



# **Success Plan 2010-2015 Macdonald High School**

# Success Plan For Macdonald High School for 2010-2015

## Introduction

The Macdonald High School Success Plan for 2010-2015 is based on the Lester B. Pearson School Board's Strategic Plan entitled "Together We Learn: Partnering for Student Success" and the MHS Educational Project. The MHS School Success Plan outlines a clear direction and defines our priorities for the coming five years. At Macdonald High School, it is our responsibility to ensure that every student in our school has the opportunity to excel. Our success plan provides a road map to meet that responsibility. It is built on the foundation of work accomplished through our 2006-2009 success plan and ensures that our goals are achievable, our progress is measurable and that we are accountable to those who place their trust in Macdonald High School.

Our success plan has been developed with input from our stakeholders and in accordance with the strategic directions of the Ministry of Education, Leisure & Sports and the four identified pillars of our school board's strategic plan. We believe the objectives and strategies we have chosen represent key areas that will increase the success rate of our students. At Macdonald High School student success is the force that drives all our actions.

In a traditional setting, Macdonald High School offers a unique community atmosphere. Students are encouraged to achieve academic excellence and to participate in a wide variety of activities which help them develop into well-rounded, caring adults. The school shares a campus with Macdonald college of McGill University and John Abbott College CEGEP. Macdonald High School has been in operation since the early 1900's and has updated and newly-renovated facilities. Situated in Ste Anne de Bellevue at the western-most tip of the Island of Montreal, most of our students go on to CEGEP, particularly the adjoining John Abbott CEGEP..

Several levels of academic challenge exist in all subjects, with enrichment in Math, English and Science, as well as French mother-tongue level (Francaise Langue maternelle) at the Secondary V level. The individual needs of all students are identified by our Resource Department in conjunction with the teaching staff. Adaptations and modified programs are developed where needed. In 2009-2010 there were 697 students, Sec. 1- 106; Sec. 2- 131; Sec. 3- 153, Sec. 4- 149; Sec. 5- 158. There were 30 handicapped students and 92 At Risk students, for a total percentage of 17.5% of our total population. There are 2 Resource teachers, 1 Special Ed. technician, 1 Planning Room technician and 11 Integration Aides.

### Programs of Study

**Magnet Program:** Macdonald High School caters to the needs of all its students and especially to those students interested in Technology and Media. Computer classes are offered to Cycle 2 students. In addition, students produce and deliver a daily newscast each morning via televisions which are in every classroom. The yearbook and the school website are produced by our senior classes. In our media classes, students produce video productions, animated films and produce graphic designs.

In our after school Robotics club, students design Robots which are entered in a very prestigious competition. Students design their own website and produce an animated video and a magazine.

Macdonald High School offers enriched programs in both official languages as well as in Mathematics and Science at all grade levels.

**English:** Courses offered at the regular and advanced level.

**French:** Two options are offered. The Enriched Program (immersion) for students who wish a bilingual education with other classes taught in French and the regular program, which offers daily French classes.

**Mathematics:** Both regular and enriched classes are offered. Traditionally, every year, many of our students are asked to compete at their level in the Sun Life Financial Candian Open Mathematics challenge of the University of Waterloo. The math department is very proud of the exceptional standing that some of our students achieve across Canada.

**Social Sciences:** Courses are offered in both French and English in Secondary 1 through Secondary IV (History and Geography).

**Science:** Secondary 1 and II students are offered Science and Technology in both French and English. Science and Technology in Secondary III focuses on the human body and in Secondary IV on matter and energy and their impact on the world. Secondary V students are given the choice of Chemistry and Physics. The Science department participates annually in the Bell Regional Science Fair with our students winning medals.

Grade 9 Bridge program: This program was designed for students who have not successfully completed all their Cycle 1 competencies and will enable them to successfully complete the Grade 9 Curriculum (Cycle 1 Year 2). Within this small class setting, students will follow the grade 9 curriculum with having one teacher responsible for three of the core subjects. They will also receive extra Math support by having 9 periods of Math in 6 days. Differentiated instruction and modular learning will also be implemented.

The Preparation for Vocational Studies Program: In this one year program students will be registered in English, French and Math at the Secondary IV level as these three courses are pre-requisites to a number of technical and vocational programs within the Adult Sector. Students in this program will also be registered in Canadian History, Economics for Life, Exploration of Vocational training and Physical Education. In addition to the academic courses students will follow a "work study" approach in which they will be placed in a "stage" of their choice in consultation with the Work Study Coordinator. After successful completion of the program students may apply to a technical or vocational program offered at Adult Education or they may choose to continue

working on academic credits towards a high school diploma. This program at Macdonald High School is available to all students registered in the Lester B Pearson School Board.

**Robotics:** A year long extra-curricular robotics program is offered. Students have the opportunity for hands on, practical learning, team building and a fun, professional environment to get involved in after school. As part of the program students participate in the CRC robotics competition where we achieve excellent results.

**Arts:** The Arts are a strong part of the student culture and Macdonald High School is fast becoming a school known for its creative accomplishments. Within our Music program each class becomes a band of its own sound and personality. A comprehensive yet intensive Jazz Program is offered to our students. Through our Dance program students are exposed to jazz, lyrical, ballet and hip hop. Each year a spectacular dance show is presented featuring all the dance classes. In our Art classes students' creativity and individuality are encouraged by exploring and discovering various art mediums such as: drawing, painting, sculpture, collage and print. A strong emphasis is placed on art appreciation. Our Drama classes employ discussion and classroom activities. Students have the opportunity to find their own abilities and strengths, express their feelings to others, trust and interact through teamwork.

**Media:** Our fully networked school has televisions in every classroom, allowing for a daily live morning news broadcast produced by our students.

**Resource:** The Resource Department provides direct intervention and academic support to identified students and those with special needs. This department oversees grade level resources and individualized programs while providing a balance of in-class support and small group instruction. A work study experience is available for students who qualify and a Life Skills Program is offered daily to students with special needs.

**Community Office:** Our community service program at Mac promotes and encourages an attitude of kindness and acceptance. Through the involvement in events such as Terry Fox Runs, lunches for Senior citizens, our Remembrance Day tributes, participation in the St. Patrick's Day parades and our annual Multi-cultural Food Court, Mac students quickly learn that helping others not only feels good, but that getting involved is often the key to success.

**Sports and Athletics:** The Physical Education curriculum is an integral part of each student's total learning experience. It is designed to provide opportunities for all students to achieve skills, knowledge and attitudes that enhance their sense of well-being and maximize the quality of their life. Macdonald High School is an active participant in the Greater Montreal Athletic Association, fielding teams in soccer, volleyball, basketball, softball, badminton, swimming, track and field, cross-country and halo races, touch football, lacrosse and rugby.

**Student Life/Leadership:** Mac Student Life is a program that encourages students to accept the responsibility of being a student leader. It focuses on the development of leadership skills. Our student leaders are coaches, event planners, mentors to other students, camp planners, radio station producers, morning announcement leaders, dance planners, fundraising gurus and community volunteers.

## School Vision / Mission

Macdonald High School continues to be committed to offering a traditional well-rounded education in a safe contemporary setting. We believe that each and every student has the potential to be successful. Our community-based approach to education is based on the following principles:

- We believe all students have the innate right to be adequately prepared academically and socially to cope successfully with their life choices.
- We believe that a student's best chance of overall success will be achieved through the combined support of the whole Macdonald High School community: teachers, resource personnel, administration, peers, parents and our various community partners.
- We believe in providing a variety of extra curricular activities to complement and further develop the skills learned in the classroom. We will endeavor to develop and support in every student, skills (academic and social) that will allow all students to reach their full potential.

**School Portrait**

Macdonald High School					
	2004-2005	2005-2006	2006-07	2007-2008	2008-2009
Total Number of Students Registered	863	870	799	753	768
Students Entering with Delay	145	152	126	134	139
Proportion of Students Identified with handicaps, Social Maladjustments or Learning Difficulties	16.8%	17.5	15.8	18.6	18%
Drop Out Rate:					
Graduation Success Rate:		75%	77.2%	78.23%	73.33%

Result of MEQ June and August exams					
	June 2005	June 2006	June 2007	June 2008	June 2009
French Sec V	84.5	82%	81.6	91	86.2
French Reading					
French Writing					
English Sec V	93.4	95.2	98.6%	94.1	88.6
Mathematics Sec IV 416	62.9	69%	70.7	61.4	CS&T 70.7
426	n/a	78%	90	69.7	T&S 75
436	76.2	95%	91.4	89.7	Science 100%
Science Sec IV	(416) 62.9 (426) 78.7	(416) 64% (436) 91%	(416) 67.5 (436) 67.2	(416) 76.4 (436) 89.7	(416) 69.9% (436) 100%
History Sec IV	55.7%	58%	75.6	64.7	74.3%
Histoire Sec IV	80.3%	72%	94.7	78.5	91.4

# Action Plan

## Strategic Directions 1: Maximizing Student Success in a Culture for Learning.

Objective	Strategies	Indicator	Targets / Results
To increase the graduation rate.	1. To offer tutorials in Sec. 4 math, science and history at lunch & after school.	The success rate of the MELS Secondary 4 Science & Technology, Secondary 4 Math Options and Secondary 4 History & Citizenship exam results	An increase in the graduation rate to 80% by 2015
	2. To increase the use of teacher web based communities by offering instructional workshops so that all homework & projects will be posted regularly.	The percentage of graduates	A 5% increase in the success rate of MELS Secondary 4 Math exam results by 2015
	3. To continue a homework program after school where tutors will assist students with their homework. Tutors will be paid for the service as parents will be charged. After school healthy snacks will be served during a break.	The number of web based communities created by teachers	A 5% increase in the success rate for MELS Secondary 4 Exam results in Science & Technology by 2015
	4. To create a Bridge Program for grade 9 students who have not successfully completed grade 8 competencies. Majority of students will be male and focus is on core subjects. Group will stay together all day and there will be one head teacher overseeing the success of the program.	The number of students attending the Homework Program	A 3% increase in the success rate for MELS Secondary 4 Exam results in History & Citizenship by 2015
		The success rate of students who attend the Homework Program	An increase in the number of students attending the Homework Program each year until 2015
		The success rate of students attending the Bridge Program	A 3% increase in the success rate of students attending the Homework Program.
	5. Voc/Prep program to continue for grade 10 students. Students take part in a work study program once a week. They are monitored by a work study co-ordinator. Curriculum has been modified to open up different pathways: high school graduation, adult ed., trade school, or work force. Program is open to all students within LBPSB high schools.	The success rate of students attending Voc/Prep Program	An increase in the success rate of students attending the Bridge Program.
			an increase in the success rate of students attending the Voc/Prep Program

## Strategic Directions 1: Maximizing Student Success in a Culture for Learning.

Objective	Strategies	Indicator	Targets / Results
To decrease the drop out rate.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To continue a comprehensive intramurals program in the gym at lunch time.</li> <li>2. To support the learning of grade 9 boys through the Bridge program.</li> <li>3. To continue leadership program to organize school wide events.</li> <li>4. To continue Student Council at all grade levels which organizes school wide events. Participation in Leadership camps.</li> <li>5. To continue Voc/Prep class to engage students in their academics and workstudy.</li> </ol>	<p>The success rate of secondary 3 students, especially boys in core subject areas</p> <p>The number of student drop outs.</p> <p>The number of students participating in school wide events.</p> <p>The number of students who continue on an educational pathway, either academic or trade related.</p>	<p>A 5% reduction in the overall number of students who drop out by 2015</p> <p>A 5% reduction of the number of boys who drop out by 2015</p> <p>A 5% increase in the success rate for Secondary 3 students, especially boys</p> <p>A minimum of one intervention targeting the engagement of boys be implemented</p> <p>An increase in the number of students participating on Student Council and in the organization of school wide events</p>

## Strategic Directions 1: Maximizing Student Success in a Culture for Learning.

Objective	Strategies	Indicator	Targets / Results
<p>To increase the success rates on Sec V French Reading and Writing exams.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. to invite more french guest speakers, plays etc. into the building for students</li> <li>2. To use GB+ books in cycle 1 to increase reading levels in French</li> <li>3. To increase the French milieu in the school.</li> <li>4. To offer more tutorials in French prior to examination period</li> <li>5. To offer a bilingual Physical Education Program</li> <li>6. To continue to offer Science, History and Ethics in French at the Cycle 1 level</li> <li>7. To continue to offer Canadian History in French at the Grade 10 level</li> <li>8 To select one grade 7 class to go to a neighboring French school for one semester and one class from this school to attend Mc</li> </ol>	<p>The success rates on the MELS Secondary 5 Uniform Exam results in French Reading and Writing</p> <p>The number of opportunities for French to be used in the school</p> <p>Secondary 1 student reading levels in French</p>	<p>A 3% increase in the success rate for MELS Secondary 5 Uniform Exam results in French writing by 2015</p> <p>A 3% increase in the success rate for MELS Secondary 5 Uniform exam results in French Reading by 2015</p> <p>An increase in the number of French activities offered in the school</p> <p>An increase of 3% in French Reading rates for Secondary 1 students by 2015.</p>

## Strategic Directions 1: Maximizing Student Success in a Culture for Learning.

Objective	Strategies	Indicator	Targets / Results
To increase awareness of and access to pathways for Special Needs Students	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To expand the work study program for students with special needs</li> <li>2. To continue to offer Life Skills Program to students with Special Needs</li> <li>3. To make long term plans for students on modified programs as of Secondary 3</li> </ol>	<p>the number of students matched with appropriate pathways</p> <p>Number of students in the Prep/Voc program</p> <p>Number of opportunities/events prompting work oriented pathways</p>	<p>An increase in the number of long range plans for special needs students</p> <p>To increase the number of activities offered in the Life Skills program</p>

## Strategic Directions 2: Fostering and Supporting Commitment to Professional Growth for All.

Objective	Strategies	Indicator	Targets / Results
<p>To foster the sharing of pedagogy and best practices within the school.</p>	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To continue to offer DLP workshops by teachers for teachers.</li> <li>2. To continue to offer an early dismissal day once a month for department and cycle meetings to take place.</li> <li>3. To hold a retreat at the beginning of the school year</li> <li>4. To provide and encourage Cycle 1 teachers to continue to learn cutting edge methods in the teaching of reading.</li> </ol>	<p>The feedback from department and cycle meetings on early dismissal days.</p> <p>The number of teachers participating in workshops on the teaching of reading.</p> <p>The use of technology in the classroom</p>	<p>An increase in the number of teachers trained and using technology in their daily teaching practices.</p> <p>An increase in the collaboration among the teachers. Teachers sharing and meeting outside of early dismissal days.</p>

## Strategic Directions 2: Fostering and Supporting Commitment to Professional Growth for All.

Objective	Strategies	Indicator	Targets / Results
To make use of all of the local PIC funds each year.	To make teachers aware of workshops available to them and to facilitate their attending these workshops.	The amount of PIC funds available at the end of the school year.	An increase in the number of staff participating in workshops.  To spend the entire amount of PIC funds each year.

### Strategic Directions 3: Enhancing School Collaboration and Community Partnerships

Objective	Strategies	Indicator	Targets / Results
To increase our community involvement	<p>To continue to develop work study placements within our community through our work study co-ordinator.</p> <p>To continue to be involved in local community initiatives with the help of the community officer co-ordinator, students from the Leadership class and the student council.</p> <p>To continue to foster a positive working relationship with John Abbott College by renting of facilities, Remembrance Day, sharing of sports fields, etc.</p> <p>To invite John Abbott students to talk to Mac classes .</p> <p>To make volunteerism within the community mandatory by setting a minimum of 10 hours that students must do as part of their graduation requirements.</p>	<p>The number of students involved in work study placements within the community</p> <p>The number of student volunteers involved in the local community.</p>	<p>An increase in the number of students volunteering in the community.</p> <p>To foster relations with local industry in order to develop sponsorships.</p> <p>To continue to participate in Robotics competition in order to develop a relationship with local industries.</p>

### Strategic Directions 4: Promoting Wellness in a Safe and Caring Community.

Objective	Strategies	Indicator	Targets / Results
To promote the Healthy Schools Approach.	<ol style="list-style-type: none"> <li>1. To implement the MELS Sex Education Program over the next five years. Continue the Sex Ed Program developed by Mac staff specifically for special needs students.</li> <li>2. To continue to promote Health Week.</li> <li>3. To continue to offer intra mural sports and organized GMAA sports teams.</li> </ol>	<p>The number of classes participating in the new MELS Sex Ed Program.</p> <p>The number of students participating in Health Week activities.</p> <p>The number of students participating in intramural sports and organized GMAA teams.</p>	A school wide Sex Ed Program implemented for all grade levels by 2015.