

**THE WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION**

**STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS – DECEMBER 9, 2015**

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**1. INTRODUCTIONS**

Trustee Kevin Freedman welcomed everyone to the first Student Advisory Committee meeting for the 2015/2016 school year.

At the Inaugural Meeting of the Board of Trustees held on September 14, 2015, Trustee Kevin Freedman was appointed as the Board's representative and Trustee Lisa Naylor was appointed as the Board's alternate representative to this Committee.

**2. ELECTION OF COMMITTEE CHAIR**

The student representative from Gordon Bell High School and Tec Voc High School volunteered to Chair the Student Advisory Committee for the 2015/2016 term.

**3. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The Committee members approved the Agenda of December 9, 2015, as distributed.

**4. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Committee members discussed and agreed to add the following topics for discussion at a future meeting:

- Transgender & Gender Neutral Washroom/Change rooms
- Mental Health Staff Education and Training & Student Education and Resources
- Dress Code
- Aboriginal Culture Education

**5. FACEBOOK FORUM FOR STUDENT ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEMBERS**

Committee members discussed the possibility of creating a Facebook page dedicated to the members of the Student Advisory Committee in order to discuss topics of interest and share ideas that have been implemented and successful in their respective schools.

Committee members were informed that administration will provide an update at the next Student Advisory Committee meeting on the feasibility of developing Facebook accounts in accordance with Division policy.

## 6. 2016/2017 BUDGET PROCESS AND TIMELINES

A survey was distributed to Committee members with respect to the development of the 2016/2017 Budget Development. The survey is also posted on the Division's website [www.wsd1.org](http://www.wsd1.org). Committee members were informed that feedback will be compiled and given to Trustees for consideration.

Committee members were informed that a Special Board Meeting will be held on February 22, 2016 to receive delegations on the Budget. The deadline to receive feedback regarding the budget will be received by the Board until February 26, 2016. All feedback will be considered by the Finance/Personnel Committee. The Board of Trustees will approve the budget at its meeting to be held March 7, 2016. The Board must finalize the budget by March 15, 2016, as required by legislation.

## 7. ENQUIRIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SCHOOL REPORTS

### SCHOOL REPORTS

Student representatives from the following schools provided a written report (attached) on school activities.

- Argyle Alternative High School
- Children of the Earth High School
- R.B. Russell Vocational High School
- Technical Vocational High School

### Gordon Bell School

Committee members were informed of the following events at Gordon Bell School:

- Salvation Army Fundraiser

### Daniel McIntyre Collegiate Institute

Committee members were informed of the following events at Daniel McIntyre Collegiate Institute:

- Homecoming event for grade 9
- Pep Rally
- Fun Friday (field activities, dunk tank, bbq)
- School dance – money raised for Christmas Miracle held by Energy 106
- Youth in Philanthropy Group
- Fundraiser for Siloam Mission and Christmas Cheer Board
- Leadership Group
- English EAL Group focusing on Human Rights

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Sisler High School

Committee members were informed of the following events at Sisler High School:

- Federal Candidate Forum on youth issues
- Spirit Week
- Volleyball Pep Rally
- Remembrance Day Ceremony
- We Day recognition – student recognized as Winnipegger of the Month by Mayor Brian Bowman
- Sustainability Circle
- Leadership Conference

**8. FOR INFORMATION**

**8.1 Guidelines for Board Advisory Committees**

The student representatives received a copy of the Guidelines for Board Advisory Committees for information.

**9. NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting of the Student Advisory Committee will be held Tuesday, February 24, 2016.

**Student Representatives:**

Argyle Alternative High School  
Children of the Earth High School  
Churchill High School  
Daniel McIntyre Collegiate Institute  
Elmwood High School  
Gordon Bell High School  
R. B Russell Vocational High School  
Sisler High School  
Technical Vocational High School

**Trustees:**

Kevin Freedman

**Administration:**

Julie Millar, Director of Student Services  
Gil Richard, Staff Advisor, Argyle Alternative High School  
Lindsey Trudeau, Staff Advisory, Children of the Earth High School  
Dominic Zagari, Vice-Principal, Churchill High School  
Kim Bradley, Staff Advisor, Children of the Earth  
Danis Machado, Vice-Principal, Daniel McIntyre Collegiate Institute  
Natercia Doucet, Staff Advisor, Daniel McIntyre Collegiate Institute  
Justin Dyck, Staff Advisor, Gordon Bell High School  
Katharine Thiessen, Staff Advisory, R.B. Russell Vocational High School  
Carmelo Militano, Staff Advisor, Sisler High School  
Michelle Sacco, Vice-Principal, Technical Vocational High School  
Helena Tessier, Recording Secretary

**Regrets:**

Trustee Lisa Naylor  
Kelvin High School

## Argyle Alternative High School Report

Please find below some of the initiatives and events that Argyle is currently undertaking.

- **Family Night:** On the last Thursday of every month, Argyle hosts a family night with invited families, students and friends to share a meal prepared by staff and students and also take part in a make and take hosted by the teachers.
- **Youth in Philanthropy:** Student representatives research and select a deserving charity in which they financially support through the generous sponsorship of the **Winnipeg Foundation**.
- **Healing with Horses:** An eight week initiative operated by miracle Ranch and run by our phys ed teacher. This is where students were introduced to horses and instructed in the care and grooming of them. The purpose was to have students develop caring and nurturing relationships with each of their horses and also develop and strengthen their own sense of compassion and self-care.
- **Women's group:** Meets weekly to discuss issues and develop relationships amongst the young woman of our school.
- **Men's group:** Meets biweekly to discuss issues and develop relationships amongst the young men in our school, topics are generated by each individual in the group.
- **Traditional Aboriginal Sweats:** Offered monthly, students participate in aboriginal teachings and customs. The sweats are run by a member of our student support service staff.
- **Fort Whyte alive program:** Operates all year students who participate are actively involved in the maintenance and care of various areas of the facility including farm and greenhouse. Through these activities and responsibilities they are taught about sustainable development.
- **Social justice group:** students are exposed to issues, events and individuals under the umbrella of social justice and human rights. The main focus is to make students aware of events and situations that impact on human rights and social justice.
- **Career Day:** A morning event held on December 9. This is where students are exposed to various careers and occupations and are given the opportunity to sit through these presentations and ask questions related to the information. A total of 13 occupations represented this year.
- **Christmas Feast:** three held on December 16, this is a time for staff and students come together and prepare a turkey meal for family and guests and to celebrate the upcoming holiday season.
- **Miranda's Story:** A film produced by Argyle staff and students was premiered at the **Winnipeg Aboriginal Film Festival** on Nov. 19 2015

### Synopsis:

*Miranda, a confused fifteen year-old who is at odds with her controlling foster parent, decides to run away and secretly moves in with her older cousin Stephanie, a single mom of three children. When her cousin disappears, Miranda assumes the responsibility of caring for the children, but the situation starts to spiral and Miranda is faced with a dilemma of whether or not to call CFS.*

## Children of the Earth School Report

Children of the Earth is a Grade 9-12 cultural high school. In the fall the entire school participated in a medicine picking day. Our school traditional advisor also holds pipe ceremonies for the different grade levels. Children of the Earth also has a medical career exploration program where students explore through internships, various career options within the medical field.

Children of the Earth also has a student run café where students earn valuable work experience and entrepreneurial skills. Money raised stays within the café. For example upgrades, new uniforms, equipment and supplies, and various student incentives.

JASP is an afterschool program that runs Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays. Students participate in various workshops and certification courses. JASP is a pre-employment program which assists students in gaining business skills and work experience. We also have our Art co-op sale this Saturday, at the Assiniboine Conservatory, where students will run a small business and sell their art.

Our various school committees are up and running now. Children of the Earth has a diversity group, Youth in Philanthropy committee as well as an Everybody Has the Right group. We are also trying to form an Anti-Bullying group where we have students visit elementary schools to talk about their experiences with bullying, and delivering the message that you do not have to wait until high school to stop bullying.

Our winter feast will be on December 17, where staff invite the families and community members into the school to partake in feasting and festivities. Students who achieve a high academic standing and/or have high attendance will receive awards at this time.

The gr. 9 girls program is also having a Food Hamper challenge. Each student is encouraged to bring in a food item for a hamper.

December 9, 2015

## Student Advisory Report

Phoenix Smith  
Grade 11  
RB Russell Vocational High School

In my school I am involved in Yoga every Thursday at lunch and workouts every Tuesday at lunch. I am also a part of the soccer team. I also make moccasins every Wednesday at lunch. I participate in a program called Fire Spirit which helps students get work experience. We also go on outings to the movies or bowling or other things. Last year we went to the FIFA Women's World Cup. Every Tuesday and Thursday I go to Driver's Ed after school.

CEDA is an after school tutoring program that I go to when I need help with my assignments. They reward students for attendance and school work by giving us a monthly bus pass or a gift card to Wal-Mart or Polo Park. I am also involved with a program called After School Leaders where there are multiple programs students can sign up for. I am in the Just TV program that offers me the chance to learn about music and producing my own music or learning about video editing and all the equipment. I also volunteer at the Eagle's Nest, my school store, where I learn about customer service and how to organize stock. I learn how to manage money and it helps me improve my math skills.

Dustin Enns  
Grade 10  
RB Russell Vocational High School

My school offers a variety of programs such as, CEDA Pathways, bike club, and yoga club. CEDA Pathways is a great program that offers students a safe environment and a place to get homework done. I am involved in CEDA Pathways and it has helped me get credits in school. CEDA Pathways also offers a scholarship to anybody that completes grade 12 with their program. This is why I believe that CEDA Pathways give opportunities to young people.

Student Voice is a program that offers student the chance to voice their opinion and make decisions about their school and community, talking about various programs and solutions. This why I believe Student Voice is a good program that gives students the opportunity to voice their opinion, to form committees, and give them problem solving skills.

Bike Club is a program that meets Tuesday and Thursdays after school and helps people get in shape and promotes kids to be physically active and teaches them about healthy lifestyle choices.

### Joint Report

Our school also has a Community Action group that meets after school and students have the chance to earn a drama credit. They travel and perform their play for other people. We also have the clinic which is open every Tuesday from 12-4. It is connected to Mount Carmel and students can go there for anything they need that is health related. There is also an AFM (Addictions Foundation Manitoba) counsellor that comes in every Thursday to help any students dealing with addictions.

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We have the Morningstar program that helps support students who are in crisis or are dealing with many different issues in their life. There is also a student group called Rainbow Eagle Feather which is a gay-straight alliance for students that meets every Wednesday. RB Russell also has a tutoring program, The Believe Dream Dare Student Support Centre that is open all day. Students can get permission from their teachers or come on their spare to get help with their assignments. They are also open every day at lunch and Monday and Wednesday after school.

We also have a Career Intern that helps us with resumes and applying for jobs. The Career Intern works in the WoW centre. The World of Work is part of the Employability Centre that helps students get jobs and to get ready for university or college.

There is also a Community Support Worker that works with the community and organizes the moccasin making and skirt making at lunch. She also runs the snack program and we get healthy snacks almost every day. There is also a Young Mothers and Young Fathers group that meet every week to work on parenting skills. There is also a Day Care at the school where students can have their kids while they go to school.

RB Russell also has many vocational shops that you can sign up for. We have a Carpentry, Welding, Horticulture, Child Care, Hairstyling, Culinary Arts, Graphic Design, Health Care Aide, Music Technology, and Print Media program. You can earn a Level One Apprenticeship Standing in Culinary Arts, Carpentry, or Hairstyling.

Fire Spirit

- Mount caramel clinic
- counsellor from Addictions foundation Manitoba
- Rainbow Eagle Feather

**Student Advisory Committee  
Technical Vocational High School Events  
September to December**

- Human Rights Week Event
- Halloween Howl
- We Day
- Career fair
- Skills Canada Cardboard Boat Race
- Holiday party – Dufferin School
- Remembrance Day service
- Karaoke Week
- Acoustic Concert – Panicland
- Choral Fest
- Almost Maine
- Pep Rally
- Blood Donations
- Grey Cup
- World food day
- Hamper food Drive
- WIT (upcoming)
- Christmas Activity Day (upcoming)