



GORDON BELL HIGH SCHOOL

COMMUNITY REPORT 2022-2023



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School Community Report

OUR PURPOSE:

Winnipeg School Division provides a learning environment that fosters the growth of each student's potential and provides equitable opportunity to develop the knowledge, skills, and values necessary for meaningful participation in a global and diverse society.

OUR VISION

For current and future people learning and working within Winnipeg School Division to be: Engaged, Confident, Inspired, and Successful Learners.



ABOUT OUR SCHOOL

Gordon Bell High School possesses three essentials in its identity. It has 47% plus of students who are Indigenous and is situated on Treaty One land. It is global with students from across the world who arrive in Winnipeg as newcomers to this land and water. It is a community that takes life as a village that values its diversity and strives to meet the learning needs of all students within a centrally located main campus at the heart of the city and four off campuses. Together as a school, we have 700 students and 135 staff members working together in many spaces of learning. Through this extensive range of welcoming learning environments, both Indigenous and newcomer students from all over the world share an identity that reflects the worldview “All are Related.” This kinship undergirds our commitment to relate to each other in a just, respectful, and compassionate way.



POST-PANDEMIC LEARNING

This year was the first time since March of 2020 that our students were able to experience in-person learning again, without any restrictions. This allowed for community and school events and activities to take place again. Allowing for these social events to exist again has helped to bring back the sense of community within our school.



HUDDLE BROADWAY



This year is the first year of the partnership with Huddle Broadway, a low barrier organization working to support and assist the youth in the West Broadway community. Gordon Bell is the home base for one of Huddle Broadway's Service Navigation Specialists. This has been a successful way to help the students in our school get connected with the services and resources they need to help them flourish. The staff and administration at Gordon Bell have worked closely with Huddle Broadway to introduce students to the Huddle team and to their brand new space on Broadway.



NORTHERN MEDICAL CLINIC



Gordon Bell High School warmly welcomed back the Northern Medical team to run a teen clinic after a few year hiatus after their team was called back to assist with the COVID-19 Pandemic. They have been providing a clinic experience to our kids right in our school so that there are no barriers to them receiving the care that they need. It is a great asset to have them working back at our school and we look forward to welcoming them again next year.

FREE ACCESS FAIR

Gordon Bell hosted a Free Access Fair at the beginning of the year that allowed for both students and their families, as well as community members to set up bank accounts, apply for SIN numbers, Birth Certificates and Treaty Cards all in one night.



It was a great way for Gordon Bell staff to reconnect with the community after working through the pandemic and all of the restrictions that came with it. With student volunteers, staff, and community organizations working together to greet and assist all who participated, it was a great success.



OUR STORIES OF HOPE

Gordon Bell's Our Stories of Hope Project strives to empower students through the sharing of their history, culture, traditions, lived experiences, overcome challenges, triumphs, success' and dreams for the future. Students are invited to share their personal stories through a variety of mediums, including; written text, oral storytelling, film, dance, song or visual art. This year was the first time that the project commenced with a gala event at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights. The gala honoured each entrant and their story, and celebrated the award winners in each category. The event was received with such praise that it will now be a yearly tradition!



DRAMA PRODUCTION

This years Theatre Production brought in many family members, friends and alumni to watch the drama students shine in Edgar Allen Poe's *The House of Usher*. The students brought the school to life with their incredible performance that received a standing ovation on both nights that it was performed!



FESTIVAL OF THE ARTS

Festival of the Arts allows Gordon Bell students to show off their talents in Music, Dance, Band and Visual Arts. This inspiring event is open to all families and friends of students and staff to attend and is a wonderful display of the many incredible talents our students have. There are performances from the schools many dance teams and choirs, band and a beautiful display of the work from our incredible artists.

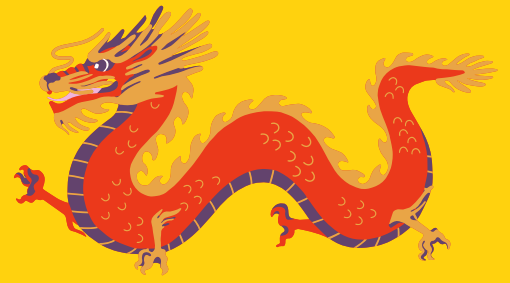


DRONE WORKSHOP



Students from Gordon Bell and three other WSD high schools had the opportunity to work with Volatus Aerospace in a provincially funded program to explore the growing drone industry. Seven students from Gordon Bell had the opportunity to learn with professionally licensed pilots and fly drones with their supervision. After the program students will be offered free access to Volatus Aerospace's professional license training program to continue their growth and development of skills.

DRAGON BOAT TEAM



This year was the first year that Gordon Bell had a Dragon Boat team. The students worked together to learn the sport in just two practices in the boat on the river and then competed in a weekend tournament where they placed 2nd in the B league. It was really exciting for our students to have this experience and they have already requested that this be a yearly tradition!

MMIWG2S FORUM YOUTH UNITED WAY



This year, the students who were members of the Youth United Way group planned and executed a MMIWG2S Forum and invited the panelists, Leslie Spillett, Jamie Black and Cambria Harris to the event to speak on the important topic. The students did all of this on their own with only guidance and suggestions from staff in the school. The topic the students chose this year was a big one, however they were not intimidated. Instead, they approached it with compassion, sensitivity, open ears and hearts. They created a beautiful community event that was appreciated by all who attended.



WOLSELEY SCHOOL BBQ GORDON BELL STUDENT VOLUNTEERS



Gordon Bell students volunteered their time to help run the Wolseley School BBQ this year. Students helped with distributing freezes and watermelon to keep cool during the heat wave, ran water games and applied temporary tattoos onto the younger children.

It was a great opportunity for our students to get out into the community and show their off their leadership skills.



E-CREDIT SESSION



Gordon Bell hosted an E-Credit Information Session for the parents of our students. This was very well received and had a great impact on all who attended, as financial literacy is such an important topic. It was also a great way for parents to connect with each other as well as the staff in our school.

GB COMMUNITY GARDENS



Gordon Bell has a community Garden that is planted and maintained by Gordon Bell staff and students, but is accessible to all community members. This year, there was a special and unexpected addition to the vegetables that were planted.

GB COMMUNITY GARDENS



Gordon Bell received a generous donation of flowers from the non-profit Floral Philanthropy for the school. The donation was a beautiful bouquet for inside and a large bunch of perennial flowers to plant out in the garden alongside the vegetables.



THE WATER PROJECT

IN PARTNERSHIP WITH THE VISUAL ARTS PROGRAM



Gordon Bell participated in a special project founded by Waterlution. This organization seeks to connect young Indigenous Artists with schools that have a high population of Indigenous students to create art based on water and it's life giving properties. The group of students worked with Claire Johnston, Elder Ivy Canard and other knowledge keepers to create various different traditional artworks that came together to create a larger piece which will travel and inspire other schools and communities for the next two years. We learned how to tan and make fish skin leather and shared in bead working circles.



GB GRAD 2022/2023



This year's Gordon bell graduating class is 76 students strong! These students have all worked so hard to transition back to in-person socialization, field trips, class presentations and school events over that last year. After spending most of their high school experience in the midst of an ever changing pandemic, it has been incredible to watch them embrace this year that has offered them more opportunity and experience than any other year in their school experience. We are especially proud of this years graduating class for their success, determination, perseverance and most importantly their kindness during an unexpectedly difficult last few years. They are an incredible group of students that we know will do great things in the world!