

# École secondaire Sisler High School

1360 Redwood Ave, Winnipeg, MB, R2X0Z1  
Phone: 204-589-8321 | Fax: 204-586-0625 | Email [sisler@wsd1.org](mailto:sisler@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

Our vision is for current and future people learning and working within Winnipeg School Division to be:

**Engaged, Confident,  
Inspired, and  
Successful Learners.**



## About our school

As Manitoba's largest high school, 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 including inverted classrooms, distance education, 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 university credited courses to global issues, from automotive to law, from cyber to CREATE. The diversity of our programs supports our diverse population.

École Secondaire Sisler 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 groups.



# Highlights

## In Remembrance

- This year, École Secondaire Sisler mourned the passing of Dylan Bucci, a French Immersion student. Dylan received an honorary diploma at graduation.
- Junel Malapad, École Secondaire Sisler's caretaker retired at the end of April. He worked in the Winnipeg School Division for 29 years. Junel has also raised awareness and funds for various charities and humanitarian causes over the years. This year, Junel dedicated his run across Manitoba to supporting local mental health organizations.

## French Immersion

- Morning announcements, as well as the land acknowledgment, are delivered in both French and English daily.
- Expanded the French Immersion program by offering éducation physique for all grade levels, mathématiques for the grade 10s and offering enjeux mondiaux for the grade 12s in French.
- All grade 9 French Immersion students participated in *Concours d'art oratoire*.
- *Conseil Français*, a group of Grade 11 and 12 students, met at lunch to practice and promote the French language.

## School Supports

- A portable classroom was completed during the school year, which will be used by the Physical Education department for their Health courses.

## Indigenous Education

- École Secondaire Sisler focused on infusing Indigenous perspectives and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission into all courses, as well as building its inclusion program.
- École Secondaire Sisler is one of seven high schools in the WSD fortunate enough to have an Indigenous Graduation Coach.
- Many students and staff participated in and attended Sharing Circles and smudging throughout the year.
- Students actively participated in the Vision Quest Conferences.
- Indigenous Youth Leadership students planned the Truth and Reconciliation week and participated in an Indigenous Speaker Series.
- During Festival du Voyageur activities, students learned about the Tipi.
- École Secondaire Sisler participated in Pow Wow Celebration lunch and learn with Matthew Mousseau, who is a Traditional Dancer.
- Staff of École Secondaire Sisler participated in pedagogic sessions with Marc Kuly, Cory Campbell and Dr. Niigaan Sinclair. The learning focused on defining Reconciliation and how to implement in our

school.

- The Manitoba Indigenous Youth Achievement Awards (MIYAA) awarded the James Golick Grant for Woman in Computology to Kiara Hare, who is currently a post-grad student at École Secondaire. Sisler enrolled in the CREATE program.
- Twenty-five students participated in the Manito Ahbee Youth Education Day for Reconnecting to Culture.
- Staff and students participated in the 3<sup>rd</sup> annual WSD Celebration Pow Wow.
- Grade 10 students participated in the Manitoba Indigenous Games during their Physical Education classes.

## CREATE

- Orange Tree Project: An animation mentorship program with artists from Nickelodeon. This year, five mentors met with a group of high school and post-high CREATE students once a month to offer feedback on the creation of two animated short films.
- Redwood Grove: An animated series development mentorship project with Nickelodeon. Six students in the CREATE post-high program worked with mentors on a series from concept to show bible, etc.
- Off Trail: Six CREATE post-high students are working on a virtual reality 3D game with mentors from Flipside XR, Eagle Vision Inc., and The Gord Downie and Chanie Wenjack Fund. This Indigenous-led project is based on the 7 teachings.
- Game Design: Students from CREATE's post-high game design cohort are working in partnership with Ubisoft Winnipeg and CBC Kids to create three computer games for the CBC Kids website. In return, CBC is offering a scholarship to the program.
- This year, 12 CREATE post-high students were engaged in paid internships with Nelvana - one of the largest animation studios in Canada. The students received mentorship and direction from Nelvana artists, while being supervised on a daily basis by staff as part of the CREATE program.
- École Secondaire Sisler CREATE had a team contribute to the exhibit WAGinBloom; the students recreated their interpretation of 15<sup>th</sup> to 21<sup>st</sup>-century artworks highlighting the WAG collection.
- The first annual Wacom-Sisler Earth Day AniJam was a success with keynote speaker, Nik Ranieri, presenting to 100 participants.
- CREATE staff applied to have Sisler designated as an Apple Distinguished School in 2021. The school received the designation, which will be celebrated officially at the end-of-year showcase.

## **Cyber**

- Cyber Spartans participated in several cyber security competitions against teams Nationally and Internationally in events such as CyberPatriot, CyberTitan, CanHack, PicoCTF.
- Team Syntax Error was a National Finalist in CyberTitan, one of Canada's largest Cyber Security competitions.
- A group of Grade 9 girls attended Microsoft's DigiGirlz event and had a chance to meet various IT professionals from around the world.
- Cyber Spartans competed at Skills Manitoba in the IT Network Systems Administration category. Students achieved a Silver and Bronze medal.
- Cyber Spartans earned several merit awards based on their academic achievement from the Schroeder Foundation

## **Academics and Awards**

- École Secondaire Sisler is one of the few schools to offer U of Manitoba Calculus II dual credit course. 12 students earned a final mark of A+, while four students earned an A.
- A grade 9 student from our French Immersion program achieved 2<sup>nd</sup> place in the Division in the *Concours d'art oratoire*.
- 19 students from the CREATE program were awarded scholarships from the Schroeder Foundation and the Vancouver Film School.
- Skills Manitoba: CREATE student teams took the gold, silver and bronze awards at the Skills Manitoba 2D Animation competition this year.
- A CREATE student won Gold in the Game Art Competition. In Video Production, a CREATE team was awarded silver.
- École Secondaire Sisler CREATE grade 12 girls team placed 1<sup>st</sup> in the High School category and 12<sup>th</sup> overall of over 200 teams in the 24 Hours Animation Challenge. Another student team placed 18<sup>th</sup> overall in the international animation category at the 24 Hours Animation Contest.
- École Secondaire Sisler's sports teams won banners in Varsity Girls Volleyball, Senior Boys Volleyball, Junior Varsity Girls Volleyball, Senior Girls Basketball, Varsity Badminton, Junior Varsity Badminton.
- École Secondaire Sisler students won gold medals at the 52<sup>nd</sup> Annual Virtual Winnipeg Schools' Science Fair. One project examined the effects of an increased amount of carbon dioxide on plant growth, while the other examined the amount of greenhouse gases produced by food in different environments.
- École Secondaire Sisler organized the Live Surgery Event in partnership with Pan Am Clinic; over 500 students participated in this event.

- École Secondaire Sisler students participated in the St. Boniface Youth BioLab at the Albrechtsen Research Center.
- Over 50 students wrote the College Board AP® examinations.
- SMW took part in the Canadian National Dance Championships (CNDC) at RBC Convention Center and earned 2 Elite Gold awards for their dance pieces.
- École Secondaire Sisler was one of 7 schools in Manitoba to have students write the Canadian Association of Physicists 2022 National High School Physics Examination.

## **VPA Opportunities and Performances**

- Students experienced virtual performances from: Royal Winnipeg Ballet, Manitoba Theatre for Young People, Winnipeg Jazz Orchestra, and the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra.
- Students worked hard to prepare pieces for our recorded Winter Band and Dance concerts. This year, our Choir live-streamed their winter concert.
- Concert Band recorded pieces for the MBA Band Festival, and met and worked with Toronto composer Cait Nishimura and Dr. Jackie Dawson over Zoom.
- Jazz Band was able to have an in-person MBA Jazz Band Festival performance and workshop at École Secondaire. Sisler with Mr. Bill Kristjanson
- Drama students recorded and submitted scenes for the Manitoba Drama Youth Festival and experienced an in-person workshop in connection with the festival.
- 20 students took part in WSD's STEPZ Dance Day at the Victoria Inn.
- Dance students participated in a contemporary dance workshop with the Winnipeg Contemporary Dancers.
- 7 students took part in the Winnipeg School Division Honour Band event that took place at Elmwood High School in early May, under the direction of Dr. Wendy McCallum.
- École Secondaire Sisler was excited to host our first in-person performances in over two years in the Taras Korol Theatre: Coffee Houses, a one-act play called Anxiety is Orange, Drama Scene Night, and Band, Choir, and Dance concerts.
- SMW performed and ran dance workshops for Lord Nelson's Health-a-Palooza.

## Priorities for 2020-2021

Under the umbrella of diversity, inclusion, and equity, École Secondaire Sisler High School focused on the following priorities:

1. Strengthening instructional and assessment strategies, including performance-based assessment, for all teachers and students.
2. Improving academic and behavior support services for all students, including those with special needs, through the implementation of our universal supports.
3. Continuing to expand the French Immersion program by offering more courses in French.
4. Infusing Indigenous perspectives into all courses.
5. Strengthening our Grade 9 program, to ensure that academic and social/emotional needs are being met in an equitable learning environment.
6. Further improving school attendance and graduation rates through the exploration of additional programs and strategies.

## Priorities for 2022-2023

For the 2022-2023 school year, École Secondaire Sisler High School is focused on 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.

# Parent and community involvement

For the 2021-2022 school year, schools resumed near-normal operations while continuing to implement public health fundamentals. All students were welcomed back to in-school classes.

- Extra-curricular activities, including sports, optional programming, and field trips were permitted, provided that the activities followed current public health recommendations and orders. Students had access to the Performing Arts and Music programs this school year. Some activities were live-streamed, while others were in person.
- École Secondaire Sisler was excited to have our first in-person performances in over two years in the Taras Korol Theatre: Coffee Houses, a one-act play called Anxiety is Orange, Drama Scene Night, and Band, Choir, and Dance concerts.
- Parent-teacher conferences were held virtually this school year.
- Letters and updates were sent out via phone message and email to parents and community members on a regular basis.
- Teachers set up conferences with parents in person and/or online and stayed in communication with them throughout the year.
- Social media platforms, such as Instagram and our school website, were updated and contain current information for students and families.
- Breakfast Club was up and running every morning. École Secondaire Sisler staff is committed to ensuring that students are as prepared as they can be for a great day of learning; one way of achieving that is ensuring that students are not hungry.
- Parents of grade 12 students attended virtual and in-person meetings to discuss plans for graduation.

