

# **ST. JOHN'S HIGH SCHOOL REPORT TO COMMUNITY 2025-2026**

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## **Our 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.**



Principal- B. Davidson  
Vice Principal High School- L. Young/ J. Haines  
Vice Principal Middle Years- J. Haines/ K. Carino

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# About Our School

We at St. John's High School are very proud of our accomplishments and seek to explore ways to engage our students in their learning.

3 Administrators  
987 Students  
64 Teachers  
1 Indigenous Grad Coach  
33 Educational Assistants  
1 Cultural Support Worker  
4 Community Outreach Workers  
4 Clerical Staff  
12 Custodians



## St. John's Vision Statement



At St. John's High School, we are committed to nurturing confident, capable, and compassionate students through an inclusive learning environment that values belonging, mastery, independence, and generosity. By integrating the reflective questions shared by the Honourable Murray Sinclair—Who am I? Where do I come from? Why am I here? Where am I going?—we empower students to take ownership of their identity, purpose, and path. Through this model, we aim to foster academic achievement, personal growth, and a deep connection to community.

# School Goals

Foster a sense of safety and connection for all students.

Build relationships that reflect inclusion, diversity and mutual respect.

Provide rigorous and meaningful learning experiences that allow students to develop competence and confidence.

Empower students to take ownership of their learning, decision and future.

Inspire students to give back to the community with empathy, respect and service.



# HIGHLIGHTS

The Human Ecology and Applied Technology departments continued to provide engaging, hands-on learning experiences for the students of St. John's High School. Highlights included the construction of our very own school ice-fishing shack in the woodshop, which will be used for Land-based learning; the ongoing success of the robotics team at Skills Canada events; and a partnership between our Foods program and RRC Polytech, which allowed students to develop their culinary arts skills. Our sewing program had student volunteers create Star Blankets for graduating students, while our Graphic Arts program provided support by designing materials for the school play and Red Dress Day. We are looking forward to next year, when our metalworking shop will reopen and offer programming and opportunities for all students.



Our Science programs thrived this year as we continued to promote inquiry-based science with a two-eyed seeing approach. Students have used Vernier technology to analyze freshwater samples from the community, testing for living organisms as well as nitrogen and phosphorus levels. These results, analyzed through the lens of sustainability, highlighted the importance of freshwater ecosystems to our city and planet. The two-eyed seeing approach demonstrated that our perspectives on wetlands ecosystems can change when we view them as living entities. Students learned to value and respect the reciprocity that must exist between humans and nature to ensure a sustainable future for generations to come.



In addition to their core subjects, the 7s & 8s got to experience various Options, Shops, and Phys. Ed. The students completed a lot design challenges and hands on projects in which they built water filters, bridges, and homes. Ten students participated in the Divisional Science Fair, which involved creating a backboard and conducting an experiment, and a student was selected to participate in the Youth Biolab science program at St. Boniface Hospital. We ended the year with a fun field trip to Grand Prix Amusements where the students enjoyed minigolf, go-karting, and other activities.



2025-2026 has once again been another busy year for Tiger Athletics. Our football team finished on a high, winning their last game and having a very competitive season. One of our team members was named the league Rookie of the Year and offensive lineman, with another player being named a league all-star. One player accepted an invitation to join the Winnipeg Rifles next season.

Our JV girls' volleyball team won the zone championship and represented our zone at the Provincial Championships in Swan River. Our varsity boys were also our zone champions and represented our zone at the Provincial Championships held in Winnipeg.

St. John's fielded twenty-one different teams in nine different sports. Great job to all our athletes who competed throughout their seasons and a special thank you to all our coaches who gave so much time and energy to enriching the lives of our students.



This year was the inaugural year for the Programming Department at St. John's. This is a department that manages, teaches and plans for students that need extra support based on interests and learning styles. These supports are designed to support student success with the regular academic program and create a clear path to graduation. Employability has provided students with meaningful hands-on learning opportunities through several school-based projects. Students successfully created and operated Tiger Boutique, developing workplace skills such as customer service, inventory management, teamwork, and financial literacy. Through their ongoing role in running Tiger Square, students continue to build employability skills by managing daily operations, serving customers, handling transactions, and taking pride in creating positive experiences for the school community. St. John's EAL program is celebrating having graduated approximately 100 EAL and Newcomer students in the last five years with 100% of these students obtaining a diploma that allows them to continue their education in post-secondary, and with over 80 of these students being accepted into a post-secondary institution before they leave St. John's.

In the words of one of this years EAL graduates:

"At St. John's High School, I experienced an educational system that values not only grades, but understanding, support, and individual growth. My teachers encouraged questions and helped with long-term planning. There was space to think about the future, not just survival. I strengthened my academic writing, deepened my understanding of science and mathematics, and learned how to think critically.

In my home country, education often feels like a narrow path with limited flexibility. At St. John's, I experienced structure with freedom. I am deeply grateful for that difference. That support showed me that St. John's does not only expect students to succeed—it actively invests in them."



In Semester 1, our Grade 9/10 Math class hosted a fundraiser. This activity gave students an opportunity to socialize with each other and form friendships. Many of them were new to St. John's High School so this was a great start of the year project. Students had to reflect on their skills in order to determine what to make and sell. Students did research on materials/ ingredients needed for the bracelets and cake pops. The neat part about this whole experience was that students began to volunteer their own time over lunch hours to make friendship bracelets and cake pops. Students decided to fundraise for Ka Ni Kanichihk. They mailed the donation along with positive messages folded into origami envelopes for the youth at Ka Ni Kanichihk! In Applied Math, students explored real-world problem solving through financial literacy, algebraic reasoning, probability, and measurement. Learning was connected to everyday situations such as budgeting, investing, analyzing data, and working with functions. Students also used technology tools such as the TVM Solver and Desmos to support understanding and visualize mathematical concepts in a more interactive way. Students were given opportunities to build confidence by applying math in meaningful, practical contexts. While skill levels varied, growth was supported through guided instruction, hands-on examples, and consistent practice. Overall, the year focused on making math more accessible, relevant, and engaging, helping students develop both understanding and problem-solving skills for real-life applications. In grade 12 Pre-Calculus, students prepared well for their final provincial achievement test. There were 2 students achieving in the top 1% of the province with 99%! There was also one student that took part in the Dual Credit Calculus course at the University of Manitoba where they wrote the university exams. After getting an "A" on the final exam, this student got an "A" in the course.



The grade 9 team had a great school year leading the students through many education-based initiatives; the first idea was to have community outings in order to build relationships and teamwork. This was demonstrated by having an outing to Billy Mosienko Bowling Lanes in October and at Wheelies Roller Rink in June. Both trips were highly successful and a phenomenal team building exercise. The second idea was to practice good citizenship by helping others in need; this was done by visiting Amber Meadows' senior retirement home in order to show care and compassion with the seniors. It was a splendid day, and the seniors really enjoyed the grade 9's visiting them. The third and final idea was to have students connect with themselves and study their own personal identity through PATH (Planning Alternative Tomorrows with Hope), a project co-operated in part with Mr. Dennis Kuzenko. The results were spectacular as the students were incredibly receptive to the idea of getting to learn more about themselves and to showcase who they are through a painting project and journal analysis. Most of them have clearer ideas of where and who they hope to be by the time they graduate in 2029.



The Visual Arts Department had a successful year filled with creativity, learning, and artistic growth. Students created a variety of impressive art projects and shared their work through two Art Showcases and ongoing artwork shown in the school's Art Display Case.

A highlight of the year was attending the Visual Arts End-of-Year Celebration at the Winnipeg Art Gallery. Students in Grades 10–12 collaborated with artist Bria Fernandes and peers from across the Winnipeg School Division, creating mixed-media artwork in a creative and inspiring environment. The day also included a private gallery tour, providing students with an opportunity to experience and learn from a variety of artworks and artists.

The Performing Arts team had an excellent year as well. The team hosted its first Arts Open House at the end of semester, inviting the Applied Technology team to participate in sharing the creativity of our students. We continued to collaborate with our school dance team for the Winter and Spring arts showcase, as well as collaborating on our second musical this year, Disney's Descendants,

The theatre produced *Sitting in a Tree*, a modern adaptation of Pride and Prejudice this spring. Musical Theatre and Drama students attended performances of the musical Bear Grease, and The Life of Pi, as well attending a workshop on inclusive script writing with Dene from Braiding Sweetgrass Consulting.

Band Students attended field trips to the WSO and the Manitoba Opera, participated in the Level One Music Festival, and performed at the Westland Foundation Annual Fundraising Breakfast.

Our Dancers attended WSD's STEPZ event, performing with dance students from across the division and participating in hip hop and salsa workshops. They placed 1st overall in the Open Line Division at the CNDC Dance Competition, and participated in workshops both with alumni as well as with guests from the Storytelling Festival.



2025/2026 was a very successful year in the ELA department. We were able to send many students to live drama performances this year. We saw a focus on in-class writing throughout the department and received many creative and thoughtful personal assignments. Thank you to the hard work of Ms. Ronquillo and Mr. Wu who helped one student win a national prize in poetry recitation! Our students also showed a lot of success in the provincial exams in January and May.



St. John's 7-12 guidance department supported students social/emotional needs through individual counselling and discussed career pathways and learning goals for post secondary education. Integrating wholistic world views that connect land-based education with students understanding of themselves and their identities. Students had opportunities to work through friendship and relationship dynamics in a safe space with supportive adults. Counsellors continue to support student learning and school wide engagement.

