



## National Tracking Project

### National Tracking Project: An Overview

> Living in an age of educational accountability it is important that independent schools are actively engaged in research that will help them to improve their programs and demonstrate that the educational experience they provide is superior in all ways. Recognizing this, Canadian Accredited Independent Schools (CAIS), initiated the National Tracking Project in the spring of 2006 with 19 independent schools. Since then the project has grown in scale and now includes 42 independent schools from across Canada.

Through the National Tracking Project, schools collect and have access to data on student engagement, school leaving averages, university grades, and differences related to gender and school activities. Reflecting on this data enables school leaders to set goals, highlight areas for improvement, and identify significant programs for further evaluation.

### Why is your school participating in the National Tracking Project?

> Schools choose to be involved in the National Tracking Project because they care about students' post-secondary success and want to ensure that they are providing the best possible intellectual, social and emotional experience for their students. The information provided by students gives schools valuable data on how

*"St. Mildred's-Lightbourn School has been involved with the National Tracking Program for the past five years. We feel it is very important to receive feedback from our graduates as they move through the next phase of their lives at University.*

*The information we receive is used to review and potentially revise our programs. We are always looking to improve our program delivery, assessment and evaluation strategies and student support model.*

*Our results from the NTP are used in conjunction with other location specific graduate surveys. We are appreciative of the information we receive and the support of the NTP."*

**JANET WORBOYS**  
St. Mildred's-Lightbourn School

well they are preparing their students for the academic rigor of university. As well as, how the academic and co-curricular programs influence student achievement.

### What is the students' role in the National Tracking Project?

> Student participation is the key element of the National Tracking Project, without their involvement, the project would not be possible. Students are asked to participate by agreeing to have their university transcripts released to their alma mater at the end of each academic year for the duration of their undergraduate degree program. In addition, students complete an on-line survey in the final year of high school indicating their involvement in academic, athletic and co-curricular activities.

### Privacy of your Information

> All the information collected through the National Tracking Project is strictly confidential. The student demographic and transcript information is only accessed by the National Tracking Project coordinator at each school. It is not shared with administration or other staff. Once the transcript information is

entered into the data collection spreadsheet, the transcripts are destroyed. Data analysis is done by our partners at the Brock Business Consulting Group who do not have any connection to any of the participating schools and have signed a confidentiality agreement with CAIS to guarantee students' privacy in participating in the National Tracking Project.

### Samples of Data Collected

HIGH SCHOOL		UNIVERSITY YEAR ONE			UNIVERSITY YEAR TWO		
Course	Grade	Course	Grade	Change	Course	Grade	Change
ART	80.0	ART	83.0	3.0	ART	84.0	1.0
BIOLOGY	85.0	BIOLOGY	84.0	-1.0	BIOLOGY	80.6	-3.4
CALCULUS	90.0	CALCULUS	86.0	-4.0	—	—	—
CHEMISTRY	81.0	CHEMISTRY	84.5	3.5	CHEMISTRY	76.0	-8.5
ENGLISH	85.0	ENGLISH	85.0	-2.1	ENGLISH	87.0	2.0
MATH	88.0	MATH	81.0	-6.7	MATH	79.0	-2.0
PHYSICS	92.0	PHYSICS	78.0	-20.9	PHYSICS	83.0	5.0
HISTORY	87.0	HISTORY	80.0	-9.6	HISTORY	82.0	2.0
SPANISH	93.0	SPANISH	87.0	-8.0	SPANISH	91.0	4.0
<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>86.8</b>	<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>83.2</b>	<b>-5.1</b>	<b>AVERAGE</b>	<b>82.8</b>	<b>0.0</b>

### High School vs. University Math Grades

