

# GORDON BELL HIGH SCHOOL

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## NEWS RELEASE

### Shining a light on active living at Gordon Bell High

**Oct. 23, 2014 (Winnipeg, MB)** – Gordon Bell High School has today embarked on phase two of developing its greenspace for active living. The school has begun an ambitious fundraising drive to raise \$250 thousand to light up the newly dedicated “Panther Greenspace”.

“We have here a beautifully developed area for the use of students and community members,” says Gordon Bell High School Principal Arlene Skull. “We want to see it lit up to help lengthen the time in the day when we can safely be active in the space.” The park is currently going unused before full sunrise and after sunset because it is dark and, therefore, less safe for sporting activities.

Gordon Bell High School officially dedicated its much-loved green space to donors today, naming the field “Panther Greenspace” after the school’s athletics teams. During the ceremony, Principal Skull thanked donors for their generosity, and encouraged all Winnipeggers to help sustain active life styles in the green space by donating to the lighting fundraiser.

Following the ceremonies a celebratory game of flag football took over Panther Greenspace.

“It would be great for kids to be able to see out there and play football after supper before it gets too cold,” says former student and athlete Jordan Knott, a strong advocate for the green space.

Anak Akeen, a student at Gordon Bell High, says she would like to use the park to snow shoe with friends after school in the winter, but it’s too dark. “Lights will make a big difference in how much we can use the space all year round. I hope people donate and help make this dream come true too,” she says.

Akeen is referring to the “Green Dream” that brought the community together, raising a total of \$1.5 million and matching a Manitoba Education grant. The funds went toward developing a car dealership lot into the greenspace used daily by Gordon Bell students.

Donations can be made to the Winnipeg School Division registered charity, Children’s Heritage Fund, for the Gordon Bell Greenspace. Tax receipts are issued for donations of \$10 and higher.

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