

Progress on Critical Areas for Follow-up/Schoolwide Action Plan 2018-19

1. Determine best marketing practices for creating a sustainable school enrolment enabling the school to provide additional services and expand and upgrade their programs as needed.

Summary: The marketing practices have helped increase the student enrolment steadily for the last 4 years. TYIS is using the increase in student enrolment to expand its programs.

Evidence:

- Student Enrolment in 2014-2015: 60 students
- Student Enrolment in 2015-2016: 76 students
- Student Enrolment in 2016-2017: 95 students
- Student Enrolment in 2017-2018: 122 students
- 2016-2017: Grade 7 Began
- 2017-2018: Grade 8 Began
- 2018-2019: Kindergarten will Begin

The Visiting Committee notes: that the school's student population has doubled since the last visit in April 2015.

2. Create or adopt school wide rubrics and align formative and summative assessments across grade levels for all core subjects.

Summary: School wide assessments are being used for Math and Language Arts. Math will be in review and priority standards identified over the course of 2018-19. Science and Social Studies will follow this process. The overarching goal is to develop a viable curriculum in each subject across grade levels. This is a long-term goal that will be done one subject at a time and involve consistent communication internally between administration and teachers as well as information dissemination to the parent community.

Evidence:

- i-Ready Diagnostic Assessments for Math and Reading
- Star Reading Test for Reading Level
- Journeys Tests for Language Arts Standards
- Go Math Test for Math Standards

Discussions with various members of the faculty confirmed the use of various assessments in the areas of reading and math.

3. Further incorporate the expertise of the staff regarding the EAL program and continue to expand differentiated and scaffolded activities that meet the needs of all students in the mainstream classrooms.

Summary: The EAL program has been replaced with the ASK (Academic Support for Kids) program to include any student with academic needs. Teachers in the mainstream classrooms collaborate with the ASK coordinator provide appropriate level lessons and materials for students with academic needs.

Evidence:

- ASK students are tracked in a spreadsheet with personal objectives and lessons.
- Language continuums to track student progress
- End-of-term coordinator documents that identify students' level of progress from beginning to end of term

The visiting committee notes: TYIS concurs that this is an area for continued focus.

4. Some of the accesses to physical resources from YMCA make it important to organize safety and access for the security of students and staff. (YMCA shares some of its facilities with the school).

Summary: Some steps have been taken to ensure the safety and security of students and staff. Some steps are still in planning and negotiations. All visitors are required to check in at the TYIS office and wear a visitors badge while visiting the school. Teachers escort students when moving around the building. Within the plans for construction for the move to the 2nd floor, requests have been made to include walls/doors between TYIS and the sports college with keys. Stairwells will be shuttered of from public access and the elevator will be rerouted to not stop on the 2nd floor where TYIS will be located.

Evidence:

- Visitor Badges
- Teacher Escorts
- Construction Plans & Requests

The visiting committee notes: This will be an ongoing process for the safety and security of students and staff of TYIS.

5. The administration and staff will revisit the TYIS emergency response plan for the security and safety of the students and staff.

Summary:

- Plans for the TYIS emergency response plan have been reviewed and updated. The emergency response plan includes procedures for lockdown, earthquake, tsunami, and fire protocols.

Evidence:

- TYIS schedules 3 emergency drills a year, one each term, that cover all aspects of emergency actions within each drill.

The visiting committee notes: The school has addressed this critical area for follow-up.

Commendations and Recommendations

Commendations:

The Visiting Committee recognizes the following areas of strength:

1. All the staff is caring and very connected to their students.
2. Parents and students alike are excited and are very devoted to their school.
3. The core content area standards are coordinated across the grade levels through the use of TYIS's academic standards.
4. TYIS's access to the YMCA facilities allows them to offer a wide variety of activities to their students.
5. The size of the school gives them optimum capability to utilize their resources and make quick adjustments.
6. TYIS is commended for its effective use of the ASK approach to accelerate student learning in the English areas.
7. The school's recent transition to their new environment was well prepared and coordinated.

Recommendations:

The Visiting Committee concurs with the school's identified areas that are outlined in the schoolwide action plan. These are summarized below:

1. Determine and implement the best marketing practices for increasing enrolment, particularly at the Grade 6, 7 and 8 levels.
2. Continue to explore and implement schoolwide assessments in the following areas: writing, science and social studies.
3. Articulate and implement common assessment, grading and reporting practices.
4. Prioritize the Professional Development program to systematically address the critical learner needs.
5. Continue to design and implement policies and procedures focused on best practice toward the safety and security of students and faculty.