

THE WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION

CENTRAL DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS – Wednesday, February 3, 2016

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Committee members approved the Agenda of February 3, 2016, as distributed.

2. 2016/2017 DRAFT BUDGET PRESENTATION

Committee members were provided with an overview of the 2016/2017 Draft Budget. Committee members were informed that on January 5, 2016, the Minister of Education and Advanced Learning announced that the total funding for public schools will increase above the rate of economic growth at 2.55%, or \$32.5 million, to bring total funding to more than \$1.3 billion.

Committee members were informed that 2016/2017 provincial funding provides 61% of total revenue while 37% comes from property taxation and 2% from other sources. Total revenue from the Province of Manitoba is projected to be \$243,048,107.

Committee members were informed that the budget was developed on the following Guiding Principles: Leading Education and Innovation; Providing High Quality Education; Employing Qualified, Caring and Competent Staff; Managing Tax Dollars Responsibly.

Committee members reviewed the expenditures required in the draft budget for the 2016/2017 school year which total \$396.9 million. This represents an overall expenditure increase of \$9.4 million or 2.3% from the 2015/2016 budget. The increase in expenditures is due to the continuation of existing programs and services; mandatory changes in rates and/or costs related to negotiated salary increases, increments, payroll related benefits, benefits and Canada Pension Plan costs; the maintenance of buildings and equipment.

The Board has approached development of the draft budget with a focus on improving student success, aligning resources with student needs and seeking efficiencies in business administration. Consideration is also being given to include budget allocations to Program and Services enhancements such as adding full-day Kindergarten in four schools; providing bilingual language support for the three new language programs slated to begin in September 2016; investing in healthy minds programming; implementing an employee assistance program for the health and wellness of support staff; science enrichment; strengthening indigenous education and bringing gender balance teaching with the addition of a second division-wide Aboriginal elder; enhanced literacy pilot and maintaining the student success initiative at Elmwood High School.

The Board has also addressed aligning its limited resources with student needs. The Draft Budget includes cost saving measures related to efficiencies in delivering compulsory high school physical education credits – where students are earning an external high school credit by participating in out-of-school sports activities; moving from a universal subsidy for the milk program and band instrument program to a needs based support level; program lifecycle; data driven instruction funds retargeted from Comprehensive Assessment (CAP); improvement in business administration including print copier lease savings, fees for office, information systems and research services; support for financial controls, language evaluation and external communications.

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To implement the proposals for consultation, maintain existing programs and services and achieve a balanced budget, the Board proposes a property tax increase of \$62 per year or 5% on the average assessed property of \$203,900 in the Winnipeg School Division, which includes the proposed enhancements. The Draft Budget balances the needs of students, maintains the building and equipment infrastructure of the Division, adds new programs and service enhancements and manages tax dollars responsibly.

Committee members were informed that since 2006 the net school tax on an average assessed home in the Division when the education property tax credit is accounted for, has remained relatively stable. The Education Property Tax Credit (EPTC) is currently \$700 per owner occupied home. Seniors are eligible for an additional credit of up to \$1,100 and renters are also eligible for a credit through their income tax.

Committee members had discussions on the proposed 5% tax increase and reported the following:

Committee members expressed concern on the proposed changes to the milk subsidy and band equipment. Committee members indicated that the milk and band programs are essential to schools.

Committee members questioned why the Board would consider additional programs, while cutting other services and resulting in the need to raise property taxes.

Committee members expressed concern on the expansion of the full day kindergarten pilot program in four schools without sufficient research on whether the program is beneficial to children. Committee members expressed concern that families are enrolling in the program to meet child care needs. Committee members requested that funding for the full day kindergarten be utilized in more important areas.

Committee members supported programs that benefit students, but urged the Board of Trustees to be mindful that senior citizens have limited income and a property tax hike may have a negative impact on them.

Committee members expressed concern on the operation of lunch programs. Committee members indicated it would be beneficial to have the lunch program operated by paid Division staff as opposed to parent council members and volunteers.

Committee members expressed concern on the implementation of additional language programs and questioned at what point can the Division no longer accommodate requests for language programs. Committee members were informed that the Division has a policy on language instruction (Policy IGAL – Language Instruction) that outlines the requirements for establishing a language program such as student enrolment, continuation of the course and availability of qualified certified teachers. Committee members were advised that the Board is always willing to consider requests for language programs should criteria be met and there is sufficient space available.

Committee members expressed concern on the loss of property taxes on buildings that are tax exempt. Committee members were informed that the Province provides the Winnipeg School Division with Equalization payment in the amount of approximately \$55 million to address fiscal challenges.

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Committee members were informed that the Accessibility for Manitobans Act will have a financial impact on the Winnipeg School Division as it requires all Manitoba organizations including school divisions to establish a plan by 2017 on the implementation on the requirements to meet the legislation.

Committee members expressed concern on the Provincial K-3 class size initiative as they continue to experience large classroom sizes. Committee members were informed that the initiative is intended to enhance the quality of education in schools, by providing students with more one-on-one time with their teachers. School divisions have five years to fully implement the initiative. This will mean that by September 2017, all K-3 classes will need to be in compliance with the guidelines.

Committee members were informed that there is a Budget presentation on the Winnipeg School Division's website along with a Budget simulator, property tax calculator and survey.

Committee members were informed that in addition to budget presentations at District Advisory Committee meetings, information is available on the Division's website. A Public meeting will also be held on February 22, 2016 at Administration Building No. 1, 1577 Wall Street East at 7:00 p.m. to provide budget information to the general public and receive feedback from individuals or groups that may wish to attend as well there is a survey posted on the Division's website www.wsd1.org. The deadline to receive feedback regarding the budget will be received by the Board until February 26, 2016. All feedback will be considered by the Finance/Personnel Committee. The Board of Trustees will approve the budget at its meeting to be held March 7, 2016.

3. AUDIT PROCESS

The Chair of the Committee raised under New Business, the possibility of conducting an audit of the Winnipeg School Division by an outside organization to identify where funding is being spent and possible savings on redundant or duplicated services. Committee members were informed there are many functions within the Division which are audited and closely monitored. The Division hires an external company to audit the financials to ensure the Division is fiscally responsible. As well, student progress is constantly monitored and programs are audited routinely to ensure supports continue to meet the needs of students in the Division. In addition, catchment areas, along with Division facilities are also closely monitored. Committee members were informed that there is constant evaluations of programs and services by the Board of Trustees. Committee members were informed that the Department of Education also has expectations and requirements that school divisions must meet. Committee members were informed that at a meeting held February 1, 2016, the Board of Trustees approved a recommendation to conduct a feasibility study on transportation, and have consultation with stakeholders to identify efficiencies for the delivery of services.

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4. FOR INFORMATION

4.1 District Advisory Reports and Summaries of Discussions

Committee members were informed that at a meeting held December 7, 2015, the Board of Trustees received the Central District Advisory Committee Report and Summary of Discussions as information. The Summary of Discussions have been distributed to Committee members the week of December 7, 2015. Committee members were informed that once reviewed by the Board, District Advisory Committee Reports and Summaries of Discussions are posted on the Division's website under the Family and Community tab.

5. ENQUIRIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SCHOOL REPORTS

SCHOOL REPORTS

Parent representatives from the following schools provided a written report (attached) on school activities:

- Cecil Rhodes School
- Clifton School
- Daniel McIntyre Collegiate Institute
- Elmwood High School
- Isaac Brock School
- Principal Sparling School
- Tec Voc High School

6. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting of the Central District Advisory Committee will be held Wednesday, May 4, 2016 at a location to be determined.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Representatives:

Carrie Johnston, Cecil Rhodes School
Ron Balilo, Daniel McIntyre Collegiate
May Hupé, Elmwood High School
Jason Neiser, École George V School
Arlene Reid, Glenelm School
Bonnie Benson, Glenelm School
Jolene Schnerch, Isaac Brock School
Liz Jackimec, Isaac Brock School
Simon Wormenor, École Sacre-Coeur
Horacio Medeiros, Sargent Park School
Glenda Bork, Tec Voc High School
Marla Friesen, Wolseley School

Alternate Representatives

École George V School
Ecole Sacre-Coeur

Regrets:

Greenway School
Kent Road School
Lord Selkirk School
River Elm School

Administration:

Celia Caetano-Gomes, Superintendent of Education Services
Julie Smerchanski, Director of Assessment & Instruction
Tom Bobby, Acting Secretary-Treasurer
Anne Pereira, Principal, Cecil Rhodes School
Rosanna Guzzi, Vice-Principal, Daniel McIntyre Collegiate
Paulo Texeira, Vice-Principal, Daniel McIntyre Collegiate
Mike Babb, Principal, Elmwood School
Melody Woloschuk, Principal, Isaac Brock School
Lisa Calvez, Principal, École Sacre-Coeur
Luba Krosney, Principal, Sargent Park School
Rick Horaska, Acting Principal, Tec Voc High School
Michelle Sacco, Vice-Principal, Tec Voc High School
Suzanne Mole, Principal, Wolseley School

Trustees:

Allan Beach
Kevin Freedman
Cathy Collins



Cecil Rhodes School Parent Council

1570 Elgin Ave. W.
Winnipeg MB R3E 1C2
Phone: 204-783-9012
Fax: 204-775-5438
cecilrhodes@wsd1.org

February 2015

Cecil Rhodes School is a Nursery – Grade 9 school located in the Weston area. We have a population of over 650 students. We support many exciting academic and extracurricular programs for our students.

Basketball teams are up and running with our grade 7,8, and 9 students. We have five teams practicing and competing this fall. Play Run Have Fun will be on Mondays and Gymnastics for grade 3 will be on Wednesdays after school.

Our grade 7 -9 students have just completed auditions for "The Wizard of Oz". We will be staging this play at the end of April.

Our grade 9 students are planning a Western Canada Trip that will focus on the history and Geography of Canada. They are currently fundraising with Domino's Pizza cards. Their trip will be in May 2016.

We have a breakfast program that is attended by 80 - 90 children each day. Leadership students help in the program, serving warm and healthy food to our children.

The CRS Parent council runs a lunch program for the elementary students. We have approximately 90 student stay for lunch on a daily basis.

The Cecil Rhodes School Video Club won first place in Canada for the "Panasonic Kids Witness News Global Video Contest". Approximately 5000 children from 553 schools in 19 countries around the world participated this year. We are thrilled that we were selected as the top submission in Canada. Please click on the link to see our video "Compost With Us".

Our school is hosting an "I Love to Learn" evening on February 18. This evening will showcase math and literacy learning at all grade levels at our school. All families and community members are welcome to attend.

~The Cecil Rhodes School Parent Council~



CLIFTON SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL

1070 Clifton Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3E 2T7
204-783-7792

Principal Report for the Clifton School Parent Council

February, 2016

Clifton School is a Nursery to grade 6 school with 204 students. We have 13 teachers and 8 support staff.

Clifton School Mission Statement

Through the spirit of harmony and generosity, our aim at Clifton School is to foster a caring, safe, and inclusive learning environment where the best in each child is expected and nurtured.

We had Meet the Staff night on September 14th. We had many families come out and meet with the staff at Clifton. It was great to have a chance to reconnect after the summer holidays.

The lunch program is run by the Clifton School Parent Advisory Council. There is a monthly fee for each child. Milk is provided free of charge for the lunch program students.

The Parent Advisory Council have been involved in many activities this year.

- Supervision of the lunch program
- Fund raising for school materials and field trips
- Social activities, i.e. Community movie night, June Barbeque, hot dog day

We have had many opportunities for the students to be involved in both sports and club programs such as:

- Volleyball
- Soccer
- Spongee
- Art Club
- Drama Club
- Skipping Club

Music/Bells/Choir/Dance:

There are three hand bell groups this year, with a quintet as well. We have an advanced bells, Intermediate Bells and Beginner Bells. The bells group had three special performances. They played for the Friendship Force, Thompson in the Park and at Clifton school Winter Concert. The Grade 5 class will be participating as one of the movement groups performing at the WSO concert on March 9th.

The Parent Council meet monthly and they are currently planning a Family Movie Night on April 8th.



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MR. L. BELMORE - PRINCIPAL MRS. R. GUZZI - VICE-PRINCIPAL MR. D. DI FABRIZIO - VICE-PRINCIPAL

DMCI PARENT ADVISORY REPORT February 3, 2016

1. Open House and Registration
 - a. Open House will be held on the evening of February 25th 6-8pm; all are welcome
 - b. Trade show in gym with performances from the choir, dance, and band programs
 - c. Specialized course presentations in the library: engineering, economics, medical, AP/enriched, and career internship
 - d. Returning students will register online within the school in early March 2016
 - e. New 2016-2017 Registrations will be available during the week of Feb. 22 – 26.

2. Leadership Initiatives
 - a. We currently have 183 students in our leadership program. We do incredible amounts of volunteering at DMCI and have partnerships with several businesses around the community.

3. Youth in Philanthropy Initiatives
 - a. Yip was able to raise \$130 for Siloam Mission as well as contribute over 800+ items to the Christmas Cheerboard drive.
 - b. They sponsored 2 local families and participated in the Safeway Cares event.
 - c. They have had a fantastic year planning for their community site visits.
 - d. This spring they will be running a "camping in the quad for a cause" (name still in progress) and looking to book a couple of volunteer days in the community.

4. Business and Information Technology
 - a. Shi-Ann McDonald won Grand Prize (\$1000!) in the eHealth Video Competition. She created an animation of her experiences in the healthcare system. Her video will be presented at an upcoming conference and she has also been asked to make a short presentation. She will also be paid for her appearance at the conference. Shi-Ann made the animation as part of her coursework in 2D Animation and 3D Modeling.

5. Athletics
 - a. Football highlights of the season included a successful recapture of the Minto Bowl: the perennial match played between DMCI and Tec Voc each fall season in which a bowl is awarded by our local MLA Andrew Swan for "Supremacy of Football in the West End". Our season ended as it had begun – with a close loss to the Neelin Spartans who would go on to win the divisional title."
 - b. Cross-Country had a solid season with some new faces showing up to compete.
 - c. The ultimate teams had a strong showing in league and an equally strong showing in the Hold Back the Snow tournament.
 - d. Varsity Girls and Boys volleyball lost in the division Semi's
 - e. JV girls volleyball lost in the division semi final



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- f. JV Boys volleyball won their 10th division title in a row
 - g. Basketball teams are very competitive within league play
 - h. The JV Girls basketball team has been ranked as high as 8th in the province
 - i. All 4 basketball teams are travelling to Regina to play in the Campbell and RIT tournaments
 - j. Boys soccer has been competing in the Canlan indoor soccer league
 - k. Indoor Track has competed in three meets to this point and kids are improving through their training leading to personal bests
6. Promotion of Health and Wellness
- a. More and more students are using the fitness centre during spares, as well as, before and after school; students are recognizing that exercise is an important component of a healthy lifestyle and well being.
7. Performing Arts
- a. DMCI's Finest raised \$1500 in October for the Heart & Stroke Foundation
 - b. DMCI's Finest had a great performance at PEG City dance showcase on Dec 20th. They were the only high school showcasing.
 - c. Melody & Movement dance recital involving 75 students was a success. Over 250 family/peer members attended.
 - d. Meldrick Agravante, a DMCI graduate, is now a student at The School for Music Vocations at SouthWestern Community College
 - e. DMCIce (our senior jazz choir) will be sang on Classic 107 in December on the 4 pm radio slot. They sang a couple of seasonal tunes, and a couple of our members (Joshua Rego and Elishia Ratel) were interviewed about the school and the music program.
 - f. Our winter concert, celebrating our music program, held on December 10th received many rave reviews, including praise from staff and students at Wellington School. They said they were very proud of our music department and in how much it has accomplished. The students had inspired students from Wellington School to want to attend DMCI for the music program.
Congratulations!!!

Central District Advisory
Elmwood High School Report for February 3, 2016

1. Congratulations to T.J. Prodon who received the WHSFL's Outstanding Offensive Player Award in the Vidruk Division as the leading rusher with just over 1000 yards.
2. Elmwood hosted the rehearsals for the WSD Honour Band, an annual tradition, and commends the Division for the Honour Band & Honour Choir program that enriches young musicians and singers across the Division. The experiences gained from the guest conductors are exceptionally valuable and the final performances outstanding.
3. Our Celebration of the Arts and Talent Show events celebrated the Arts extremely well.
4. The Grade 10-12 Day of Service and the Grade 9 Cyberbullying Forum both went well.
5. Our Middle Years will be running a Human Rights week that will include learning around Truth and Reconciliation.
6. The MPI Kick-Off of Kevin Brook's/MPI Friends for Life presentation allowed our students to hear a heart-felt story of the tragedy that can result from impaired driving.
7. Our Student Success Initiative is now a model program and continues to host school and division teams from across the province. It is an effective whole school program primarily focussing on supporting learning in Sr. High, but has also been credited by Dr. Laara Fitznor's research with Indspire as a program that supports Aboriginal students' success exceptionally well.
8. Our Literacy team that developed our school-wide Literacy program through SSI will be one of two Canadian groups presenting at the International Literacy Conference in Boston MA this July. Support from the division's reading clinicians, the ELA consultants and Literacy support teacher have been greatly appreciated as has MSIP support and Carol Hryniuk-Adamov's nomination to present.
9. We are pleased to announce that we will be co-hosting the 2016 Arctic Climate Change Youth Forum (ACCYF) on December 5, 2016 with Schools on Board, the Centre for Earth Observation Science, the University of Manitoba, Climate Change Connections and ArticNet. It runs in conjunction with the ArcticNet Annual Science Meeting that will be hosted in Winnipeg next December.
10. We will once again be competing in the Envirothon and the Robotics competitions.
11. Our school-wide Composting and Recycling programs are going well.
12. Our White Ribbon Campaign continues to encourage young men to take a stand against violence against women and we will become a part of a Winnipeg Blue Bomber program that will run a workshop with the Elmwood Giants sports teams to Break the Silence on Violence Against Women that was developed with the federal government and the Province of Manitoba through the Status of Women Canada and Manitoba Status of Women.
13. Sports underway are Basketball, Indoor Soccer, Indoor Track and Field and Wrestling.

Principal/Vice-Principal's Report
Elmwood Parent Council Meeting - January 27, 2016

1. Pure Joy – 1st Time Tobagganning
2. Take Pride Winnieg Fashion Show out of Recycled Material*
3. The Celebration of the Arts and the Talent Show highlighted the Arts extremely well.
4. WSD Honour Band & Honour Choir*

An especially moving piece that students will remember for the rest of their lives was *Scenes from Terezin* that incorporated poetry and art created by the children of Terezin during a horrific time that was captured in the book *I never saw another butterfly*.

A little garden,
fragrant and full of roses.
The path the little boy trudges
is exceedingly narrow.

A small boy,
tender like a budding blossom ...
but when the blossoms bloom,
The little boy will be no more.

Franta (Frantisek) Bass was born in Brno on September 4, 1930. He was deported to the Terezín concentration camp on December 2, 1941, and died in Auschwitz on October 28, 1944. He was only fourteen years old when he was murdered.

A beautiful piece, *Lullaby*, followed this heart wrenching performance and the evening ended with *Snowflakes Dancing* that could easily be envisioned from Manitoba experiences.

The guest conductors Melissa Morgan and Dr. Scott Jones did a remarkable job and our Division's band and choral teachers are to be commended for this spectacular event. It truly signified the power of the Arts.

5. Canadian Academy of Travel and Tourism (CATT)

CATT kids have signed up with Take Pride Winnipeg and "I Love To Read" month.

So, during the month of February they will be heading out to elementary schools and reading one of four books themed around taking care of our environment and climate change! Some of our kids will be the Take Pride Wpg mascot, Louie the Lion to assist with presentations.

CATT students have also signed up with Good Neighbours Senior Center to run mini workshops on basic computer skills. This includes: working with iPads, using emails, and anything else the seniors want to learn. We always help with the centers year end luncheon, but this is an excellent opportunity to bridge the generations, and hopefully build understanding and appreciation for young and old alike!

Ms Winger is pretty excited about both of these on top of what the CATT students already are involved with. It is a privilege to be involved with these stellar young adults who truly are leaders. We also have a number of students now volunteering at the MCC thrift shop this year, which is great for our community.

Some fortunate CATT students were also interviewed and chosen to be part of the Silverwing Ambassador Program at the airport again this year. The students get 55 hours of volunteer time at the International Airport, and certification once they meet requirements.

About 20 students gained certification in Food Handlers, training provided by ECRC, and a different group of approximately 20 students obtained their First Aid Level 1 by ECRC as well.

6. Our Flex classes are going to the Wpg Art Gallery on Tuesday to study the Pythagorean Theorem and make art related to it. This grant was kindly provided by the Winnipeg Art Gallery.
7. Sports Underway
 - Basketball* – Jr. High & Sr. High – 6 Teams
Tier 2 in Varsity Boys & Girls and in JV Boys & Girls
 - Indoor Track & Field – Jr. High & Sr. High
 - Indoor Soccer – Jr. High & Sr. High – 1st season for EHS
The 8th annual Inner City Soccer Jamboree at the Winnipeg Soccer Federation complex will be held on January 28 – elementary schools, January 29 – junior high and high school teams
All games played at the Winnipeg Soccer Federation Subway South Soccer Complex – from 10:00 AM – 2:00 PM
 - Wrestling – Jr. High & Sr. High
 - Special Olympics Competitions
8. WSD Community Report
9. 2016-2017 Budget
10. We were asked to host the Arctic Climate Change Youth Forum Conference* on December 5, 2016. It runs in conjunction with the ArcticNet International Science Conference so scientists will be available to present. Students choose the themes of the conference and take an active role in running it. We are working with Schools on Board and the Climate Change Connection.
11. On Line Registration this year.
12. Middle Years Human Rights Week – Truth and Reconciliation. Our teachers are working with the Manitoba Museum and the Winnipeg Art Gallery to create a curriculum about Truth and Reconciliation.
13. What used to be the Central District Advisory – Budget Information February 3 7:00 PM at Sacre Coeur - 809 Furby
14. We did deal with a tragic situation and supported the family, students and staff as best we could.
15. The MPR needs six new lights. A \$1000 grant could get two. We are covering the cost of a new monitor and new cables.
16. We were successful on the MCSC grant for laptops for our carts – we will get \$12,000 in January and can earn another \$6000 by working 3 Bingos in the April-MAY-June quarter. We received an additional \$4000 from our Director Brad Corbett.
17. The Science Labs and Cafeteria should be completed shortly. We will be getting one more science lab from the province.

Isaac Brock School Parent Advisory Council Report

February 2016

Academics

- ☞ - We had Grade 5 and 6 students attending the STEAM program (Science, Technology, Engineering, Art, and Math) at Rockwood School
- ☞ - We had Grade 7 and 8 students attending the Inner City Science Lab at Niji Mahkwa for science enrichment.
- ☞ - Grade 9 students continue to attend Aboriginal Youth Leadership Program.
- Eight teachers from Grades 3-8 and Administration continue to participate in the WSD Math Course.
- Targeted intervention provided by teachers and EAs help ensure student success for all students including our Integrated Special Education students, Special Education Centre students, English as an Additional Language students, and Learning Assistant Centre students.
- ☞ - Junior High Autism Program- the sensory room is now completed and construction for the classroom has begun.
- We have junior high students continuing to attend the Everybody Has the Right summits at St. John's High School to meet Mayor Bowman's challenge to combat racism.
- Student Council planned and led an assembly regarding the Everybody Has the Right summits. They demonstrated the Human Knot game and then toured classrooms to facilitate the game in each room.
- Student Council held a Holiday Spirit Week.
- ☞ - Wiggle Giggle Munch ended in December. This is a program for community families and their toddlers with a focus on healthy lifestyles including nutrition, physical activity, and literacy.
- Staff participated in an Aboriginal Blanket Activity led by a WSD Aboriginal Education Consultant, Marsha Missyabit. Staff experienced Canada's history from an Aboriginal perspective which was very powerful and touching.
- ☞ - Isaac Brock School hosted an Open House/Information Session to promote our new Ojibwe and Cree Bilingual Programs (starting in Kindergarten) beginning next school year. The event was well attended by community

members from WSD and greatly supported by Isaac Brock staff and students, WSD Board of Trustees, Senior Administration, and the Aboriginal Education team. We have received many emails and phone calls thanking us for the great hospitality provided by staff and student ambassadors.

- Ojibwe and Cree Language classes for WSD staff, high school students and community members begins this month at PCERC Thursday evenings at 5:00 p.m. starting February 11th.
- French from grade 4-8 are focussed on Festival Du Voyageur.
- February is I Love to Read Month. Many fun activities are planned to promote a love of literacy such as a Magic Show assembly with Ryan Price, Staff Book Recommendations, Book Trivia, Drop Everything and Read, Guest Readers and a Reading Spirit Week.
- ✎ - Cup Stacking Club for Grades 2 and 3 begins this month.

Sports/Athletics/Clubs

- Boys and Girls Basketball is underway. Isaac Brock students continue to show great sportsmanship both on and off the court.
- ✎ - Grade 6 skiing has begun. Fifteen students attend lessons at Windsor Park weekly for five weeks.
- Grade 4 and 5 intramurals: ringette, basketball
- A Green Team has formed at Isaac Brock School. They have met with Recycle Everywhere and have ordered recycling bins for outside and inside and will organize an assembly for all students.

Music/Band/Choir

- ✎ - Echo and Sound received a special invitation to sing at the Millennium Library in December.
- ✎ - Echo, Sound, Grade 9 Band, and select Grade 8 students recorded a soundtrack for a scene in Winnipeg Mennonite Theatre's production of Improbable Fiction.
- We had a Christmas Concert held December 17th. It was very well attended and enjoyed by all.



PRINCIPAL SPARLING SCHOOL

Winnipeg School Division, Central District
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L. Pang, Principal
lpang@wsd1.org

February 3, 2016

Principal Sparling School Report:

Everybody Has The Right...

Our school is participating in Mayor Bowman's Everybody Has The Right conferences held at St. John's High School. Three students participated in 2 sessions and were involved in activities and discussions with other school students about diversity and racism.

"We are learning how people feel (empathy) and including everyone (inclusion), this means to include all cultures".

Madeline, Shanoya & Maegan

In conjunction with this initiative, we are creating a design for our school to be placed on a silk banner. This banner will celebrate and support cultural diversity.

STEAM (Science, Technology, Engineering, Arts & Math Program):

Three of our students participated in the STEAM Program this year. The students went to Rockwood School and used technology to explore different subjects around the world.

"We used the computer to program a robot and build a liveable house using Mind Craft. It was challenging because you had to problem solve and the activities were timed, "Instant Challenges" were group oriented and time limited, we had to really think to be successful, it was fun!" **Alvin, Cielo & Maegan**

Tell Them From Me Survey:

All social and emotional outcomes were above the Canadian Norms. It reflects a positive sense of belonging and feeling safe at Principal Sparling School. Students rate Principal Sparling as a positive learning climate and greatly understand the school's emphasis on academic skills and high expectations to succeed. As a school, we continue to reinforce safety in the community.

Career Trek:

Four students participated in Career Trek this year. Career Trek Inc. helps young people realize the importance of education and career. It shows them the careers available and the education needed to pursue the career. One student enjoyed the construction of a birdhouse and shelving while another student enjoyed the investigation aspect of criminal justice and another really liked the way she was included which made her feel more comfortable to participate in theatre.

Lunch Program:

We have approximately 100 kids in the lunch program on any given day, depending on the number of drop-in kids. We have 7 employees working every lunch hour. Payment for the month is due on the 1st. Most parents pay on time but for those who need reminders, I send home a letter with their children halfway through the month. Typically one reminder letter is all that is needed, and those parents come into the school to pay immediately.

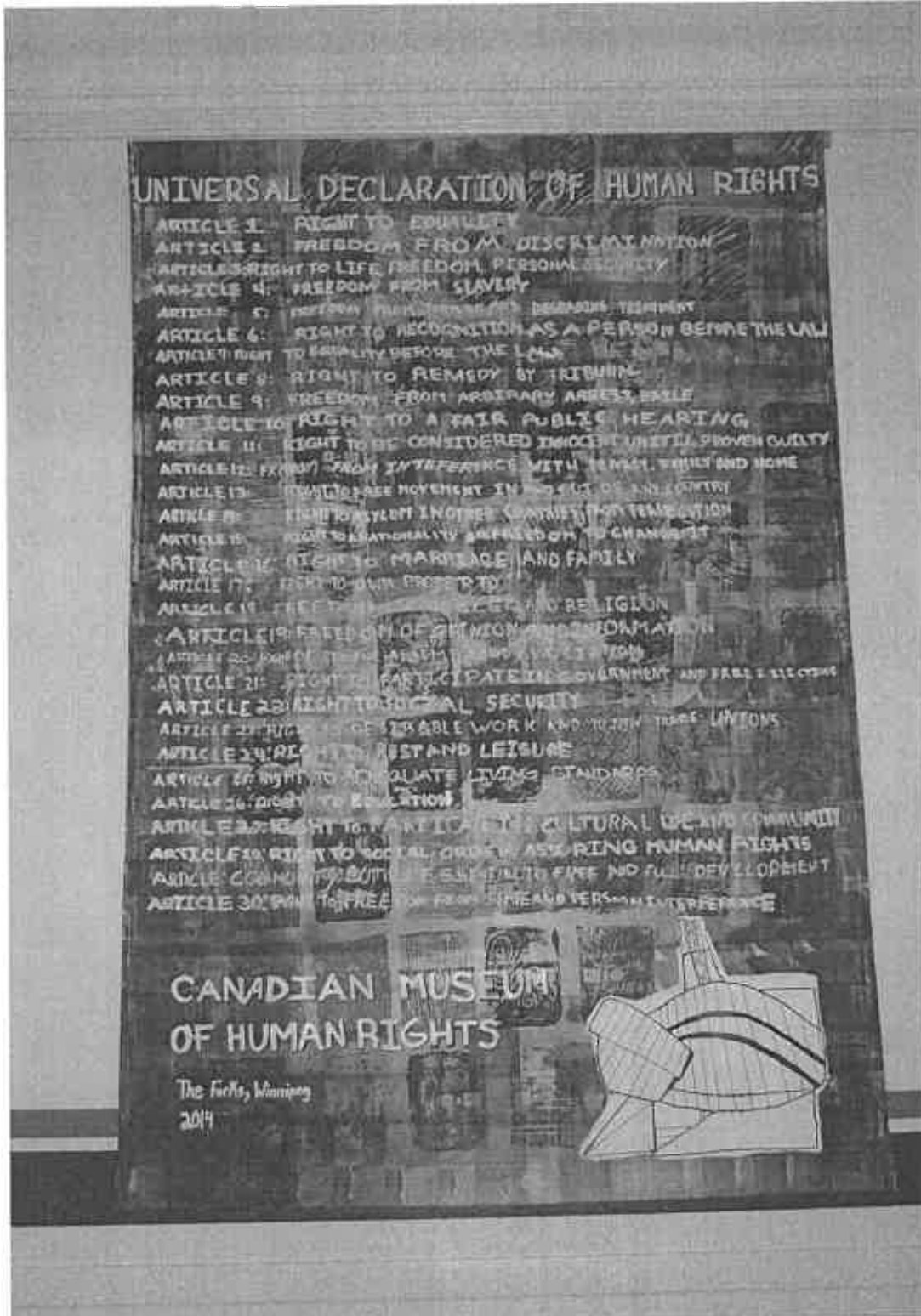
Using Mentor Texts to Motivate and Support Student Writers!

The teachers of Principal Sparling attended a Mentors with Text Workshop all day on November 13, 2016 with writers; Lynn Dorfman and Rose Cappelli. In their first book, Mentor Texts, Lynne Dorfman and Rose Cappelli demonstrate how teachers can use children's literature to guide and inspire student writers of narrative fiction and poetry. Now, they have turned their focus to nonfiction, identifying a wide range of mentor texts and showing how these models illustrate the key features of good writing.

As a whole school initiative, teachers will share writing samples from using Mentor texts in their classrooms at our next P.D. day on February 5th, 2016. As part of this day, teachers will also make connections to the new Writing Continuum/Assessment that is designed to assess student progress in writing from Grade 1-6. The writing tool assesses the student's ability to independently write for a variety of purposes. (Narrative/Persuasive and Informational). The

process will support teachers in monitoring student progress, assisting in selection of materials and learning tasks best suited to student needs and as a means of measuring progress over time against provincial expectations.

Our declaration of Human Rights is displayed beside our library



The first semester at Tec-Voc High School for the 2015-2016 school year will end on Friday, January 29. The second set of report cards will be distributed to students on February 24. The next parent conferences will take place on March 17. The application process for 2016-2017 will be a part of these conferences. The application process for Tec-Voc students will take place on March 9.

Examinations are scheduled at Tec-Voc High School for the period February 1-4. The students have been provided with the schedule in January. The Tec Learning Centre will be open for studying during the examination period. The grade 12 students will complete the provincial tests in Mathematics January 26-28 and English Language Arts January 11-14.

This holiday season Tec-Voc students got into the spirit following the motto, think green, act gold. The staff and students participated in several events demonstrating their kindness towards others. First we donated over 600 books at the Toy Mountain event, which collects presents for children for the Cheer Board. We then hosted the Dufferin students for our annual holiday party. Student volunteers ensured the elementary students had fun making crafts, dancing, eating and even visiting Santa. Our next challenge was to create and deliver 29 hampers to Tec-Voc students in need filled with non-perishable food items, essential items and much more. We then hosted "Hornets Sting Hunger" in which over \$1500 cash was collected including a load of non-perishable food items for the Cheer Board. Finally to end our year, students and staff went on the blood bus to donate.

Tec-Voc High School will be holding its annual **Open House** on Thursday, March 3 during **Open House Week**. All departments and programs are ready to provide prospective students and parents with information regarding our excellent learning possibilities for students. Feeder schools have been contacted and will be visiting February 29-March 3. In addition students and staff will visit a few of the schools to speak to students and parents.

The annual W.I.T. basketball extravaganza was a great success, January 13-16. This year Tec-Voc extended a warm welcome to some of the top high school basketball teams from Manitoba. The Tec-Voc Hornets hosted to the Sisler Spartans, Kelvin Clippers, DMCI Maroons, St. James Jimmies, Maples Marauders, Glenlawn Lions, SJR Eagles, MBCI Hawks and the Sir Winston Churchill Bulldogs from Thunder Bay with the Sisler defeating Maples in the final. All tournament games were streamed live to the internet. A successful addition to the festivities this year was the pop-up Vesper Café particularly for the Saturday putine bar. The involvement of Tec-Voc students was spectacular this year particularly in the stands. We would like to thank our many sponsors for again helping to make this a great event.

Tec-Voc students took part in the recent WSD honours band and choir concert.

The staff and students from the L.I.N.K. program spent two days in December giving to others at Siloam Mission. Students from L.I.N.K. volunteer at Winnipeg Harvest on a weekly basis. In addition the whole school delivered 31 Hampers to appreciative Tec Voc students and their families

The Tec-Voc production of "Almost Maine" in December was a great success with a total of five performances. The Performing Arts Winter Showcase displayed the talents of a variety of our students.

The Travel Club Leaves for Paris and London during Spring Break 2016. The tour itinerary includes stops at Buckingham Palace, Big Ben, The Houses of Parliament and The National Portrait Gallery in Trafalgar Square. After London the group will take the Eurostar Express Train under the English Channel and arrive in the City of Lights, Paris. In Paris we will visit the Louvre, see the Mona Lisa, tour the Musee d'Orsey and enjoy the street life of Paris. The club is in its first year of a four year arc featuring countries and communities relating Canada to the world wars. Our trip this coming spring break features Paris and London and how these cities were affected by World War II.

Tec Voc Aboriginal student council observed the Winter Solstice a bit early with a noon hour celebration on December 15.

The annual ski and snowboard trip to Assissippi takes place March 10 and 11.

Tec-Voc will celebrate the Festival de Voyageur on Friday, February 19 during the noon hour on the field area outside the main doors. Activities include a variety of winter activities, Slooshing, a Voyageur Photo Booth, Music and Entertainment and of course food.

The school will be closed for the semester break on February 5 and for professional development on March 18.

10:47 AM the Tec-Voc hockey program held the first staff-student game on Friday, January 22 with two more to follow on Friday February 19/16 and Friday March 11/16.

The annual multi-media presentation by the MADD organization will take place on March 4.

Graduating students will be visiting the campuses of the three major post-secondary institutions in Winnipeg the week of February 16.

Teacher candidates from the University of Manitoba, University of Winnipeg and Red River College will be in the school developing their practice over the next several months.

Many Tec-Voc students will participate in the Waterloo Mathematics contest on February 24.

Tec-Voc High School will celebrate Nutrition week beginning March 7.

Daily highlights of the great learning and activities at Tec-Voc can be accessed on Twitter using #TecVoc.

MENU ITEMS \$1 each

- **Meat Pies (Tourtières)**
- **Split Pea & Ham soup (Soupe aux pois)**
- **Bannock**
- **Sugar Pie (Tartes au sucre)**
- **Hot Chocolate (Chocolat chaud)**