



WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION

# WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION

2017/2018

ANNUAL  
REPORT  
TO THE  
COMMUNITY

ENGAGED, CONFIDENT, INSPIRED  
AND SUCCESSFUL LEARNERS



## 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.**

# Message from the Chair of the Board

The Winnipeg School Division (WSD) Senior Administration and Board of Trustees continues to work collaboratively to implement new initiatives to strengthen the division's efforts in numeracy and literacy. WSD's top priority, which is consistent with provincial direction, is to help our students successfully achieve grade-level or above in literacy and math. Our goal is to do this while also ensuring students are engaged, confident, inspired learners.

During the 2017/2018 school year, we celebrate growth and achievement within WSD. In September, 30 WSD students from our Roots and Shoots program

met with founder, Jane Goodall, an animal-rights activist and scientist. In February, we celebrated the opening of the new Ecole Laura Secord gymnasium – an accessible addition to the school and the community. Progress is happening, as well, with the construction of a new school for the division in the northwest corner where we have seen a significant growth in population.

On May 30, WSD hosted its first Celebration Pow Wow on the Tec Voc High School grounds – an amazing event welcoming hundreds of students, singers, dancers and story tellers. WSD is among the first Canadian school

divisions to establish initiatives to support Indigenous education, beginning with a “Native Education Consulting Teacher” in 1979 and adopting an Indigenous Education Policy in 1996. In the WSD Strategic Priorities, continuously developing indigenous education initiatives is a key strategy.

On behalf of the WSD Board of Trustees, thank you for your continued support for the initiatives that make this school division unique for our community.

**SHERRI ROLLINS**  
BOARD CHAIR  
WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION

# Message from the Chief Superintendent and CEO

The annual report to the community is a reflection upon the activities of the division and its staff and students from the past year. In these pages, we have included updates on important projects that align with our strategic plan and are making a difference in the lives of WSD students. These include the WSD Mobile Vision Unit, which is addressing one of the key issues in literacy – that of proper vision. Sight corrections are made to allow students to read and be

engaged in the classroom. There is also an update on the Swimming Counts program, introduced in January to teach students how to stay safe around waterways and how to survive until help arrives.

Once more this year, several staff from Winnipeg School Division were recognized by the Province of Manitoba for their excellence in education. We congratulate these educators and all of our staff who contribute so much to the growth and development of the more than

33,000 students attending school in WSD.

We are proud to share this report to members of our community and encourage you to learn more about Winnipeg School Division by visiting our website at [winnipegssd.ca](http://winnipegssd.ca). We thank you for your support of education and social development for our young people.

**PAULINE CLARKE**  
CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT AND CEO  
WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION



## LEADING THE WAY

### YOUTH FOR SUSTAINABLE LIVING STUDENT LED CONFERENCE

A committee of 12 WSD Students played a major role in organizing the first-ever WSD Youth for Sustainable Living conference in May 2018 at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights. Grade 7 to 12 students from across WSD attended, focusing on three thematic pillars of sustainability: Expose (the problem); Empower (the masses); Educate (the people).

In addition to workshops ranging from food equity to building solar heaters out of recycled materials, students also heard from keynote speakers on social justice, economic factors and the environment. Keynote speakers included: Senator Marilou McPhedran, a human rights lawyer, professor and activist, appointed as an independent senator in the Parliament of Canada by Prime Minister Justin Trudeau in November 2016; Susan Lindsay, a graduate of the University of Manitoba and Climate Change educator; and Sam Anthony and Tristan Schneider, founders of Twin River Travel, a local company that provides accessible, sustainable wilderness experiences.

## SWIMMING COUNTS!

WSD, in partnership with the City of Winnipeg, Canadian Red Cross and the Lifesaving Society of Canada launched a new water safety program in January 2018. The program instruction on staying safe in and around water to the division's approximately 2,300 Grade 4 students. Grade 4 is considered an ideal time to provide this training, as students have the necessary independence and understanding at this age. Students complete the program, which includes one classroom session and three pool-based sessions, by being able to tread water uninterrupted for one minute, swim 50 meters unassisted and do a forward roll into water.



## WSD MOBILE VISION UNIT

WSD Student Services identified a tremendous need for vision care for the entire student bodies of division schools with socioeconomic challenges. A group of doctors of optometry, working under the direction of Sean Sylvester, chief executive officer of the Mobile Vision Care unit, started doing comprehensive eye exams for students in October 2017. By the end of June 2018, 4,161 students had comprehensive eye exams and 1,662 of those required prescription eye glasses

while another 42 students were referred to specialist for other vision interventions.

A provision of the program is to provide prescription eyewear to the students through direct-billing of third party insurance, employment income assistance, non-insured health benefits or donation. As part of the mobile vision care program, the costs of the eye examinations are billed directly to Manitoba Health, ensuring the testing is provided at zero cost to the school or the student.



## INTERNATIONAL EDUCATION PROGRAM

WSD Board of Trustees introduced the WSD International Education Program (IEP) in September 2017. The program was quickly embraced by the International community and 24 students registered in the first year in both elementary and high school grades. During its inaugural year, IEP partnered with Canada Homestay Network to provide host family recruitment and student placement. In addition, IEP partnered with guard.me International for private, comprehensive health insurance. The Winnipeg School Division's International Education Program is accredited by and proud member of the Canadian Association of Public Schools-International, the Manitoba Council of International Education and EduCanada.



## WSD CONCUSSION PROTOCOL

Winnipeg School Division's new Concussion Protocol was introduced in December 2017 to aid administrators and staff in the management of students who have sustained a suspected concussion as the result of participating in school and sport activities. The protocol is based on Parachute Canada's recently published Canadian Guideline on Concussion in Sport.

The protocol includes information on the definition of a concussion, possible mechanisms of injury, common signs and symptoms, steps that can be taken to prevent concussions and other injuries, steps to take when a student has suffered a suspected concussion or more serious head injury, return-to-school/sport strategies and return-to-school/sport medical clearance requirements. WSD uses a standardized medical assessment and clearance letters for clear communication between medical, school, and sport stakeholders.





# FOSTERING GROWTH

## ÉCOLE LAURA SECORD SCHOOL OPENS NEW GYMNASIUM

École Laura Secord School officially opened its new gymnasium in February 2018.

The dual track French Immersion school in the Wolseley neighbourhood now has a 11,300 sq.ft. gym which is connected

to the existing school via a link-way on the south side of the building. The addition was designed to achieve LEED Silver designation and has a Power Smart Designation. The new construction includes two change rooms, gym storage, a canteen area and a new elevator off the lobby, making the addition fully accessible.

The Manitoba government provided \$5.4 million in support for the project which also features a beautiful river pattern on the south and west walls, and includes a mosaic of archived architectural drawings of the original school building.



## NEW SCHOOL BUILDING UNDERWAY

The Province of Manitoba confirmed in Spring 2018 that a new school will be built in Winnipeg School Division at the southeast corner of Jefferson and King Edward. The school is expected to be open by September 2020. The new school will serve residents in the Waterford Green and Castlebury Meadows subdivision with a Nursery to Grade 8 school for English and Kindergarten to Grade 8 for French.

## LANGUAGE PROGRAMMING

Winnipeg School Division has a vibrant history of providing French immersion and bilingual language programming based on community support. Since 2008/2009, French Immersion enrolment has increased from 3,353 students to 4,560 in 2017/2018. WSD is addressing the continued growth in French immersion enrolment with additional sites including re-opening of École Sir William Osler as a French Milieu school and École Luxton School as a French Dual Track school in 2017. In addition, the new school being built in the division's north west corner will be a French Dual Track school for Kindergarten to Grade 8.

WSD Bilingual Language Programming added three new language offerings in 2016 to the

existing Ukrainian and Hebrew programs already in place. Cree, Ojibwe and Spanish are all now available for 2018/2019 students enrolling in Kindergarten, Grade 1 and Grade 2.

Heritage and ancestral languages are also taught as single subject courses in the following languages and locations:

- Cree – Children of the Earth, Niji Mahkwa
- Filipino – Daniel McIntyre
- Latin – Sisler High School
- Ojibwe – Children of the Earth, Niji Mahkwa
- Spanish – Churchill High School, College Churchill, Grant Park High School, École secondaire Kelvin High School, École River Heights School



## FACTS AT A GLANCE

### Total number of students

(as of Sept.30, 2017) 33,223

Elementary (N – Grade 8)  
22,287

Secondary 10,936

Total number of schools 78

Elementary (N – Grade 8) 64

Secondary 14

Number of graduates  
(as of Sept. 30, 2017) 2,016

Number of nursery  
students 1,769

### Students in language programs:

French Immersion 4,560

Hebrew Bilingual 207

Ukrainian Bilingual 36

Spanish Bilingual 27

Cree Bilingual 17

Ojibwe Bilingual 23

Students identified as  
English-as-an-additional  
language 7,143

Students transported  
to school 2,587

Total number  
of full-time staff 4,587

## ACCESSIBILITY UPDATE - CUSTOMER SERVICE TRAINING

The Accessibility for Manitobans Act (AMA) became law on December 5, 2013. The AMA outlines a clear and proactive process to identify, remove and prevent barriers in key areas of daily living. In response to the legislation, the Manitoba government has developed the following mandatory accessibility standards:

1. The Accessible Customer Service Standard
2. The Accessible Information and Communications Standard
3. The Accessible Built Environment Standard
4. The Employment Accessibility Standard
5. The Accessible Transportation Standard

The Act requires public organizations to prepare accessibility plans that address the identification, prevention, and removal of barriers. Furthermore, it expects that organizations use a team approach when creating the Plan.

The Accessible Customer Service Standard was the first to be implemented and organizations were expected to comply by providing products or services in an efficient, fair, and respectful manner to people of all abilities. The Public Sector organizations were expected to meet all Customer Service Standard requirements by November 2017.

The WSD Multi-Year Accessibility Plan, which can be found on [winnipegdsd.ca](http://winnipegdsd.ca), was updated in 2017/2018 to reflect the following:

- Schools and departments completed the annual form that assists in identifying, preventing and removing barriers;

- Awareness and information on measures, policies and practices were shared with principals and vice-principals to ensure that communication is done in a manner accounting for any barrier that may exist;
- Information on the use of support persons, assistive devices, service animals, built environment was provided to principals and vice-principals to facilitate barrier-free access to goods and services;
- Text to speech programs have been purchased;
- WSD's Building Department prepared a detailed response report on the status of the built environment;
- Training of all staff was completed and documented by using a video that provided instructions on how to interact and communicate with persons disabled by barriers.





# CELEBRATING OUR SUCCESSSES



## STUDENT SPACEFLIGHT EXPERIMENTS PROGRAM

Student teams from two WSD schools had the ultra-rare opportunity to send their science projects into space—with the assistance of astronauts aboard the International Space Station—As part of the Student Spaceflight Experiments Program (SSEP). SSEP is a program of the National Center for Earth and Space Science Education (NCESSSE) in the U.S. and the Arthur C. Clarke Institute for Space Education internationally. It is enabled through a strategic partnership with DreamUp PBC and NanoRacks LLC. Magellan Aerospace is a Canadian National Partner on SSEP, and provided significant local funding support to the WSD STEM program.

The Grosvenor School team of project, studying the Growth of Lacinato Kale in Microgravity, was comprised of Charlie Buehler, Keaton Fish, Quinn McMullan, Kale Peterson, Merrick Williamson, led by Brandy Anderson. The Wolseley School project (Can Yarrow Germinate in Microgravity?) included Kiara Dayson, Madeline Stewart, Betty Ngo, Sariah Dayson, Emelia Stephenson, and was led by Suzanne Mole.

The second place project, from Lord Nelson School, studied the impact microgravity has on the absorption rate of phosphorus by Lemna minor (duckweed) when it returns to Earth (after being exposed to microgravity). They are also measuring the growth rate of Lemna minor in microgravity versus Earth.



  
 The Governor General's Academic Medal    La Médaille académique du Gouverneur général  
 2017 - 2018  
 Le Gouverneur général    Le Gouverneur général  
*Sirak Tewolde*  
The Bronze Medal is awarded to graduates who achieve the highest academic standing in their degree program.  
La Médaille de bronze est décernée aux diplômés qui obtiennent le plus haut rendement académique dans leur programme de baccalauréat.  
*Jake Smith*  
Governor General of Canada    Gouverneur général du Canada  
2017-2018



## GOVERNOR GENERAL'S MEDAL WINNERS

**Mersaides Chartrand**, Argyle Alternative High School  
**Trina White**, Children of the Earth High School  
**Hayley Bray**, Churchill High School  
**Lara Elnagary**, Collège Churchill  
**Kathy Vo**, Daniel McIntyre Collegiate Institute  
**Janina Oreas**, Elmwood High School  
**Sirak Tewolde**, Gordon Bell High School  
**Gyeongwon Lee**, Grant Park High School  
**David Hultin**, Kelvin High School  
**Chase Swampy**, R.B. Russell Vocational High School  
**Arianna Yorski**, Sisler High School  
**Virgil Yau**, St. John's High School  
**Eisel Manimtim**, Tec Voc High School  
**Sachiyo Sakai**, Winnipeg Adult Education Centre

## WSD BOARD POST SECONDARY SCHOLARSHIP WINNERS

**Mersaides Chartrand**, Argyle Alternative High School  
**Trina White**, Children of the Earth High School  
**Jannat Irfan**, Churchill High School  
**Lara Elnagary**, Collège Churchill  
**Kathy Vo**, Daniel McIntyre Collegiate Institute  
**Olajumoke Lawal**, Elmwood High School  
**Malcolm Reimer**, Gordon Bell High School  
**Alexa Mucyo Kayonga**, Grant Park High School  
**Liselle Visda**, Kelvin High School  
**Genielle Cook**, R.B. Russell Vocational High School  
**Arianna Yorski**, Sisler High School  
**Glen Ramalloza**, St. John's High School  
**Aloha Castrence**, Tec Voc High School  
**Justine Desjarlais**, Winnipeg Adult Education Centre

## STAFF AWARDS



**Leslie Dickson**, Elmwood High School—received a Manitoba Excellence in Education Award. Ms. Dickson, who was presented with a Teaching Excellence Award, was one of only nine recipients for these prestigious awards.



**Gabrielle Huggins**, École Sacré-Coeur—received a Manitoba Excellence in Education Award. Ms. Huggins was presented with the Outstanding New Teacher Award.



**Mike Johnston**, R.B. Russell Vocational High School—won the Canadian Welding Association Foundation's Secondary Educator of the Year Award.

# Finance Committee Chair Message

Addressing a budget development for the 2018/2019 school year provided the Winnipeg School Division Board of Trustees an opportunity to find savings that would benefit our division while maintaining programs unique for our community.

As a result of extensive community consultation, the Board of Trustees approved a final budget \$410,984,800 for the fiscal period July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019. The Board was able to meet the needs of rate payers, while dealing with a lack of provincial funding, with a minimal two percent increase to the special requirement. This resulted in a 3.3 percent, or \$45 a year, increase on property taxes for taxpayers within WSD boundaries. This is based on the average assessed value of \$214,200 on a home in WSD.

New this year for WSD is funding the Swimming Counts program initiated in January 2018, and revenue from the WSD International Education Program. There are also funds to address new provincial guidelines for workplace safety in WSD schools and buildings. These guidelines require changes to formaldehyde and formalin specimens in science labs, retrofitting some equipment in industrial arts programs, and a variety of other personal protective and monitoring equipment.

We value the interest of the community in budget deliberations, and found that public support for the school resource officer program and full-day Kindergarten at 11 schools continues to be strong. These programs, as well as addressing needs identified for building maintenance and accessibility articulated in the WSD Building Systems Assessment Report, released by the Board on March 8, 2018, are included in the 2018/2019 budget. It is important to note, however, that deferred maintenance in the form of building systems exceeding their useful life and capital improvements represents a budgeted deficiency of about \$261 million, 75.5 percent of which should be supported by Public Schools Finance Board. These funding needs are assumed over a period of 30 years and will continue to be a significant expense in future budgets.

Funding has also been allocated in this budget to cover an expected \$400,000 carbon tax bill as the result of the Province's "Made-in-Manitoba Climate and Green Plan" proposing a flat carbon pricing of \$25 per tonne.

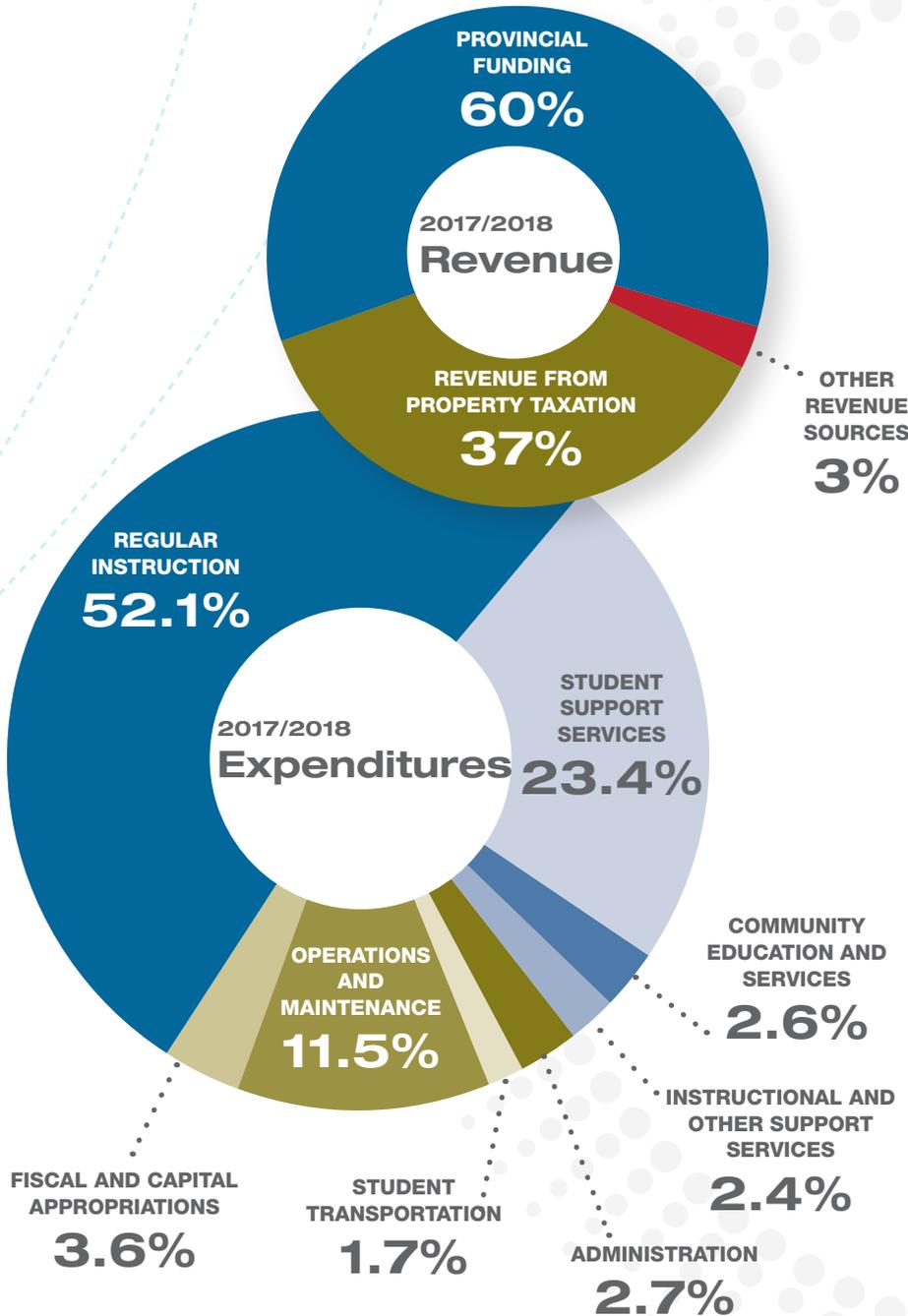
## **BUDGET SAVINGS**

The Board approved \$1,752,900 in cost savings to achieve a balanced budget without impacting programming for students. Savings include a reduction of \$100,000 in travel budgets and \$1,652,900 in vacancy management through attrition.

WSD continues to operate as one of the leanest administration teams in the Province, while providing direction, support and service to the largest school division. WSD administrative costs equal 2.7 percent of total spending, below the 3.0 percent mandated limit for all large urban school divisions in the province.

Meeting the diverse needs of over 33,000 students in Winnipeg School Division is an engaging challenge that our Board of Trustees and Finance Committee embraces annually. We appreciate the interest and input we receive from students, staff, and other members of the community.

**CHRIS BROUGHTON**  
CHAIR, FINANCE/PERSONNEL  
COMMITTEE 2017/2018



**INSTRUCTIONAL**

**Regular Instruction**

All subject areas; language programs; English-as-an-additional language  
\$211,448,104

**Student Support Services**

Special Education; clinical services; resources and counseling  
\$95,277,031

**Community education and services (including adult learning centres)**

Nursery; adult programs and community use of schools  
\$10,651,087

**Instructional and other support services**

Professional development; library services and nutritional program  
\$9,620,673

**SUPPORT**

**Administration**

Computer and information services; business and human resources functions; Board and central administration  
\$11,128,849

**Student transportation**

Operation of school buses  
\$7,022,842

**Operations and maintenance**

Operating and maintaining 78 schools and other facilities  
\$46,893,057

**Fiscal and capital appropriations**

Payroll tax; banking charges and capital transfers  
\$14,561,139

**Total**

\$406,602,782

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