

# Gordon Bell Community Report 2016-2017

3 Borrowman Place, Winnipeg, MB, R3G 1M6

Phone: 204-774-5401 | Fax: 204-783-9469 | Email: [gboffice@wsd1.org](mailto:gboffice@wsd1.org)

## School mission statement

At Gordon Bell School, we aim to have all students be respectful and kind, come prepared to succeed, and strive to uphold the GB 7 Aims: respectful, caring, knowledgeable, curious, open-minded, active, and resilient.



## About our school

Gordon Bell is very proud of its multicultural student body where people of many different backgrounds, cultures, and beliefs are able to work together in a spirit of harmony and mutual respect. We depend upon the students to contribute and enhance this proud tradition.

Apart from the academic focus of the school, it is our aim to have students develop and accept the responsibilities and obligations of good citizenship that will help them to participate successfully in the world of tomorrow. We, therefore, encourage the students to participate in our varied activities and informal learning opportunities which will prepare them to live a better life when they take their place in this complex society.



Our school partnered with Mulvey school to celebrate Canada 150.



WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION



## Priorities for 2016-17

### Students

To provide robust and comprehensive education, equitable access, diverse opportunity, and a supportive learning environment for all students to help them prepare for their journey with values of learning and social justice, and to be responsible community members.

#### Examples:

- Cree language courses were expanded to include grades 10, 11, and 12 classes. We now currently offer grades 7-12 Cree language courses.
- Provided equitable access to extracurricular activities and diverse opportunity by offering a wide range of extracurricular activities- sports teams, vegetarian club, book club, RBC after school programs, etc.
- Delivered grade 10 and 12 Human Rights curriculum that coincides with the Reconciliation documents.
- Shifted educational instruction to encourage Truth and Reconciliation Commission related requests by encouraging students to write a Cree language exam.

### Learning Outcomes

To further improve school attendance, achievements and graduation rates through the exploration of additional programs and strategies.

#### Examples:

- Incorporated attendance grant initiatives including programs linked to attendance projects.
- Implemented an EAL grade eleven essential math course.
- Conducted RAD testing at the beginning of the year to direct teaching practice and again at the end of the year to help evaluate student success.
- Implemented a grade nine math resource program that provided students with the opportunity to work with a resource teacher in small groups, once a cycle, to support numeracy development.
- Conducted formal EAL assessments to ensure that program placement is suitable for each student.

### Addressing Barriers to Learning

To further develop initiatives and innovative approaches addressing individual student needs and accessibility requirements, mental health issues, childcare needs, and nutritional needs.

#### Examples:

- Increased the accessibility to technology with chromebooks in classroom-carts.
- Provided a breakfast program and emergency lunches when needed.

## Priorities for 2017-18

### Students

Review and Implement calls to action from Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada as far as they apply directly to school planning—see calls to action under Education 6-12 (aboriginal languages for credit, culturally appropriate curricula, honouring Treaty relationships etc.)

Continue to maintain extracurricular activities that attend to Indigenous teachings and incorporate Indigenous teachings into extracurricular programming.

### Learning Outcomes

Using data, analyze why the non-attenders are not attending by creating focus groups with students .

Attempt to identify different supports for the non-attenders based on identified needs.

### Addressing Barriers to Learning

Implement a school initiative to ensure chromebooks are accessible to students who need .

Support student council to plan activities for mental health week.

# Parent and community involvement

## Agape Table

On Tuesday, April 25, 2017, the Grade 10 Geography class with Mr. Banks and Mr. Thomson (Student Teacher) visited Agape Table, a community based organization that helps deliver food to those in need. The students helped serve meals, clean tables and dishes, and showed amazing hospitality to the guests at Agape Table. It just so happened to be National Volunteer week, and Virgin 103 Radio was also at Agape Table and featured a few of our students on their Twitter page!!

The trip to Agape Table was the wrap-up event to the Food Waste Campaign that we took part in our class. We spent the weeks leading up to our visit learning about the amount of food waste that occurs in the world and the consequences it has both on the earth as well as us humans. We then learned about ways in which we can reduce the amount of food we waste each and every day and the difference we can have when we work together to do so. The students then broke up into small groups and created Food Waste Awareness posters that have been posted around the school to create awareness of food waste and to help reduce the amount of food that is wasted in the school.



VirginRadioWinnipeg @VirginRadio... · 2h ✓  
At @AgapeTable you can volunteer individually or as a group. Today Gordon Bell High School students are here with us #canada150countdown

## Arsenic and Old Lace

On March 10<sup>th</sup> & 11<sup>th</sup> the Gordon Bell Theatre Company put on their production of Arsenic and Old Lace.

The cast of 13 actors, along with their director (Julie Simpson), assistant director (Candace Oyugi), and stage manager (the person writing this article: Carly Peters), rehearsed almost every weekday after school from November until the show. It was a motley crew of people with a few years to a few minutes of acting experience on stage and on screen, which was a great opportunity for them to bring all of their different skills to the table and to learn from each other.



*A concerned nephew confronting his aunts (Randel Sinclair, Emma Stevens, Sophie Stevens)*

## An Exceptional Season

For the first time in 39 years Gordon Bell's Varsity girls' basketball team won a birth to the provincial tournament. After a very successful season, the girls won a spot to the provincials by defeating Stonewall by 8 points in a very exciting and entertaining game right here in our senior gym. Two of these student athletes (Phoenix Castel – WSD Varsity Girls All-Star and Milko Badasso – Provincial Graduating All-Star; game MVP) were selected to play on All-star teams representing Gordon Bell and the Winnipeg School Division. Congratulations to the Varsity Girls Basketball team and their coach, Meghan LaBrie, for all their success during the 2016-17 season!



*Varsity Girls Basketball Team*

# Highlights

## Gordon Bell Soccer - a Tradition of Excellence

Soccer has been played at Gordon Bell from the school's first year. There are accounts and photos of teams in the very first yearbooks and the tradition carries on to this day. There have been successes and championships over the years, and the sport has developed, but a major shift occurred when the school was able to acquire the **Greenspace**, with a sports field at its centre. It is the early days yet, but in the 4 years that we have had the Greenspace the Varsity Boys team has won their indoor championship 4 times; and in 2016 both Varsity Boys and Girls teams won their outdoor championships.



## Greenspace Ice Rink

Starting in December 2016, Gordon Bell students and staff began preparing the greenspace for skating. The rink maintenance crew was responsible for clearing snow off the ice daily and flooding the rink using a special, kink free fire hose. Students involved in the program all learned valuable skills and gained self-confidence as they maintained a recreational space that was enjoyed by many students at Gordon Bell.



## Provincial Dance Festival

Three Gordon Bell dance groups once again participated in the Provincial Dance Festival which is coordinated and run by Dance Manitoba. The event, which takes place throughout the month of May allows for the students to not only perform on the stage of Pantages Playhouse and to showcase their skills in front of a public audience, but allows for the students to receive adjudication from talented professionals from around the world. Our Urban and Junior Fusion dance crews performed in the Novice Hip Hop categories on May 9th. Both groups were awarded Silver for their performances and Urban Fusion was highly praised for their commitment to the movements and their energy on stage.



## Accolades and Awards for Gordon Bell Writers

June was an outstanding month for Gordon Bell's creative community. On June 9, grade 11 student Gabe Krawec's play *Psychiatry Rotation* won the Scirocco Drama Manitoba High School Playwriting Contest. Each year, high school students are invited to submit plays to the competition. The plays are 15 to 20 minutes in length, with a minimum of three characters. A panel of theatre professionals selects five finalists, whose plays are then cast, workshopped, rehearsed, and finally performed for a live audience. The winner is determined by audience vote.

