

Learning for Life



2024/ 2025

DRUMHELLER VALLEY SECONDARY SCHOOL

EDUCATION PLAN AND ANNUAL EDUCATION RESULTS REPORT



ABOUT DRUMHELLER VALLEY SECONDARY SCHOOL (DVSS)

The Drumheller Valley Secondary School was first opened in 1963 and was a grade 9 to 12 school. In 1991 with the movement of grade levels, to better utilize facilities, DVSS became a grade 7 to 12 school. As of January 2011, we have moved back to the original campus after a \$19,000,000 renovation. The move was well coordinated and on January 4, 2011, we opened the doors to our new facility. Although it has been over a decade since the move, our facility continues to be a source of pride, with an emphasis on natural light and technology. We are all pleased with the contribution of Alberta Education, Alberta Infrastructure, Golden Hills School Division, and all that were involved in the project. Our school has continued to improve the site since our renovation with the help of our School Council, Friends of DVSS, and local Drumheller community.

Our school maintains five primary focuses that are intertwined with our Division's focus of "Powerful Learning":

Academics
Career and Technology Studies
Fine Arts
Athletics
International Education

DVSS has a dormitory facility, which can house up to 85 students. International students have been a vital part of DVSS almost twenty years and have brought many rewards to the school and the community. We have hosted students from Mexico, Brazil, Germany, Korea, China, Hong Kong, Nigeria, Ghana, Vietnam, United Arab Emirates, Benin, Burundi, Cameroon, Tunisia, Czech Republic, Germany, Belgium, India, Oman, Turkey, Colombia, Taiwan, Jordan, Spain, Italy, Zimbabwe, and the Ivory Coast to name a few. Our school community definitely represents multiculturalism and diversity even in a rural Alberta setting.

The 2024-2025 school year marks changes in our leadership team:
Dana Yemen, Principal, Brad Teske and Dana Levesque, Associate Principals



Drumheller Valley Secondary School
450 17th Street E
Drumheller, Alberta T0J 0Y5
www.drumvss.ca

FOUNDATION STATEMENTS

Mission

Inspiring a caring and courageous community of lifelong learners; empowering global citizens for generations.



60 Years
Serving Students

DRUMHELLER VALLEY SECONDARY SCHOOL
**It Takes a Community
to Raise a Child!**

Thank You to All of Our Partners



Vision

To engage possibilities and embrace potential

“Learning for Life...”



You're Invited!

JOIN OUR SCHOOL COUNCIL

MEET OTHER PARENTS

—

GET SCHOOL UPDATES

—

Every
2nd
Tues of
the Month

DVSS
Office
Boardroom
@ 7pm

SHARE IDEAS TO
BUILD OUR SCHOOL
COMMUNITY

—

For more information, please reach out via email to:

dvsscouncil@gmail.com

ALBERTA EDUCATION ASSURANCE MEASURES

OVERALL SUMMARY

Assurance Domain	Measure	DVSS			Alberta		
		Current Result	Previous Year Result	Previous 3 Yr Avg	Current Result	Previous Year Result	Previous 3 Yr Avg
Student Growth and Achievement	Student Learning Engagement	82.3	84.3	83.8	83.7	84.4	84.8
	Citizenship	78.8	73.2	74.9	79.4	80.3	80.9
	3-year High School Completion	84.8	84.4	87.0	80.4	80.7	82.4
	5-year High School Completion	90.2	93.3	89.9	88.1	88.6	87.3
	PAT: Acceptable	42.8	65.9	65.9	62.5	62.6	62.6
	PAT: Excellence	6.2	13.0	13.0	15.4	15.5	15.5
	Diploma: Acceptable	65.6	65.0	65.0	81.5	80.3	80.3
	Diploma: Excellence	12.0	14.2	14.2	22.6	21.2	21.2
Teaching & Leading	Education Quality	85.8	87.2	86.7	87.6	88.1	88.6
Learning Supports	Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning Environments (WCRSLE)	83.0	78.3	79.4	84.0	84.7	85.4
	Access to Supports and Services	78.6	84.2	81.9	79.9	80.6	81.1
Governance	Parental Involvement	86.4	83.4	82.7	79.5	79.1	78.9

OVERALL SUMMARY

Drumheller Valley Secondary School (DVSS) continues to demonstrate strong performance in key areas of educational assessment, maintaining high levels in Student Learning Engagement and Citizenship. Our commitment to fostering a comprehensive and engaging learning environment is further reflected in Teaching and Leading and Learning Supports categories. While our Provincial Achievement Test (PAT) and Diploma examination results have shown a slight decline in some subjects, we have exceptional results in our Physics and Chemistry courses. We recognize this as an area for focused improvement that we will continue to focus upon. It is essential to consider our significant International student population, and English language learners, which can impact standardized testing outcomes. DVSS is dedicated to developing strategies that address the unique needs of our diverse student body while striving for academic excellence.

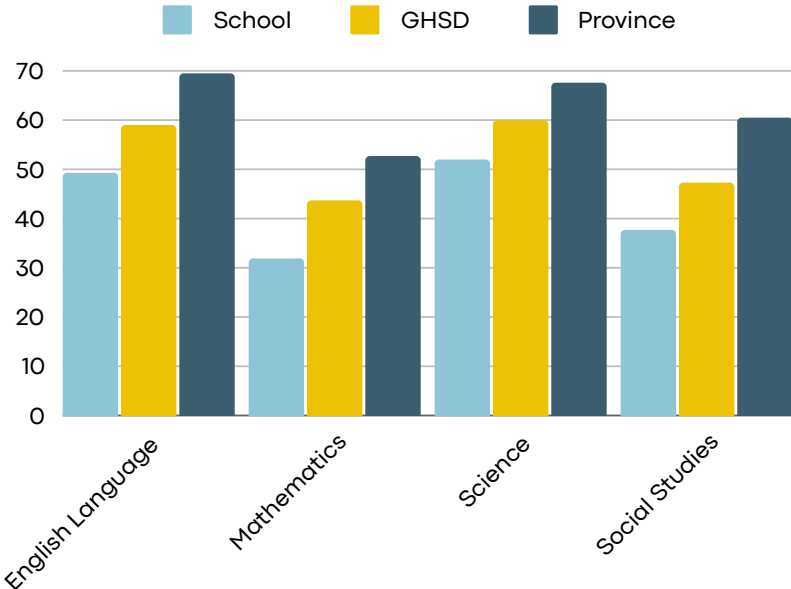
*Additionally, we take great pride in our community connections, recognizing their vital role in supporting our students' overall development and academic success, aligning with our belief that **"it takes a community to raise a child"**. As we move forward, DVSS remains committed to providing high-quality, inclusive education that prepares all students for future success no matter the path. We will continue to leverage our strong community partnerships and adapt our strategies to meet the evolving needs of our diverse student population keeping relationships and connections a keen focus of our work beyond the academics and curriculum areas. Through our Division and local school, our team is striving to increase a sense of community and belonging for the students, parents/guardians, and staff at Drumheller Valley Secondary School. As per our last year's focus, we continue to pursue and model our own professional development through Dr. David Tranter's work, "The Third Path" with Nelson Education.*



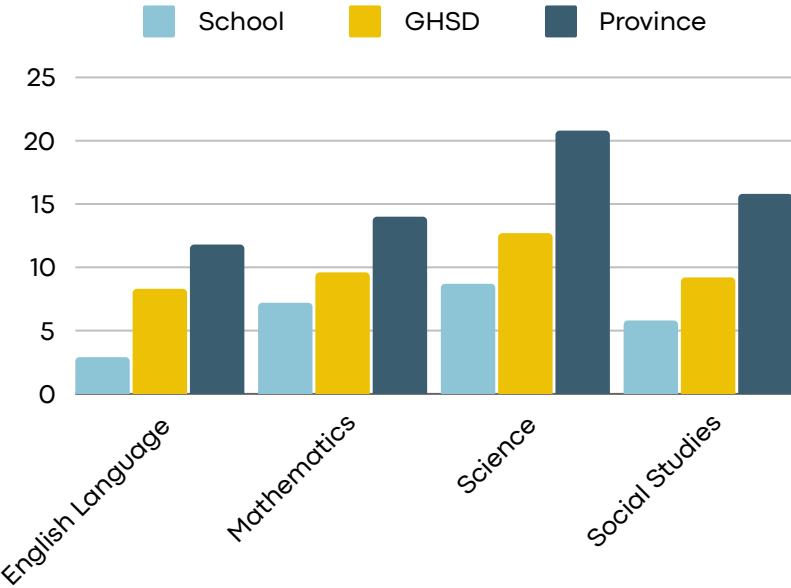
GOAL 1

STUDENT GROWTH AND ACHIEVEMENT

Grade 9 PAT Acceptable Results



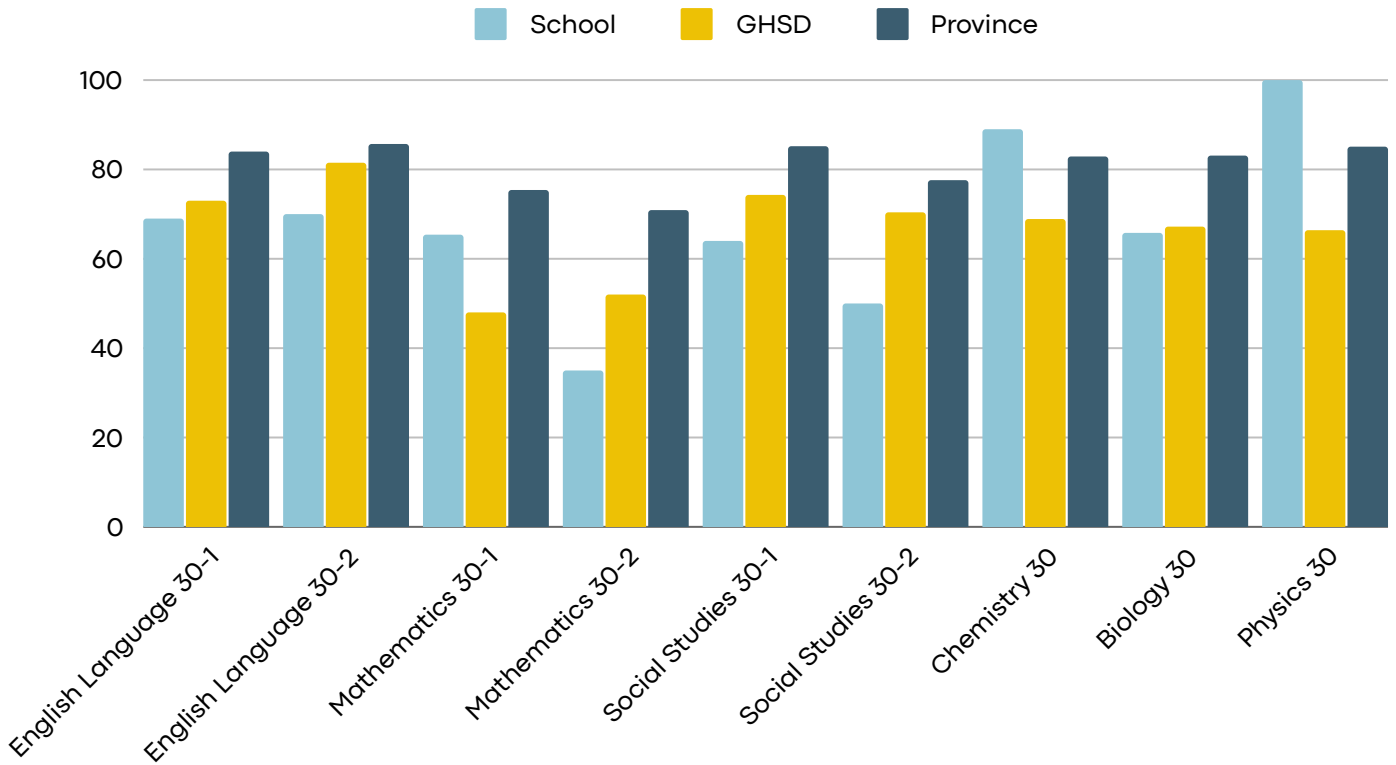
Grade 9 PAT Excellence Results



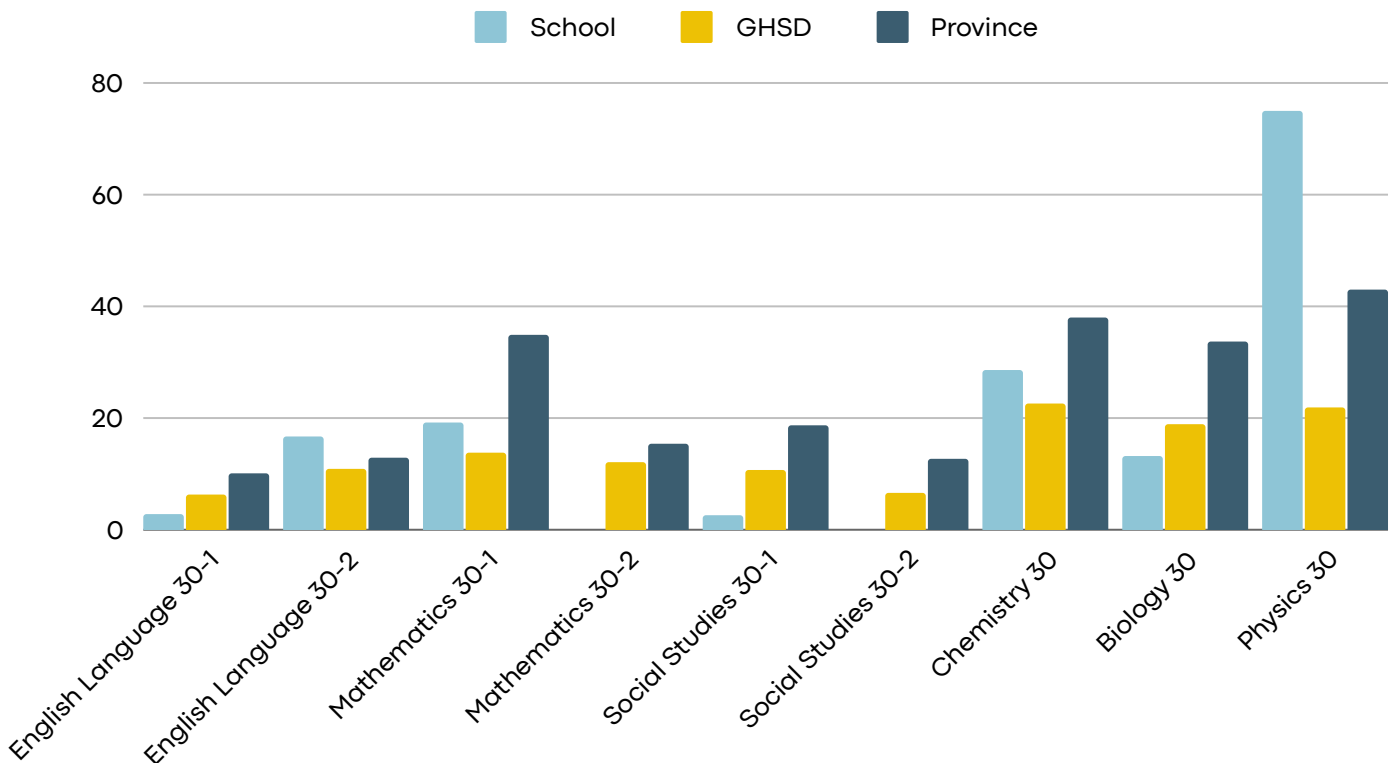
GOAL 1

STUDENT GROWTH AND ACHIEVEMENT

Diploma Exam Results - Acceptable



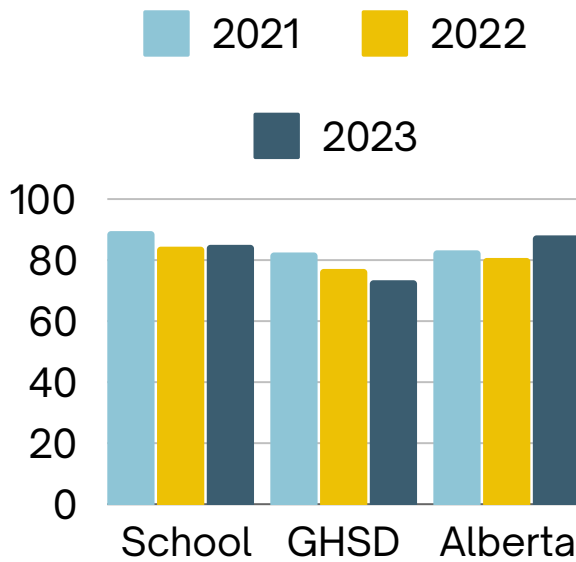
Diploma Exam Results - Excellence



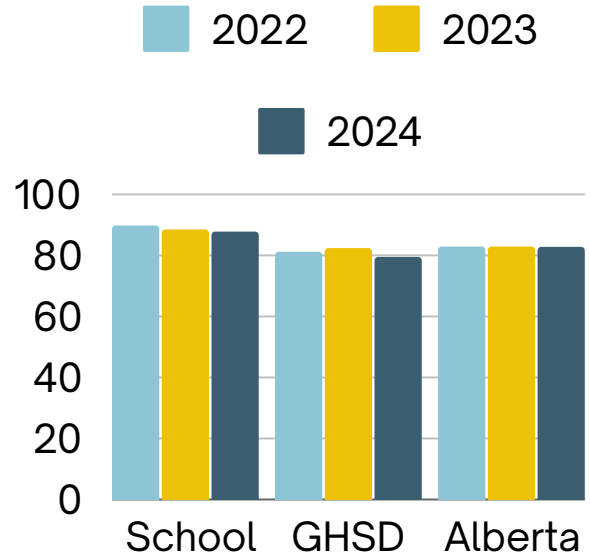
GOAL 1

STUDENT GROWTH AND ACHIEVEMENT

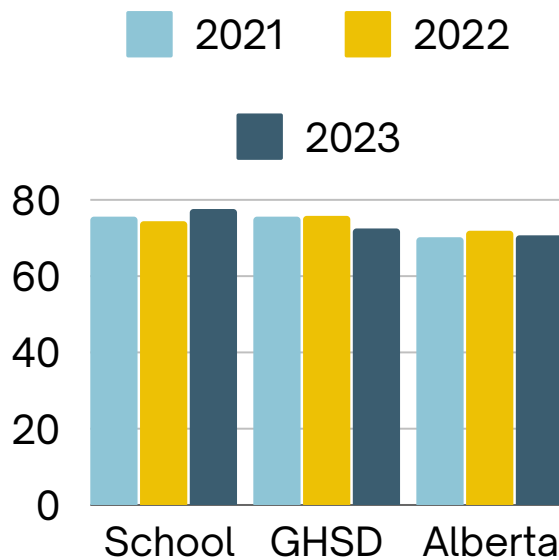
3 Year High School Completion Rate



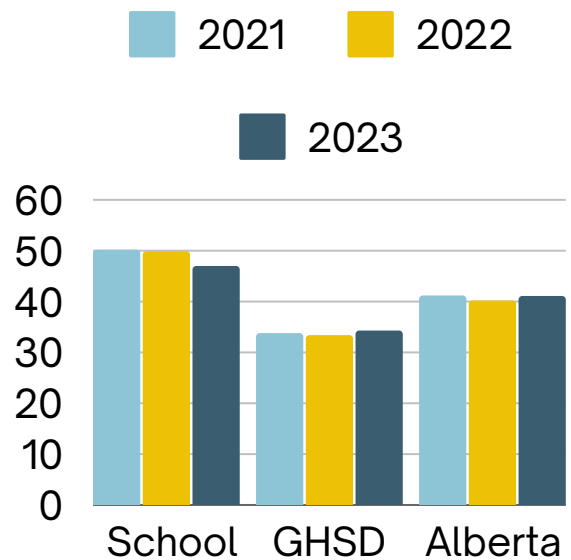
Program of Studies



Rutherford Scholarship Eligibility Rate



Transition Rate



GOAL 1

STUDENT GROWTH AND ACHIEVEMENT

OUR RESULTS

At Drumheller Valley Secondary School, we maintain a commitment to providing diverse educational opportunities for all students. While this approach may occasionally impact overall academic metrics, we believe it fosters greater personal growth and expands post-secondary options for our students. Our upper-level science courses, particularly in Physics and Chemistry, exemplify the high standards of our school, the positive approaches to courses with high rigor needed to cover curriculum, and the exceptional achievements of our students. These programs serve as a testament to the academic excellence attainable within DVSS.

The Program of Studies satisfaction rates at DVSS consistently surpass both Authority and Provincial averages across all stakeholder groups (teachers, parents, and students). This high level of satisfaction reflects our success in offering a comprehensive curriculum that includes fine arts, career and technology studies, and health and physical education.

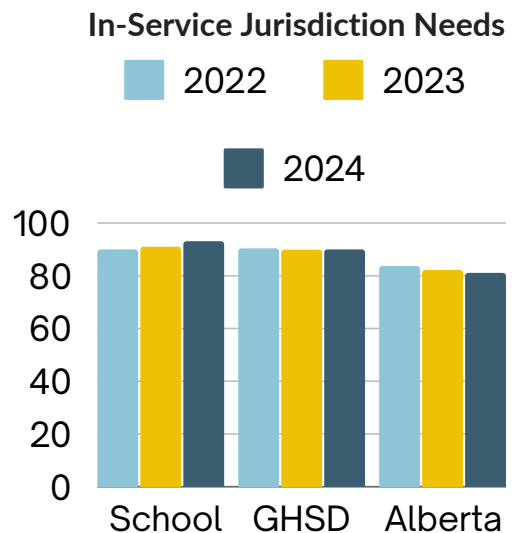
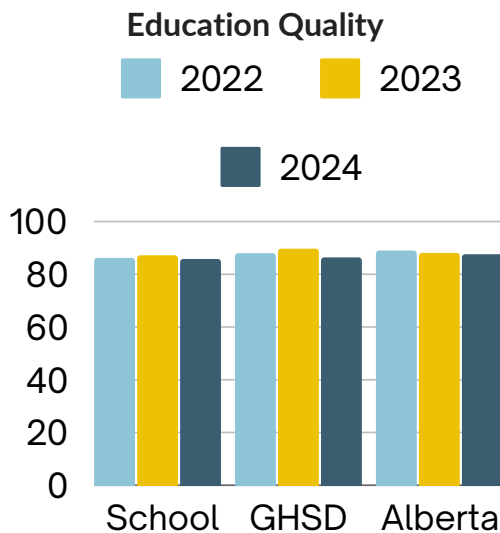
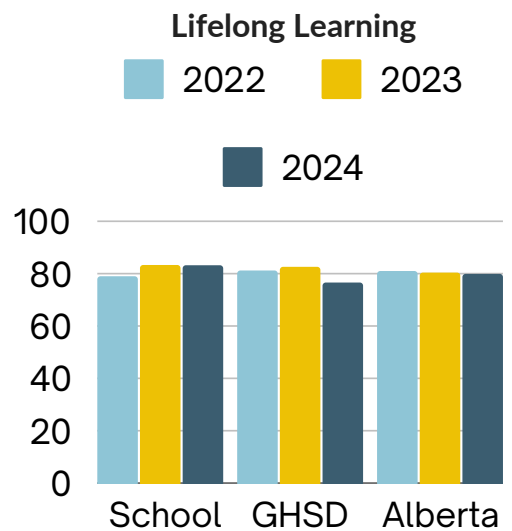
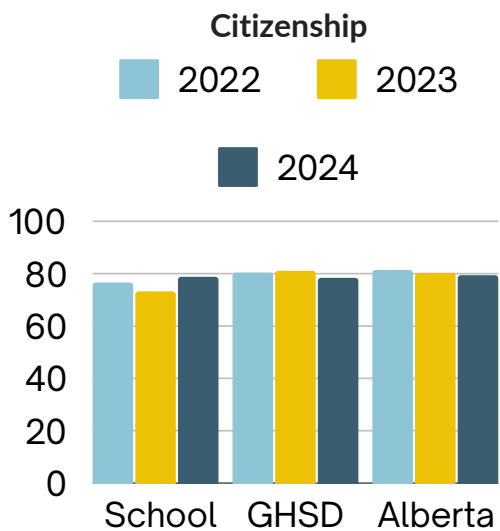
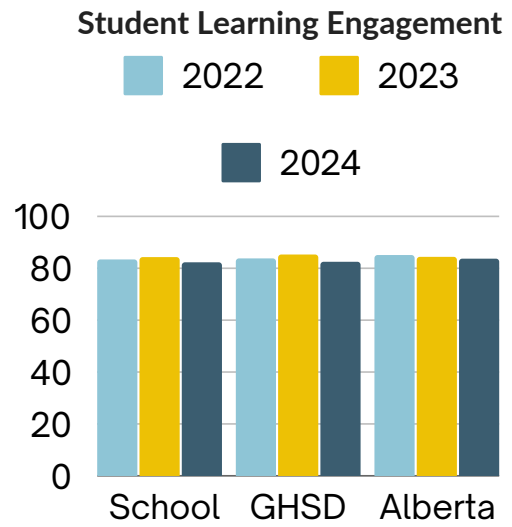
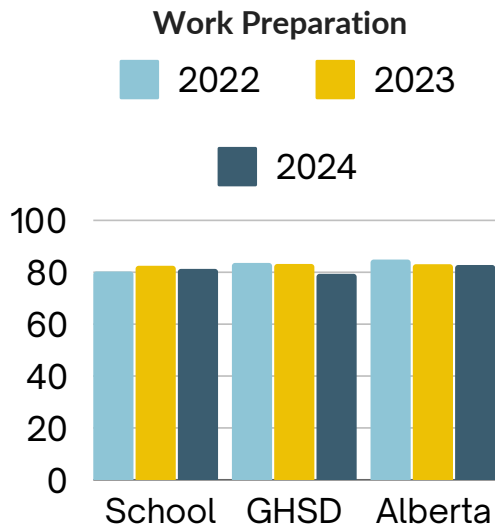
While our at-risk programming accessibility aligns with Authority and Provincial trends, we recognize the need for improvement. A growing concern shared across Alberta is the increase in attendance issues, which creates barriers to effectively supporting at-risk students. In Alberta, student absenteeism has become a significant challenge and our school is facing these trends as well.

Excessive absenteeism can significantly impede academic progress, and poor attendance is a strong predictor of increased dropout rates. To address these challenges, DVSS is committed to working collaboratively with parents, guardians, and students. By prioritizing school attendance, students have a higher likelihood of academic achievement and developing a positive attitude towards their educational progress. Regular attendance also cultivates habits that extend beyond high school, preparing students for the expectations of the professional world. We recognize that improving attendance requires a multi-faceted approach and that creating a targeted focus, as we have for Goal 3 (Belonging) will help create connections and relationships and we hope it will begin to have positive influences on student attendance rates as well. It is also our goal to continue to provide communication with parent/guardians and try to support all students collaboratively as a team.



GOAL 2

POWERFUL LEARNING CULTURE



GOAL 2

POWERFUL LEARNING CULTURE

OUR RESULTS

Drumheller Valley Secondary School (DVSS) is dedicated to fostering a **Powerful Learning** culture aligned with Golden Hills School Division's vision and goals. Our commitment to excellence is evident in several key areas: Professional Development, Lifelong Learning, Student Engagement, Active Citizenship, Work Preparation, and Educational Quality.

DVSS staff report significantly higher satisfaction with in-service training and professional development provided by the school authority over the past 3-5 years, reflecting our synchronization with the Division's Powerful Learning focus and our faculty's desire to continue to grow as professionals.

Our results in promoting lifelong learning surpass both Authority and Provincial levels, demonstrating our success in instilling a passion for continuous learning in our students. The percentage of teachers, parents, and students who agree that students are actively engaged in learning at DVSS aligns with Authority and Provincial standards, reflecting our efforts to create dynamic, interactive learning environments.

DVSS students exemplify active citizenship characteristics, with satisfaction rates slightly above the Division and on par with the Province, showcasing our commitment to nurturing well-rounded individuals.

Our results in work preparation align with Authority and Provincial levels, indicating that students are receiving necessary skills for successful transitions to workforce or acceptance in further education. We offer various opportunities, including Registered Apprenticeship programming and Dual Credit options. While our measure remains at an acceptable level, consistent with Authority and Provincial results, we recognize the opportunity for growth and improvement in this area.

By excelling in lifelong learning and professional development, while maintaining strong performance in student engagement, citizenship, and work preparation, we are creating an educational environment that prepares students for future success. We will continue to build on these strengths and address areas for improvement, ensuring DVSS remains at the forefront of educational excellence within our Division and Province.



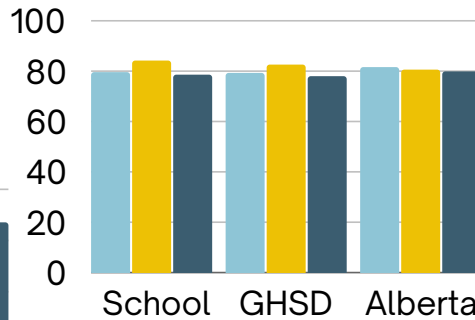
GOAL 3

BUILDING A CULTURE OF BELONGING THROUGH RESILIENCY AND SUCCESS

Access to Supports and Services

2022 2023

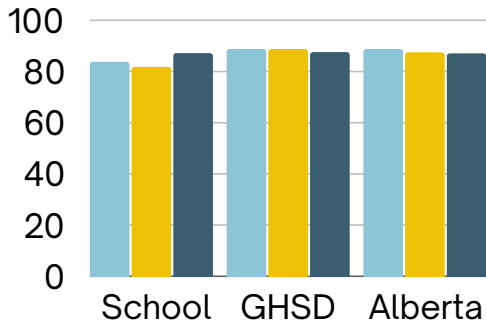
2024



Safe and Caring

2022 2023

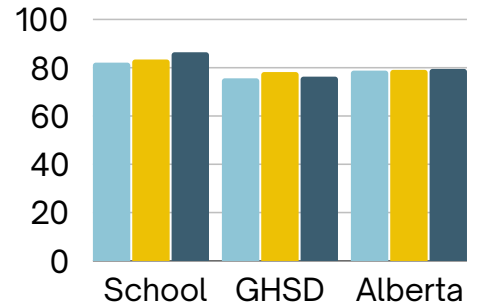
2024



Parental Involvement

2022 2023

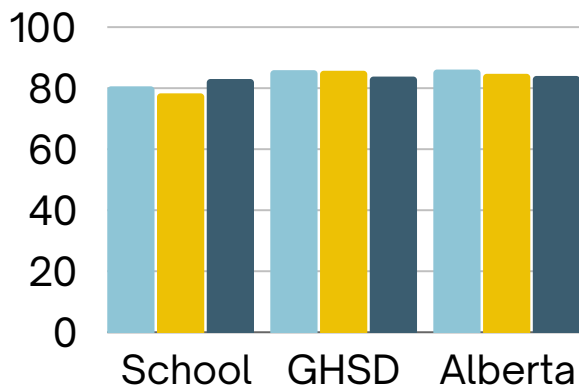
2024



Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning Environments (WCRSLE)

2022 2023

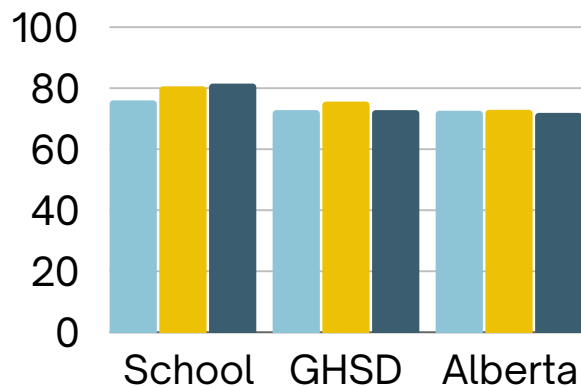
2024



Satisfaction To Program Access

2022 2023

2024



GOAL 3

BUILDING A CULTURE OF BELONGING THROUGH RESILIENCY AND SUCCESS

OUR RESULTS

We are pleased to report a significant improvement in our safe and caring measure on this year's results, which has now achieved an overall good result, aligning directly with both Authority and Provincial standards. This measure encompasses student safety at school, their understanding of the importance of caring for others, learning respect, and being treated fairly. DVSS takes pride in this positive trend, reflecting our ongoing commitment to fostering a nurturing educational environment and we have maintained our performance, matching both Authority and Provincial standards, in fostering a welcoming, caring, respectful, and safe learning environment.

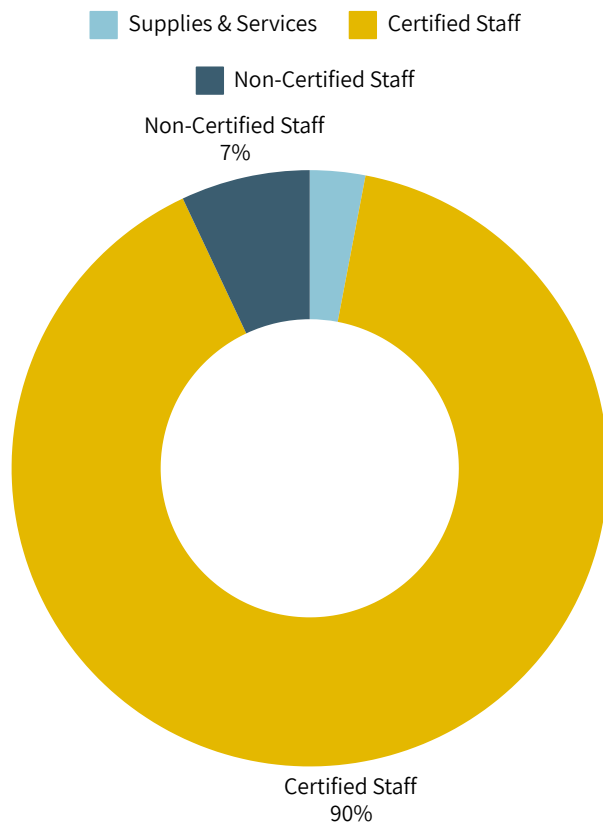
DVSS has excelled in program accessibility, effectiveness, and efficiency, surpassing both our Authority and Provincial benchmarks. Notably, our overall satisfaction rate is 10% higher than the Provincial average. This achievement underscores our dedication to community focus, strong connections, and collaborative efforts to support students and their families. Our success in this area is largely attributed to our robust partnerships, including: School Council, Friends of DVSS, the Town of Drumheller, and our School Division to name a few. We acknowledge that our accomplishments are intrinsically linked to these valuable community partnerships.

While recent data for the Drop-Out rate of students aged 14 to 18 years and Diploma Examination Participation Rates are not available, our three-year average has shown a trend of improvement in these areas historically. As mentioned earlier, we are aware of negative trends with attendance, and we are actively seeking ways to connect and support the students who are with DVSS. Regarding access to supports and services, we have maintained our overall performance. However, it is important to note that there has been a decline in satisfaction within the parent group responses in this area. We recognize this as an opportunity for improvement and will be focusing on addressing these concerns. As needs overall rise, in direct correlation with trends outside of the school environment, needs within our building also mimic these needs.

Overall, the results within this goal area are reflective of DVSS's commitment to creating a supportive, inclusive, and high-quality educational environment that give students a feeling of **belonging**. While we celebrate our achievements, we also acknowledge areas for growth and remain dedicated to continuous improvement in all aspects of our educational delivery.



OPERATING BUDGET



TOTAL BUDGET: \$3,009,270.00

FACILITIES AND CAPITAL PLAN

This past year, our School Council and Friends of DVSS helped support DVSS, with community initiative funding, with a resurfacing of our Tennis Court area that is enjoyed by all community members. Additionally, they have provided support for many student experiences including supporting the Drumheller Community in sponsoring our students to provide meaningful connections and volunteer work with the Drumheller Senior's Dinner hosted at our Badlands Community Facility and purchasing improved equipment for our Industrial Arts classes. Facilities worked throughout the summer upgrading our air chilling tower system, which was over a one million dollar expense. Currently, DVSS is also enjoying a resurfaced gymnasium floor that was done last Easter break. With the support of our Division, and grant approvals, both our commercial cafeteria kitchen and foods program lab spaces received \$80,000 that went towards upgrades of equipment (ex. ovens) as well as tools. A new seating area was developed in our second level for students to use as a flexible space and moving into the 2024-2025 school year we are also purchasing a cart of upgraded Chromebooks for our students to use.

