.9	70.2	69.8	70.6



Note: Data values have been suppressed where the number of respondents is less than 6. Suppression is marked with an asterisk (\*).

## Goal Two: Transformed Education Through Collaboration

**Outcome:** *Students have access to programming and supports to enable their learning*

*Note – This outcome combines the following outcomes from the 2010/11 – 2012/13 three year education plan:*

- The education system meets the needs of all K–12 students and supports our society and the economy*
- School environments are safe and caring*

Performance Measure	Results (in percentages)					Target 2011	Evaluation			Targets		
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011		Achievement	Improvement	Overall	2012	2013	2014
Percentage of teachers, parents and students satisfied with the opportunity for students to receive a broad program of studies including fine arts, career, technology, and health and physical education.	91.2	88.8	87.7	90.0	89.2	90	Very High	Maintained	Excellent	90	90	90
Percentage of teachers, parents and students satisfied with the overall quality of basic education.	96.1	96.6	95.5	95.9	96.5	90	Very High	Maintained	Excellent	90	90	90
Percentage of teacher, parent and student agreement that: students are safe at school, are learning the importance of caring for others, are learning respect for others and are treated fairly in school.	90.2	91.3	90.0	90.2	92.0	90	Very High	Maintained	Excellent	90	90	90

### Comment on Results

The staff of St. Joseph Catholic School is extremely pleased with the results of these survey questions. The statistic that 96.5% of our school stakeholders are satisfied with the overall quality of basic education at our school is reassuring for the staff that their commitment to their students is appreciated. This represents a number that is over 7% higher than the provincial average.

Last year saw a huge investment in technology at our school. The final phase of Smart Board installation was accomplished in early May. Now all classrooms are equipped with Smart Boards. In addition, mobile netbook carts were introduced to the school giving students more access to computer technology and the internet.

St. Joseph Catholic School continues to employ three music specialists to deliver music instruction to all students. Our school is recognized as one of the strongest elementary schools in the area of music instruction. In addition our music teachers work with class room teachers to coordinate four nights of school concerts. The past year's concerts combined dance, drama, instrumental music and vocal music.

The third question relating to "Safe and Caring" schools saw an increase in stakeholder satisfaction by almost 2% from the previous year. Once again, this is reassuring to staff as we consciously try to promote a safe and caring atmosphere where mutual respect and Christian acceptance of one another is fostered.

### Strategies

- Ensure the safety of students by setting building security standards, hosting volunteer orientation meetings, requiring criminal record checks for volunteers and enforcing school visitor protocols for identification.
- Our school will follow our established "emergency response" plan.
- Permeation and instruction of our school year theme, "Ever Growing, Learning, and Living in Christ" will promote our Catholic values that encourage mutual respect and caring for others.
- Continue to host "KidzArt" showcase and incorporate a new initiative by School Council to bring in local artists to teach art appreciation and art techniques to students.
- Continue to use music specialists to teach the music program at St. Joseph Catholic School.
- Continue to employ a school counsellor to organize and facilitate student groups and programs that foster mutual respect and friendship.

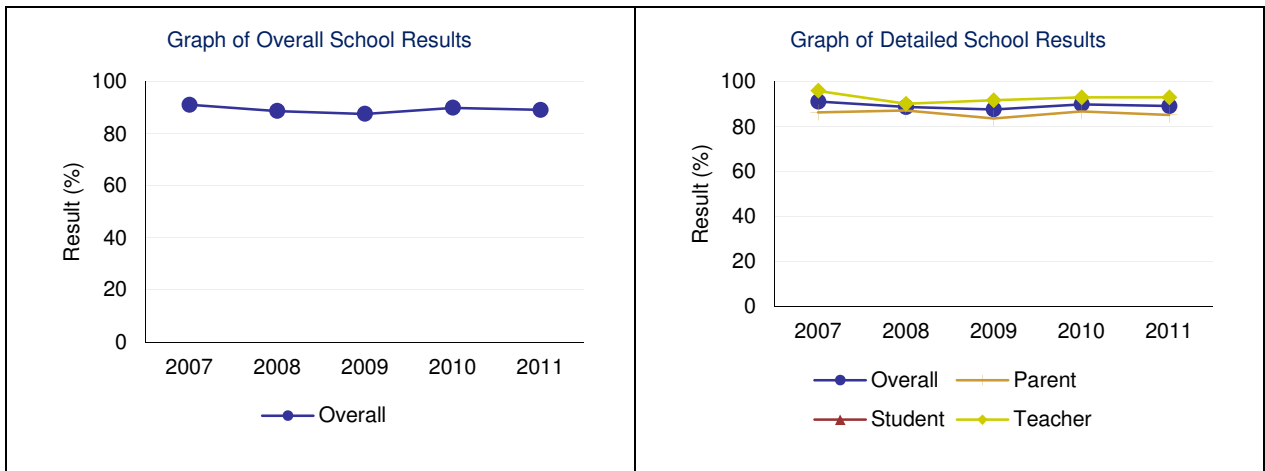
- Continue to organize concerts at each grade level to allow students the opportunity to display drama, instrumental, dance and vocal talents.
- Continue to emphasize the importance of daily physical activity and proper nutrition for healthy student lifestyles.
- There will be a change in school “hot lunch” providers to promote healthier hot lunch menus rather than fast food offerings.
- The School Council will offer a parent seminar on good nutritional eating habits and healthy school lunch ideas.

Note: Data values have been suppressed where the number of respondents is less than 6. Suppression is marked with an asterisk (\*).

**Program of Studies – Measure Details**

Percentage of teachers, parents and students satisfied with the opportunity for students to receive a broad program of studies including fine arts, career, technology, and health and physical education.

	School					Authority					Province				
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Overall	91.2	88.8	87.7	90.0	89.2	84.0	83.6	84.8	88.7	88.4	78.5	79.4	80.3	80.5	80.9
Teacher	96.0	90.2	91.8	93.1	93.1	92.8	92.7	92.5	94.8	93.4	85.7	86.4	86.8	87.7	87.6
Parent	86.4	87.3	83.7	86.9	85.3	81.2	82.9	82.7	84.2	81.9	76.9	77.6	78.7	78.0	78.3
Student	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	n/a	78.0	75.3	79.2	87.1	90.0	72.9	74.1	75.3	75.9	76.9

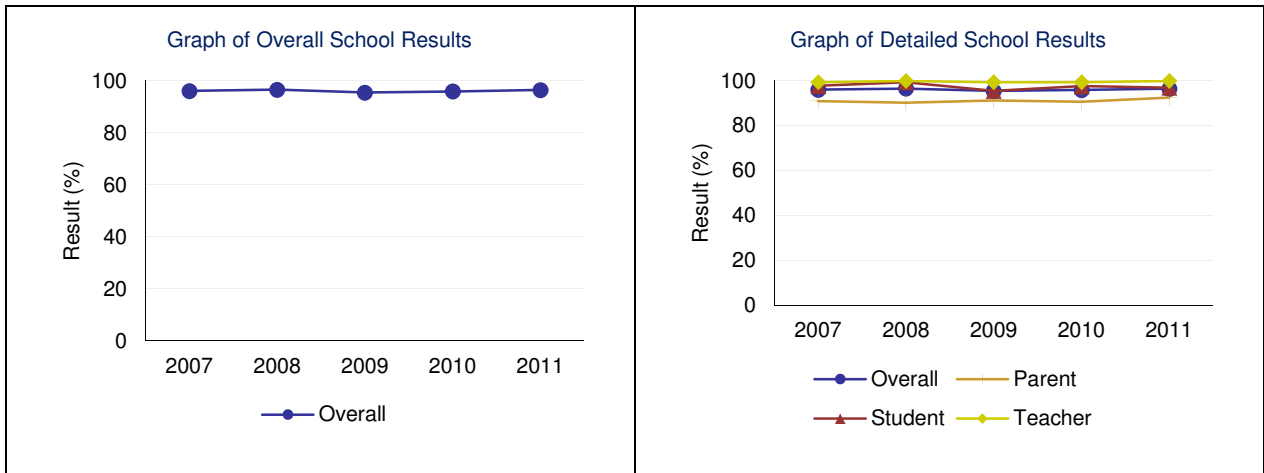


Note: Data values have been suppressed where the number of respondents is less than 6. Suppression is marked with an asterisk (\*).

**Education Quality – Measure Details**

Percentage of teachers, parents and students satisfied with the overall quality of basic education.

	School					Authority					Province				
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Overall	96.1	96.6	95.5	95.9	96.5	89.9	91.3	90.2	91.8	92.6	87.6	88.2	89.3	89.2	89.4
Teacher	99.4	100.0	99.4	99.4	100.0	97.1	97.8	98.3	98.3	98.9	94.7	94.9	95.3	95.6	95.5
Parent	91.0	90.3	91.3	90.7	92.5	84.6	90.3	85.8	87.6	88.6	81.8	83.0	84.4	83.9	84.2
Student	97.8	99.4	95.6	97.6	97.0	88.0	85.8	86.3	89.6	90.4	86.4	86.6	88.3	88.2	88.5

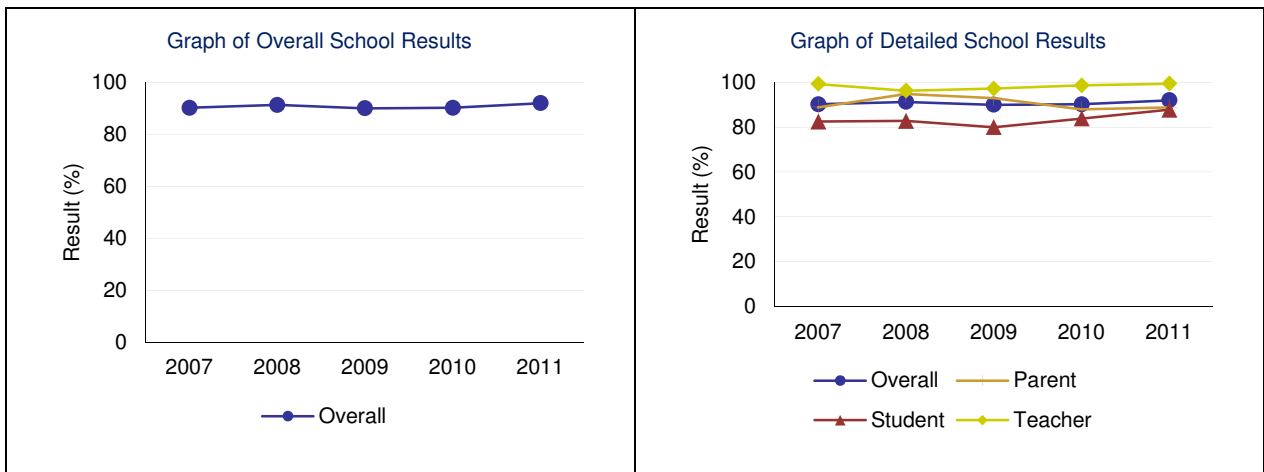


Note: Data values have been suppressed where the number of respondents is less than 6. Suppression is marked with an asterisk (\*).

**Safe and Caring – Measure Details**

Percentage of teacher, parent and student agreement that: students are safe at school, are learning the importance of caring for others, are learning respect for others and are treated fairly in school.

	School					Authority					Province				
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Overall	90.2	91.3	90.0	90.2	92.0	85.6	88.2	87.5	90.5	89.4	84.2	85.1	86.9	87.6	88.1
Teacher	99.3	96.3	97.2	98.6	99.4	95.4	94.4	96.8	97.3	96.7	92.6	93.1	93.8	94.4	94.5
Parent	88.9	94.8	93.0	88.0	88.8	82.1	92.5	86.9	88.8	86.5	81.7	83.2	85.3	86.1	86.6
Student	82.5	82.8	80.0	83.9	87.8	79.2	77.7	78.9	85.5	84.9	78.5	79.1	81.7	82.2	83.3



Note: Data values have been suppressed where the number of respondents is less than 6. Suppression is marked with an asterisk (\*).

**Outcome:** *The education system demonstrates openness to new and innovative ideas, leadership and collaboration*

*Note – This outcome combines the following outcomes from the 2010/11 – 2012/13 three year education plan:*

- *The jurisdiction demonstrates effective working relationships*
- *The jurisdiction demonstrates leadership, innovation and continuous improvement*

Performance Measure	Results (in percentages)					Target	Evaluation			Targets		
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2011	Achievement	Improvement	Overall	2012	2013	2014
Percentage of teachers and parents satisfied with parental involvement in decisions about their child's education.	87.2	90.0	93.5	89.0	89.0	90	Very High	Maintained	Excellent	90	90	90
Percentages of teachers, parents and students indicating that their school and schools in their jurisdiction have improved or stayed the same the last three years.	93.5	92.7	90.3	86.0	92.0	90	Very High	Maintained	Excellent	90	90	90

**Comment on Results**

In the 2010-2011 school year, school administration tried a variety of methods to encourage parent involvement in decisions about their child's education. These included:

- Meeting parents early in the year by hosting "Welcome Back BBQ" and class room tour.
- Working cooperatively with School Council Executive to organize regular meetings to provide administrators with regular parent feedback.
- Hosting four formal evenings of parent-teacher conferences to discuss student learning.
- Provide two opportunities for parent feedback through on-line surveys.
- Educate parents about our AISI program by having information tables and brochures at our parent-conference evenings.
- Working with our local ATA to bring in an internationally renowned speaker for a parent information evening.
- Used our monthly newsletter to foster an "open door" policy with parents where they are encouraged to contact school administrators at any time if they have concerns or issues to discuss.

The staff at St. Joseph Catholic School endeavor to make our parents feel welcome in the school and in combination with the administrator's above plan, 89% of parents and teachers are satisfied with parental involvement in decisions about their child's education.

We were very pleased that the satisfaction rate for question #2 returned to a satisfaction rate above 90%. Efforts to educate our parent community about our AISI project and improvements in the area of educational technology are two of the reasons for increased satisfaction in this area.

**Strategies**

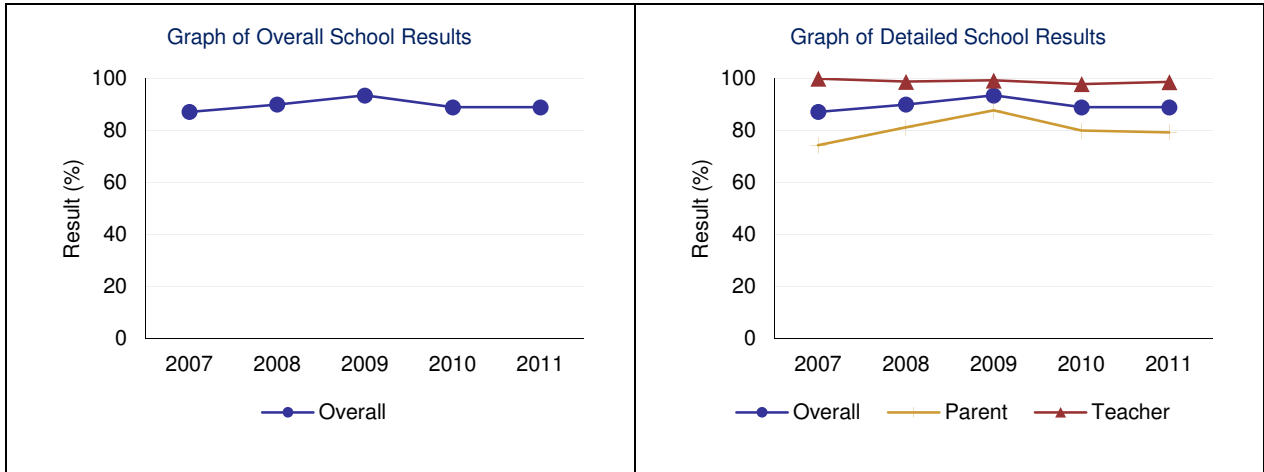
- Continue to educate our parents about the final year of our AISI project which is to enhance student learning through inquiry based learning and the development of critical thinking skills.
- Continue to provide a variety of professional development opportunities for teachers including formalized PLC time for each grade level team.
- Use the resources of our district office personnel to support teachers in their efforts to develop "21<sup>st</sup> Century class rooms".
- Continue with all the strategies listed in the above section, to maximize parent cooperation and communication with school administration.

Note: Data values have been suppressed where the number of respondents is less than 6. Suppression is marked with an asterisk (\*).

**Parental Involvement – Measure Details**

Percentage of teachers and parents satisfied with parental involvement in decisions about their child's education.

	School					Authority					Province				
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Overall	87.2	90.0	93.5	89.0	89.0	81.4	85.7	81.4	84.0	80.3	77.5	78.2	80.1	80.0	79.9
Teacher	100.0	98.8	99.3	97.9	98.7	92.1	92.6	90.3	93.0	92.3	87.1	87.5	88.0	88.6	88.1
Parent	74.3	81.2	87.8	80.0	79.3	70.6	78.9	72.4	75.1	68.4	67.9	69.0	72.2	71.3	71.7

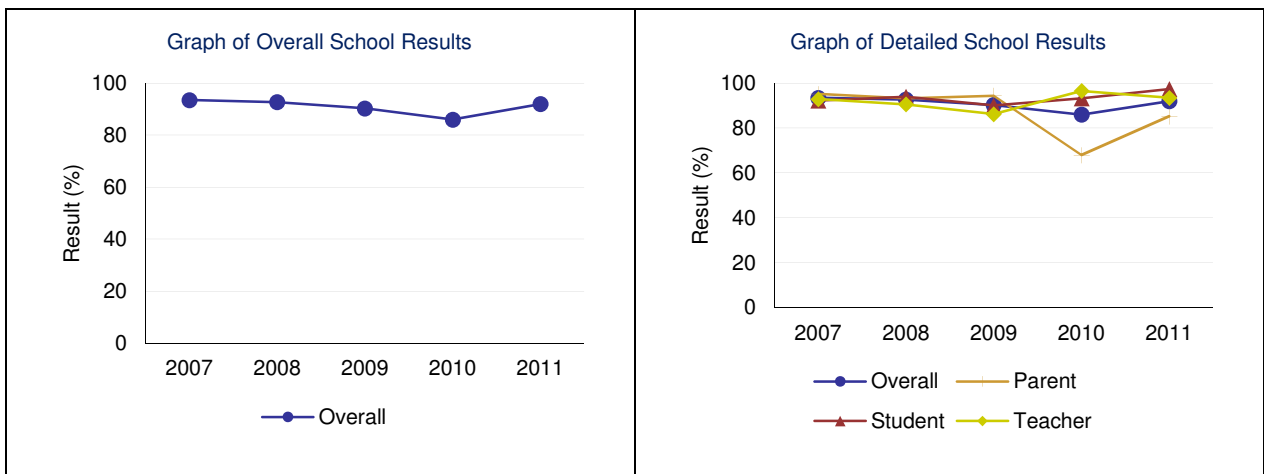


Note: Data values have been suppressed where the number of respondents is less than 6. Suppression is marked with an asterisk (\*).

**School Improvement – Measure Details**

Percentages of teachers, parents and students indicating that their school and schools in their jurisdiction have improved or stayed the same the last three years.

	School					Authority					Province				
	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011	2007	2008	2009	2010	2011
Overall	93.5	92.7	90.3	86.0	92.0	81.3	84.4	81.4	84.9	87.3	76.3	77.0	79.4	79.9	80.1
Teacher	92.9	90.6	86.2	96.6	93.5	84.9	85.7	81.7	89.4	90.7	74.5	75.6	78.2	80.8	80.1
Parent	95.2	93.3	94.4	68.0	85.2	81.2	87.1	81.8	82.2	85.7	75.1	75.9	78.1	77.0	77.3
Student	92.3	94.0	90.1	93.3	97.4	77.7	80.5	80.8	83.1	85.6	79.3	79.5	81.8	81.8	82.9



Note: Data values have been suppressed where the number of respondents is less than 6. Suppression is marked with an asterisk (\*).

**Goal Three: To extend faith development experiences in Religious Education and Liturgy for Students, Staff and Parents.**

**Outcome:** Students and staff will have a richer experience and deeper understanding of their faith.

Performance Measure	2010-2011 Students Satisfied	2010-2011 Teachers Satisfied	2010-2011 Parents satisfied
• With the religious celebrations held at school	92.8%	100%	100%
• With what is learned in religious studies classes	97.1%	100%	99.0%
• With your schools' effort to do all things like Jesus would want them done	94.0%	100%	97.0%

**Strategies**

- Continue to begin each school day with staff prayer in our staff room at 8:20 each morning.
- Continue to have each staff member participate in planning one school liturgy/celebration each year focusing on scriptural theme for 2011-2012.
- Staff rosary committee will continue to offer rosary one day per week.
- Continue to work collaboratively with school division religious education coordinator and parish team to support ongoing school faith initiatives.
- Celebrate, promote and witness our Catholic identity, faith and values.
- Continue to participate in charity initiatives and social justice projects.
- Plan grade four in-class teaching masses led by Father Jader.
- Plan a grade 3-4 school mass in school gymnasium led by Father Jader.
- Co-organize two penitential celebrations for Advent and Lent with Father Jader.