

# École secondaire Sisler High School

## Community Report 2022 - 2023

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 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 including inverted classrooms 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.



# Highlights

## French Immersion

- We expanded the French Immersion program by offering two new grade 11 courses in French: mathématiques pré-calcul and mathématiques appliquées.
- A successful tutoring program was in place with 15 tutors and 25 students receiving tutoring primarily in mathématiques, biologie and français.
- Le conseil d'élèves was a student-led club that promoted the French language and culture through activities and games.
- The grade 12 *français* classes participated in *Les voix de la poésie*, a poetry workshop facilitated by USB professor and published author Lise Gaboury.
- Multiple activities were held during the week of *Fesitval du voyageur*, including a pancake breakfast for over 200 students. A few students volunteered at *Festival du voyageur* at Fort Gibraltar.
- Twenty-eight grade 10 French Immersion students attended a science symposium at the University of Manitoba entitled *Parlons sciences!* to promote STEM subjects in university and future career possibilities in the sciences.

## School Supports

- École secondaire Sisler High School offers many supports to students including guidance counsellors, an Indigenous Graduation Support Teacher, a career intern and the following services through Clinical Support Services: psychology and social work. A reading clinician and speech-language pathologist are also available.

## Inclusive Education

- Five students graduated from the Inclusion Support Program this year.
- Fifteen students participated in the job-experience program this year.

## Indigenous Education

- École secondaire Sisler High School has an Indigenous Graduation Support Teacher.
- The Indigenous Youth Leadership Program has enriched students' educational experiences in many ways. It has helped them connect to their culture, some for the first time, build relationships, develop leadership skills and build confidence in their voice and their own gifts. Students and teachers have the opportunity to learn alongside one another in a culturally supportive environment.
- Sisler students have participated in a variety of programs and initiatives including planning for Orange Shirt Day, moccasin making, a drum group, educational planning for Red Dress Day, a post-secondary club, regular sharing circles, creating awareness about new the land acknowledgement, Your Voice is Power and a daily lunch program.

## CREATE

- Sisler CREATE teams dominated the animation categories for the 2023 Skills Manitoba animation competitions winning the following medals: 2D Bronze, Silver and Gold as well 3D Gold.
- CREATE has been working closely with Nickelodeon since 2018. Artists from the studio meet monthly with CREATE students to offer feedback on the creation of short animated films and series. After securing funding from The Schroeder Foundation, WestJet and Toon Boom Animation, twelve CREATE students travelled to Los Angeles from May 25-28, 2023. While in LA, the students visited Disney Animation Studios, Sony Pictures and Nickelodeon Animation. The students pitched their animation short film and series to Nickelodeon representatives and networked with their mentors and other artists.



- Teams from CREATE's film cohort took first and third place in this year's Safe Work Manitoba Norm the Safety contest. Two Sisler students took first place for their film 'It All Adds Up'. Third place went to a group of four Sisler students for the video 'Safe Work: A Cinderella Story'.
- A Sisler CREATE team placed 1st in the High School category of this year's 24 Hours Animation Contest, and 7th overall out of 300 teams. Three other CREATE teams placed in the top 10 in the High School category.

## Cyber Academy

- Cyber Spartans earned an all-expenses-paid trip to the world's largest cyber security competition, the CyberPatriot National Finals in the United States.
- Elwood Innis took home Gold at Skills Manitoba and Skills Canada for IT Network Systems Administration.
- Cyber Spartans placed 3<sup>rd</sup> at CyberTitan, Canada's National cyber security competition.

- Sisler High School and the World Community Grid unveiled the Dylan Bucci Grid Computing Club, which honors former Alumni Dylan Bucci who passed away from childhood cancer. In Grade 10, Dylan configured several enterprise servers and provided much-needed processing power to Krembil, one of Canada's leading medical research institutions.



### Academics and Awards

- Eight students in Sisler High School's University English program earned their first-year university English credits, with students attaining grades from B+ to A+.
- Over 80 Sisler students participated in The Centre for Education and Mathematics Computing Pascal, Cayley, Fermat and Euclid contests. Four Sisler students received medals for earning the highest score in each respective category in our school.
- Four grades 9 & 10 Drafting students were winners of the Highest Voltage at the Skills Manitoba Model Wind Turbine competition in October 2022.
- Ryan Malabanan was presented with the Manitoba Council for International Cooperation Award for his Global Issues action project, Bringing Financial Literacy into Public Education.
- Sisler students won the following awards from Winnipeg School Science Fair:
  - Gold medals in Agriculture, Fisheries and Food as well as Health and Wellness
  - The Energy and You Award sponsored by Manitoba Hydro
  - The Science Innovator Award sponsored by the University of Manitoba
  - Most Outstanding Project
  - Mathematics and Statistics Innovative Application Award sponsored by the University of Winnipeg.
- This year, 23 students were awarded the Heshka Scholarship for Digital Innovation. This scholarship covers 93% of their tuition for Vancouver Film School. Funding for these awards is provided by The Schroeder Foundation and Vancouver Film

School. Student will study 2D animation, 3D animation and game design.

- CREATE and Local Film Labour Union IATSE 856 entered into a multi-year agreement where IATSE will provide \$60,000 over three years for scholarships (3 x \$5000 per year) and a film program operation fund (\$5000 per year). The first three scholarships were given to the film cohort at this year's showcase.

### Visual and Performing Arts

- Sisler's Soprano/Alto Concert Choir was awarded the Salisbury House Trophy for their March performance at the Winnipeg Music Festival. The trophy is presented for the most outstanding performance by a high school choir in classes featuring either treble or bass clef voicings.
- Members of Sisler's Choral Music Program had a successful tour experience and performance at the Cantando Music Festival in Edmonton, Alberta in April 2023.
- École secondaire Sisler High School's Concert and Jazz Bands participated in the MBA Band Festivals in February and March 2023. Both ensembles were awarded 5-star adjudications and invited to perform at MusicFest Canada.
- The SMW Dance team competed in the Canadian National Dance Competition, and received a Platinum Award and Judge's Choice for the Entertainment Award.
- Drama students attended the Manitoba Drama Youth Festival in May 2023, where they took part in various workshops with industry professionals.

### Athletics

- Sisler Spartan athletes represented the school in cross country, football, volleyball, basketball, badminton, soccer and track & field. Spartan teams won divisional championships in:
  - Varsity boys' indoor track
  - Varsity boys' cross country
  - Grade 9 boys' volleyball
  - Varsity girls' volleyball
  - Junior Varsity and Varsity boys' badminton
- Additionally, the Junior Varsity Boys were the outdoor provincial track champions.





# 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.

## Winnipeg School Division's Strategic Priorities

### **STUDENTS:**

To provide robust and comprehensive education, equitable access, diverse opportunity, and a supportive learning environment for all students to help them prepare for their journey with values of learning and social justice, and to be responsible community members.

### **LEARNING OUTCOMES:**

To further improve school attendance, achievements, and graduation rates through the exploration of additional programs and strategies.

### **ADDRESSING BARRIERS TO LEARNING:**

To further develop initiatives and innovative approaches addressing special needs and accessibility requirements, mental health issues, childcare needs, and nutritional needs.

### **EMPLOYEES:**

To retain, attract and develop our valued staff who are dedicated to the vision, purpose, values and Principles of Learning of Winnipeg School Division and reflect community diversity.

### **FISCAL RESPONSIBILITY:**

To provide responsible management of tax dollars and resources to ensure long-term fiscal sustainability and accountability of the programs, facilities, and services that we provide.

### **COMMUNICATIONS AND PARTNERSHIPS WITH COMMUNITY:**

To further develop communications and partnerships with communities we serve, parents, families, government, businesses, health and social service agencies, Indigenous education, other community organizations, and our valued volunteers.

### **SUSTAINABILITY:**

To strengthen and enhance sustainable development initiatives that address environmental, social, and economic issues.

# Parent and Community Involvement

For the 2022 - 2023 school year, schools resumed normal operations. Extra-curricular activities returned in full force with live audiences all year through and Sisler students welcomed guest speakers back into the school.

- The Inclusive Education department hosted a BBQ for students and families new to the program.
- Primrose Madayag Knazen, writer of *Lessons in Fusion*, visited our school to speak to students in the Enriched English program about being a writer and the writing process.
- Sisler held its first Poetry Slam since before COVID and spoken word poet, T'ai Pu, came to the school to host and present awards.
- Grade 9 English students learned advertising basics from RRC Polytech Creative Communications professor Kristin Koncan.
- From October to May, Sisler students had the opportunity to join a drum group with Matthew Mousseau.
- In May, students had the opportunity to participate in a garden club and teachings with Elder Audrey.
- All post-high cohorts in Sisler's CREATE program hosted a day of learning for younger students from the division. For the 'jams', the CREATE program invites schools to bring students who might be interested in the creative industries for a day of creativity and learning. Throughout the day, CREATE students mentor their younger counterparts in learning animation, game design or filmmaking. Over 200 students joined for these events.
- The CREATE program had many guests visit Sisler throughout the year including:
  - Mike Barth and Mike Hunter visited to give the keynote during the Anijam and review student portfolios.
  - Doug Morrow gave a movie makeup masterclass to students.
  - Head of Animation, Johnny Tesoro of Bardel Entertainment, travelled to Winnipeg to meet with students and offer feedback on student portfolios.
- Filipino students from CREATE contributed animated and motion graphic content for the Nov. 8, 2022 Jets home game. The content was projected onto the ice and shown on the jumbotron. Filipino CREATE students collaborated with the Winnipeg Jets game presentation team on key visual elements for the game.
- École secondaire Sisler High School has many student-led social justice groups. This year, approximately \$9000 was collected through a variety of fundraisers and donated to local, national and international charities including CancerCare Manitoba, Global Medical Aid, Siloam Mission, the Canadian Red Cross, War Child of Canada, Wildlife Haven Rehabilitation Centre, Variety Children's Charity and the Winnipeg Foundation.



Sisler's Soprano/Alto Concert Choir June 2023



Award-winning drafting students, October 2022



Sisler's dance group, SMW, at the Canadian National Dance Competition



Sisler's Concert Band at the MBA Band Festival in February 2023