

École Robert H. Smith School

Community Report 2021-2022

315 Oak Street, Winnipeg, MB, R3M 3P8
Phone: 204-488-1137 | Fax: 204-487-1463 | Email: rhsmith@wsd1.org

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

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

At École Robert H. Smith School we are respectful, safe, and accountable.

Principal: Adam Dyck
Vice Principal:
Sarah Arnold
Staff: 33
Classroom Teachers: 21
Resource Teacher 1
Specialist Teachers: 2
Educational Assistants: 5



About our school

Built in 1919, École Robert H. Smith School is a Nursery to Grade 6 school located in the Winnipeg School Division. RHS is home to both French Immersion and English programs. We are a community of learners, characterized by strong academic programming, environmental stewardship, a unique performing arts philosophy and "fitness for life" physical education.

École Robert H. Smith School has a student population of 362 students, with 17 classrooms, 22 teachers, five educational assistants, one French Language Assistant, two office staff and three custodians. During a typical year we engage one of the largest volunteer bases in the WSD with over 300 registered volunteers who support our school and students in a variety of ways. We are fortunate to have a comprehensive Lunch Program, a Before and After School Program and parents who work collaboratively with staff and students to support school-based initiatives.

We continue to deepen understanding and implement initiatives that address environmental, social and economic issues both locally and worldwide. We are seeking to find authentic ways to include Indigenous pedagogies in our practices through ongoing teacher learning, community involvement, and external partnerships. We want our students to better understand the truths of the past as we move forward toward reconciliation.



Highlights

Academic/Curricular:

- Development of short term “learning sprints” based on student and classroom profiles
- Use of vertical surfaces for mathematical problem solving in small groups
- Festival du Voyageur virtual presentations & outdoor activities
- I Love to Read Month activities with virtual guest readers such as Mayor Brian Bowman and author David A. Robertson
- The return of field trips



Physical & Mental Health:

- Lunchtime intramurals in cohorts that eventually expanded to grade groups
- Classroom programs on self-regulation and mindfulness strategies
- Fall & Spring Running Club and WSD Fit Run
- Active Start program was a positive start to many students' day
- MPI Bike Rodeo



Performing Arts:

- Modern Band approach
- Grades 4-6 “bands” performed at outdoor stages during our first RHS StreetFest/Family Picnic
- Grades 1-3 introduction to instruments, song structures and playing in a band



Education for Sustainable Development:

- Grade 5/6 Gardening Club learning about starting plants from seeds
- Using our bottle filling station saved the equivalent of just under 20,000 water bottles
- Dedication to furthering the infusion of Indigenous perspectives



Covid-19 Protocols:

- The school year started with health restrictions (cohorts, distancing and masks) that were slowly lifted after Spring Break as we returned to what looked more like the “normal” school experience
- Short period of remote learning after the winter break



Priorities for 2021-2022

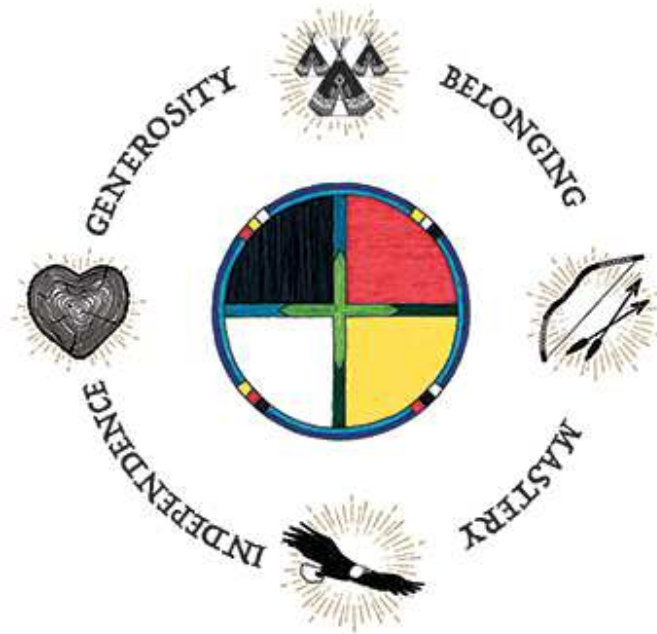
School priorities from the past school year:

Addressing student diversity through appropriate educational programming.

Developing and using classroom profiles to support differentiation.

Building curriculum access points through backwards design and assessment for learning.

Responding to COVID learning loss through targeted small group and individual learning sprints for identified students.



Priorities for 2022-2023

School priorities for the upcoming school year:

- We will address student diversity through appropriate educational programming, providing differentiated instructional programming based on assessment data that informs next steps for student learning for reading, writing, math and student engagement and empowerment in their learning.
- Through Indigenous pedagogies that deepen our understanding and connection to Indigenous culture, we will build school-wide generosity, belonging, mastery and independence. Students will develop a sense of who they are, why they are here, where they come from and where they are going to deepen our connections to each other and the community. Through these priorities, we will answer the calls to Truth and Reconciliation.
- We will develop confident French learners in the areas of speaking and listening, reading and writing and viewing and representing.

Parent and community involvement

While we were unable to welcome parents into the school for the majority of the school year, we continued to have the support of many parents in the community in various ways:

- Attending French Language Advisory and South District Advisory meetings through the year
- The review and amendment of the Parent Council Constitution to bring it in line with Winnipeg School Division policies
- Holding a Peak of the Market vegetable fundraiser in the fall
- Holding a “Holiday Cheer” raffle to support the purchase of a computer for the music program
- Volunteer support for our StreetFest/Family Picnic
- Volunteer support for three pizza fundraiser lunches to fund the Grade 6 Farewell evening event
- Making the Grade 6 Farewell special for students by providing a dinner and a DJ dance party
- Parent volunteers on field trips

