



École secondaire Sisler High School

Community Report 2024 - 2025



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Moral Purpose

Winnipeg School Division provides a learning environment that fosters the growth of every learner's potential and provides equitable opportunity to develop the knowledge, skills, and ways of being necessary for nurturing a just, sustainable, and democratic society where everyone belongs, thrives, and is included.

Values

Joy

We create a sense of **community** by providing opportunities for learners to feel confident in the future, inspired, fulfilled, engaged, and full of hope.

Love

We support a sense of **belonging**, where every learner is known by multiple adults and they feel safe, respected and free to express their true selves.

Rigour

We prepare learners for **excellence**, where every learner feels supported and challenged to excel every day through meaningful activities and lessons to achieve their goals.



About our school

As one of Manitoba's largest high schools, École secondaire Sisler High School is a dual track high school located in Winnipeg's North End. Known for its wide variety of unique and innovative programming, École secondaire Sisler High School has many programs that focus on strong academics and technical skills. École secondaire Sisler utilizes cutting-edge pedagogical delivery systems and collaboration with industry experts from across the globe. This culturally diverse high school is a leader in this field.

École secondaire Sisler High School offers programming to meet the needs of all of its learners. There is something for everyone: from its English and French Immersion language programming to visual performing arts, from advanced placement and university credited courses to Industrial Arts, from cyber-security to CREATE, from Inclusive Education to English as an Additional Language programming. The diversity of our programs supports our diverse population.

École secondaire Sisler High School offers a wide range of extra-curricular activities that include highly competitive athletics programs, Visual and Performing Arts groups, video game design, animation, film graphics, virtual reality programs, workshops, and a variety of student-led humanitarian and social justice groups.

École secondaire Sisler High School's Priorities – 2022-2025

For the school years 2022 to 2025, École secondaire Sisler High School is focused on implementing the following priorities:

1. Strengthen instructional and assessment practises for all students with a focus on equity, diversity, and inclusion.
2. Answer the Education Calls to Action identified by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada.

At École secondaire Sisler, we believe that education is the key to Reconciliation. We are committed to:

- understanding, appreciating, and honouring our history,
 - working together as a community to move forward to heal and repair relationships between Indigenous Peoples and settlers,
 - making a deliberate effort to foster a supportive and equitable learning environment for all.
3. Build school community and opportunities for all students to belong.
 4. Foster a positive and safe school environment to support the social/emotional and physical safety of students.

Connecting to the Community

- The student council at École secondaire Sisler High School consists of 14 active social justice student groups overseen by a dedicated executive committee. Collectively, these student leaders and volunteers raised approximately \$6000 dollars this year in support of a variety of local, national, and international charitable organizations, including Cancer Care Manitoba, Siloam Mission, International Association for Transformation, Art City Winnipeg, Imagine Canada, War Child of Canada, Liberty in North Korea, Winnipeg Central Park Women's Resource Centre, Wildlife Rehabilitation Centre, and Bookmates Inc. The students worked diligently throughout the year to build a community of care, raising money and awareness for the causes they felt passionate about and welcoming all who wished to be involved.
- 20 CREATE students worked on animation that was featured during the Winnipeg Jets Filipino Heritage Night. They attended and were recognized at the game on January 11, 2025.
- CREATE's Game and Film Jams hosted dozens from students from Sisler feeder schools for a day of learning, creativity, and awards.
- Students from Sisler's band program formed small instrumental ensembles and performed at Fred Douglas Lodge this winter season.
- Sisler's esteemed dance troupe, Sisler's Most Wanted (SMW), performed at the University of Manitoba for the basketball homecoming halftime shows.
- SMW hosted a day of dance workshops for students at Lord Nelson School as part of their Health-a-Palooza.
- Sisler's Vocal Jazz Ensemble, JazzAM, performed with Winnipeg folk rock singer, JP Hoe, at a Winnipeg 150 City of Song concert at Union Station in October and live on air for CBC's Harvesting Hope fundraiser in December.
- Sisler's Treble Concert Choir participated in two performances of the Royal Winnipeg Ballet's *Nutcracker* and were guest artists at The Little Opera Company's Traditional Christmas Concert in December. They performed at a community fundraising concert for St. John's Anglican Cathedral in April.

Highlights

School Supports

- École secondaire Sisler High School offers many supports to students including four guidance counsellors, four resource teachers plus an Inclusive Education Resource Teacher, an Indigenous Graduation Support Teacher, an Indigenous Knowledge keeper, and services through Clinical Support Services such as psychology and social work. A reading clinician and speech-language pathologist are also available.

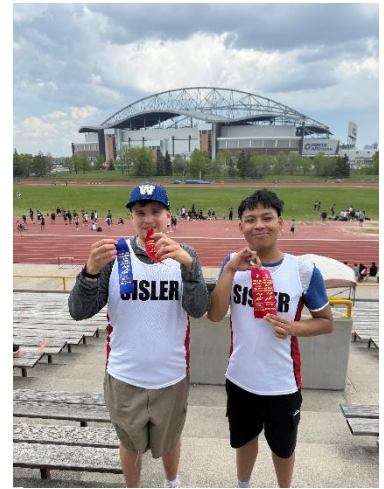
Inclusive Education

- Eight students are graduating from Inclusion Support Programming this year.
- One student was accepted into Project Search for 2025-2026. This is a full-year work experience program where students trial various positions at either Health Sciences Centre or Manitoba Hydro. Spots in this program are very limited and coveted – congratulations J.F.!
- Over 20 students participated in work experience this year including but not limited to: volunteering at the Children's Museum, daycares, and Sisler recycling programs.
- Over 10 students completed transit training this year.
- Sisler hosted a week of Wheelchair Basketball for grade 10 Phys. Ed. Classes. This initiative was brought forward by a Sisler athlete who plays wheelchair basketball.
- Two students joined the Track and Field team as para-athletes. Both students qualified for provincials.



Grade 10 student Ethan S. and world-renowned athlete Joey Johnson

- Most students joined at least one options course this year and participated in options-related outings/field trips, as well as end-of-semester performances.
- Many students joined other community-building activities at Sisler including grade 9 Track and Field Day, grade 9 Mini Olympics, Level Up, Sharing Circle, and Games Group.



Gabe Q. and Eric S. at the Senior High Track and Field Championship

Indigenous Education

- This year, Sisler High School continued to strengthen its commitment to Indigenous Education and the advancement of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action. The Lodge Room, a vibrant and active space within our school, remained central to these efforts. Under the continued guidance of Knowledge Keeper Jason Parenteau, our school community continues to deepen its understanding of Indigenous traditions, cultures, and teachings. Mr. Parenteau's presence has been instrumental in fostering respectful relationships, cultural awareness, and authentic learning experiences throughout the year.

Throughout the school year, students engaged in a wide range of meaningful activities and initiatives. These included the planning and observance of Orange Shirt Day and Red Dress Day, ribbon skirt and beading workshops, a postsecondary club for Indigenous youth, regular sharing circles, several land-based learning experiences, and a return to the three-day cultural camp at Wallace Lake. Students also took part in and had daily access to a daily lunch program.

- The Indigenous Youth Leadership Program grew in both participation and impact this year. The

program offered students opportunities to explore their identity, culture, and leadership potential. For many, it provided a first connection to their Indigenous heritage, while for others, it deepened their existing knowledge and pride. Students built confidence in their voices and developed skills in advocacy, collaboration, and community-building.

- The Lodge remains a meaningful and welcoming space for students and staff. As we look ahead, we are actively exploring new opportunities to expand the use of the Lodge as a hub for cultural learning, community building, and celebration. Our commitment to Indigenous Education remains strong, and we are excited to continue growing this work in ways that honour the voices, traditions, and strengths of our Indigenous students and families.

French Immersion Program

- The French Immersion department expanded again, this year offering *psychologie* as a grade 12 option.
- The peer tutoring program continued once again this year.
- Almost 50 Sisler students participated in the WSD's French Immersion Youth Leadership group.
- To celebrate the Festival du voyageur, about 50 F.I. students learned French-Canadian folk dances with their respective teachers with the help from Sisler's Choir teacher.
- Grades 9 and 11 students participated in the Concours d'art oratoire at the school level. Therese Salta (grade 9) and Adeleine Collins (grade 11) moved on to the Winnipeg School Division



Adeleine C. and Therese S.,
Concours 2025 winners

Concours d'art oratoire where they both won their respective categories to advance to the Provincial competition. Adeleine Collins was the 2025 Provincial Champion in the grades 11/12 Early Immersion Category held in May 2025. Félicitations!

- Forty-two students took the DELF assessment (an internationally recognized French language assessment).
- Students in grade 11 *biologie* welcomed a guest speaker from Transplant Manitoba as well as a transplant recipient. They learned about the transplantation program in Manitoba and about the current state of organ donation in Canada and its impact on patients and families. They gained insight into the process of receiving an organ, while also hearing a powerful personal story about the challenges of living with renal failure and the quality of life a transplant can provide.
- In May, seven French immersion students participated in a video for the website *Planet French*, a site that provides educational resources for the French Immersion and basic French classrooms. Each student prepared a short monologue or dialogue presenting something about their school. Some also spoke about their personal journey learning French and what the language means to them. The students learned about video production from *Planet French* creator, Guy Kelada, and demonstrated their acting skills in front of a professional camera, all while using French to communicate!
- In July, twenty-two French Immersion students along with three teacher chaperones went to France for an eight-day trip to immerse themselves in the French language and culture.

CREATE Program

- In September, all 62 students in CREATE's post-high program received their very own Wacom drawing tablets. This generous donation was provided by The Schroeder Foundation and Wacom. Superintendent Matt Henderson, along with Walter and Maria Schroeder, attended an event where students were surprised with the tablets.
- CREATE students received mentorship from world-class companies in the creative industries including Nickelodeon Animation, Jam Filled Entertainment, Ubisoft, REEL FX, CBC and Spinmasters, as well as artists including Jason Scheier (Sony Pictures Animation) Arnon Manor,

Kelsey Bascom, Sarah Tam, Czarina Ramos, Miguel Aquino, Shelagh Carter, Kim Bell, Madison Thomas, Bj Verot, Sean Garrity and many others.

- CREATE's Film cohort created mini documentaries as part of a partnership with the CBC Creator Network. These documentaries were broadcast on CBC television and uploaded to the CBC website. CREATE film students have created over 50 documentaries since the partnership began in 2022.
- Two teams from CREATE placed Gold in the Skills Manitoba competition! Richelle Galgo and Psalm Samuel received Gold for 2D Animation, while Justin Chommany and Aulden Szczepanik



Nev M., Valen C., Richelle G. and Psalm. B. at Skills Manitoba

received Gold for 3D Animation. Nev Michelle and Valen Curtis placed Silver but ended up competing in Skills Canada because the Gold team was unable to attend. At Skills Canada, the 3D team placed 4th and the 2D team placed 5th in the country.

- CREATE's 2D animation cohort travelled to Los Angeles May 22-25. The students showcased their work to their mentors at the Nickelodeon Animation studios in Burbank. They also visited Disney Animation Studios, and the Sony Pictures lot.
- CREATE's film cohort travelled to Toronto to showcase their documentaries at CBC National, visit Darkhorse virtual production studios, and tour universities and colleges that offer film programs.
- CREATE's Game Design cohort travelled to visit EA studios, Think Tank Training Centre, and showcase their games at Vancouver Film School.
- 16 CREATE students received scholarships for animation, film, and game programs at RRC Polytech. 18 CREATE students received

scholarships for animation, game, and film programs at Vancouver Film School.

- Film crew union IATSE 856 renewed their commitment with CREATE's film cohort to provide \$60,000 over three years for student scholarships and program support.
- CREATE students were welcomed for tours and workshops from local studios and companies including CBC, Ubisoft, Frank Digital, New Media Manitoba, and more.
- As part of this year's animation jam, three artists from Jam Filled animation and David Bolton from Wacom travelled to Winnipeg to celebrate with students and give a keynote speech.

Cyber Academy

- Throughout the year, students from Sisler High School's Cyber Academy actively participated in a range of cybersecurity and space competitions at the local, provincial, national, and international levels. We proudly fielded 19 Cyber Defence teams, with over 100 students competing in CyberPatriot, CyberTitan, and the National Cyber League. One of our teams qualified for the Canadian National Cyber Security Competition, showcasing our students' outstanding technical skills.
- To support career exploration, we welcomed industry professionals from organizations such as Arctic Wolf, Powerland, SRG Security Resource Group, and Canada Life. Several alumni also returned to share their career journeys. Notable guests included Nick Dixon, now with F5 Networks; Devlin Neil-McSwain, who works in IT infrastructure in the VFX industry; Matthew Ferrer, a graduate of the Royal Military College of Canada; and Syrus Neil-McSwain, currently supporting AI and automation at Laivly.
- Students also competed in our in-house cyber defence tournament, the Sisler Cyber Showdown (SCS). Over 20 students engaged in three rounds of high-stakes challenges involving virtual



Jed M. at Skills Canada

system vulnerability analysis and network troubleshooting. The top three teams advanced to the Grand Finals, where they defended critical infrastructure against a live Red Team attack. SCS, developed over two years by our top students, delivered a professional and thrilling competition experience.

- A standout achievement came from Jed Manaloto, who won Gold in IT Network Systems Administration at Skills Manitoba and went on to earn Silver at Skills Canada in Regina — continuing the legacy of excellence upheld by the Cyber Spartans

Visual and Performing Arts

Sisler Band Programs

- Sisler Bands performed at our Remembrance Day ceremonies, Winter Concert, Festival Showcase Concert, VPA Coffee Houses and Spring Concert and took part in several workshops throughout the year.
- Thirteen Sisler Band students were selected for the WSD Senior Honour Band in January.
- Sisler's Junior Concert Band, Senior Concert Band, and Jazz Band participated in the MBA Family of Festivals in February; each received an invitation to Nationals.
- The Sisler Jazz Band (pictured below) performed a pre-concert for the Winnipeg Jazz Orchestra's 'Cherry Blossom Dreams' concert in February.



- Several of Sisler's Concert Band members traveled to the Moose Jaw Band & Choir Festival in March.

Sisler's Most Wanted (dance team)...

- Participated in Dance Manitoba's Dance Showcase in November at SOPAC;
- Entered two routines in the Canadian National Dance Championships and both pieces earned Platinum awards;
- At Candance Competition, out of hundred of routines, SMW earned a spot in the Diamond Dance off and placed 5th overall;
- And performed at the Coalescence Dance Showcase hosted by SIKAT at the Royal MTC.



Sisler's Most Wanted Dance Team

Sisler Choirs:

- Sisler's Treble Chorus was awarded the Earl Grey Trophy for most outstanding performance by a school choir (Grs. 7-12) at the Winnipeg Music Festival in addition to the Muriel Waldie Bursary for most outstanding performance of a song by a Canadian composer.
- Sisler's Full Concert Choir was awarded the Beth Douglas Trophy for most outstanding performance of a school choir (Grades 5-12) in the Concert Group Class!



Members of Sisler's choir program with a new friend

- Twelve Sisler Choir students participated in the Winnipeg School Division's High School Choral Celebration in January, and nine Choir students travelled to Moose Jaw in May and performed at the Moose Jaw Band and Choir Festival!

Drama at Sisler

- Sisler Drama performed at our Remembrance Day ceremonies, Winter Scene Night, and Spring Scene Night.
- Several students also performed for our Feeder Schools during their tours.

Athletics

- Our 2024-2025 athletic seasons were full of commitment and excellence from our athletes.



Sisler's Varsity Boys Basketball Team 2024-2025

- Our fall sports included Cross Country, Football, and Volleyball. All teams enjoyed a successful season and had tremendous growth throughout.
- Our Winter sports included Basketball, Indoor Track, and Boys Flag Football. During the winter we had many highlights, but most notably was our JVG and JVB basketball teams winning the RIT tournament in Saskatchewan.



Sisler's Girls Flag Football Team 2024-2025

- In the Spring, we offered Badminton, Girls Flag Football, Outdoor Track, Soccer and Boys Rugby. This year was the first year we offered Girls Flag Football, and we had a very energetic season and look forward to continued involvement next year.



Sisler's JV Boys Basketball Team 2024-2025

Academics, Awards and Activities

- This was a banner year for the Reach for the Top team! The number of players swelled to the point where we needed two Intermediate (Gr. 9 and 10) teams. Both played well and one of them secured our third consecutive provincial championship title. The Senior (Gr. 11 and 12) team came in second at the provincial level, which qualified them for their first National Finals tournament in over 40 years. The team had a great time in Calgary, finishing 11th overall, and learned lots for next season.
- Grade 12 student Klyd Bautista placed second place overall in Manitoba on the Canadian Association of Physics competition exam. There were 106 participants.
- Seventy-eight Sisler students wrote Advanced Placement exams this year in the areas of Biology, Chemistry and Physics.
- At the WSD Science Fair 2025, Aditi Agnihotri & Jazlene Nicole Glean received:
 - A Gold Medal
 - Best in Category – Intermediate Level (Energy)
 - The University of Winnipeg Physics Innovator Prize, which included a \$100 scholarship for each of us!

- At the Manitoba Schools Science Symposium (MSSS) this year, Aditi Agnihotri & Jazlene Nicole Glean were awarded:
 - A Silver Medal
 - The Most Outstanding Physics and Engineering Project Award (Intermediate Level)
 - A \$750 SHAD Canada Scholarship
- A total of 19 trees are being planted to enhance the green space at École secondaire Sisler High School. Trees chosen for planting are nearly all native species. They have been chosen to offer shade for students and a biodiverse selection for our urban pollinators, insects and birds. This project is possible because of a generous grant from the Manitoba Hydro Forest Enhancement Program and a partnership with Trees Winnipeg who are our local experts in urban forest revitalization. Phase 1 of planting was completed by a group of over 60 students and teachers with the help of Trees Winnipeg and their yard maintenance contractor, New Directions. Students had the opportunity to learn about the role trees play in our environment, from carbon capture, habitat for small living organisms, to being producers providing sources of essential food for food webs.



Sisler students planting trees on school grounds

- Students from Ms. Petryshyn's grade 11 History courses participated in an international initiative called 'My Hometown' which involved engaging students in a project to explore the Holocaust via a direct link to the students' hometown. Over sixty schools from fifteen countries participated in

which students developed a unique project combining historical research with enrichment activities. École secondaire Sisler High School was the only school in Canada to participate in this project.

- École secondaire Sisler High School participated in Student Vote 2025. This initiative offered our students a valuable opportunity to engage in the democratic process in a meaningful and hands-on way. The event fosters important conversations around citizenship, voting, and democratic values in Canada.



Student and staff organizers of Student Vote 2025

- Sisler students Ash Robinson & James Harapiak were selected to attend in-person the Model United Nations Assembly on May 2-3, 2025.
- Fourteen grade 11 History students participated in the Winnipeg School Division's Historical Thinking Symposium at the Manitoba Museum on April 22, 2025.
- Grade 11 student Eknoor Gill participated at the University of Winnipeg Red River Heritage Fair (RRHF) on May 1, 2025 and he presented his project on Komagata Maru and won a medal and the MSSTA Marie Zorniak Award.
- Sisler students Ranveer Seehra, Anhelina Murenko, Mykhailo Syrotiuk, Michael Viznyak were the only students in Manitoba who volunteered their time to work at RRHF this year.

