

# THE WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION

## CENTRAL DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS – Wednesday, April 15, 2015

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#### 1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Committee members agreed to add restructuring of the Winnipeg School Division; Religious Instruction in Schools and 2015/2016 Budget to the Agenda of April 15, 2015.

#### 2. STRUCTURE OF DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Committee members were informed that at a meeting held November 3, 2014, the Board of Trustees adopted a motion to establish a Special Committee to Review the Existing Structure of the District Advisory Committees to improve participation and communication between the Board of Trustees, School Parent Councils and the community.

The purpose of the Special Committee is to review the existing structure of the District Advisory Committees and to improve participation and communication between the Board of Trustees, School Parent Councils and the community.

Committee members were informed that as a result of discussions regarding the importance of parental involvement within the Winnipeg School Division, a survey has been developed to obtain feedback from parents/parent councils, District Advisory Committee members and community members to improve communication with the Board of Trustees.

Committee members were informed that the Public Relations/Communications Committee has recommended that an area on the Division's website be developed for parent councils. This survey will also be posted on the Division's website under the newly created *Parent Council* subsection under the *Family & Community* tab.

[www.winnipegsd.ca/FAMILY%20COMMUNITY/Parent%20Council/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.winnipegsd.ca/FAMILY%20COMMUNITY/Parent%20Council/Pages/default.aspx)

Committee members were asked to share this information with their respective parent councils and include this information and link to the survey in the upcoming May newsletter.

Committee members were informed that feedback will be compiled and given to Trustees for consideration.

### **3. PARENT GROUP LUNCH PROGRAMS**

At the previous meeting, Committee members agreed to discuss parent lunch programs. Committee members received an overview on the guidelines for parent group lunch programs. Committee members expressed concern on the operation of the parent group lunch programs as some schools have many challenges with staff retention, collection of fees, and staff training.

Committee members felt that it would be helpful for parent councils to receive support from administration in applying consistency across the Division. Committee members also discussed whether a Division policy would be helpful to address areas such as offering subsidies for parents where parents are unable to pay for the service or how to deal with parents who are late picking up their child.

Committee members recommended that a Division wide forum be held for parent councils to collaborate and share solutions and suggestions would be beneficial.

### **4. RESTRUCTURING OF THE WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION**

At the request of a parent representative, restructuring of the Winnipeg School Division was added to the agenda for discussion.

Committee members expressed concern on the lack of communication, consultation and transparency that was involved with the elimination of a District Superintendent in the Winnipeg School Division. Committee members were informed that the elimination of a superintendent position was incorporated as part of the approval of the 2015/2016 Budget to reduce administrative costs and lower property taxes for Division residents.

Committee members expressed concern on how and when they will be informed of decisions made during the restructuring process.

In response to an enquiry on the lack of consultation regarding the restructuring, Trustee Freedman indicated that trustees consult with parents to obtain feedback on the Division's policies and budget when applicable, however, from time to time trustees are required to make difficult decisions that are in the best interest of parents and residents and in this case help keep property taxes lower. Trustee Collins indicated that she did not vote in favour of the Budget or the discussion to eliminate a superintendent.

Committee members commented that the reduction of a superintendent should have been discussed with parents due to potential issues related to the level of service being provided to parents and students.

In response to a parent representative, Trustee Freedman informed Committee members that the criteria used to identify the reduction of a superintendent was based on seniority.

In response to a parent representative, Trustee Freedman informed Committee members that the Chief Superintendent is preparing a restructuring plan that will be presented to the Governance Committee in early May and to the Board for approval and implementation in the new school year.

Committee members noted that the Board presented to parent councils the inclusion of a French Immersion nursery program which has been removed from the final budget without consultation.

Committee members were informed that the Board receives delegations from parents at Special Board meetings. Delegations are required to register by 12:00 noon the Thursday before the Special Board meeting by contacting Brenda Lapointe, Board Administrative Assistant, at 789-0469. Special Board meetings are held May 11 and June 8, 2015.

## **5. RELIGIOUS INSTRUCTION IN SCHOOLS**

At the request of the parent representative from Sargent Park School, Religious Instruction was added to the agenda.

Committee members expressed concern on the Board of Trustees' decision to disallow Religious Instruction in schools.

Trustee Freedman informed Committee members that a motion has been presented for discussion at the May 4th Board meeting that would recommend that the Public Schools Act be amended to allow trustees the option as opposed to the requirement to approve a request for Religious Instruction based on our communities.

## **6. BUDGET**

At the request of the parent representative from École George V School, the 2015/2016 Budget was added to the agenda.

Committee members expressed concern that upon completion of the budget consultation, trustees removed various items from the Draft Budget presented to the community such as the French language nursery program.

Trustee Freedman informed Committee members that the purpose of public consultation is to obtain feedback from parents and residents on the importance and priority of programs and services as well as determine what would be an acceptable property tax level.

Committee members were informed that in order to minimize tax implications to residents, the Board of Trustees prioritized the needs of the community and agreed that the expansion of the full day Kindergarten program to five additional schools would be beneficial to parents throughout the Division.

CENTRAL DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
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**7. ENQUIRIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SCHOOL REPORTS**

SCHOOL REPORTS

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

- Daniel McIntyre Collegiate Institute
- Elmwood High School
- Greenway School
- Isaac Brock School
- Principal Sparling School
- Sargent Park School
- Tec Voc High School

**8. NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting of the Central District Advisory Committee to be determined.

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

**Voting Representatives:**

Wilma Gaburno, Daniel McIntyre Collegiate  
Jason Neiser, Ecole George V School  
Marisol Gonzalez, Greenway School  
Liz Jackimec, Isaac Brock School  
BD Cain, Ecole Laura Secord School  
Anya Moodie-Foster, Ecole Sacre-Coeur  
Lilja Tonnellier, Sargent Park School  
Carole Bouchard-Langlois, Tec Voc High School

**Alternate Representatives**

Perla Javate, Daniel McIntyre Collegiate  
Marisol Gonzalez, Greenway School  
Jolene Schnerch, Isaac Brock School

**Regrets:**

Trustee Allan Beach  
Cecil Rhodes School  
Elmwood High School  
Glenelm School  
Kent Road School  
Principal Sparling School  
River Elm School  
Wolseley School

**Trustees:**

Kevin Freedman  
Cathy Collins

**Administration:**

Celia Caetano-Gomes, Superintendent of Schools – Central  
Lorne Belmore, Principal, Daniel McIntyre Collegiate  
Rosanna Guzzi, Vice-Principal, Daniel McIntyre Collegiate  
Dino DiFabrizio, Vice-Principal, Daniel McIntyre Collegiate  
Garth McAlpine, Vice-Principal, Elmwood School  
Edith Austin-Anderson, Principal, Kent Road School  
Rhona Churman, Principal, École Laura Secord School  
Nelia Husack, Vice-Principal, École Laura Secord School  
Rosanne Ashley, Principal, River Elm School  
Lisa Calvez, Principal, École Sacre-Cœur  
Cristina Dias-Acquisto, Vice-Principal, École Sacre-Coeur  
Luba Krosney, Principal, Sargent Park School  
Paul Krowiak, Vice-Principal, Sargent Park School  
Vera Big George, Vice-Principal, Sargent Park School  
Rick Horaska, Principal, Tec Voc High School  
Emil Contreras, Vice-Principal, Tec Voc High School  
Helena Tessier – Recording Secretary

**Guests:**

Loretta Tackaberry, George V School  
Jocelyne Walker, Ecole George V School



# DANIEL MCINTYRE

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## COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE

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

### Daniel McIntyre Collegiate Institute Nutrition Program

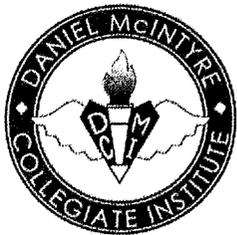
The nutrition program at DMCI is funded through a grant provided by the Child Nutrition Council of Manitoba. Our goal is to promote healthy food habits and to ensure that all students start their day with a nutritious and wholesome meal. It is a known fact that healthy eating plays a factor in student success and wellbeing. Through our program we hope to:

- 1) Support learning by working to ensure that all students are fed during their school day
- 2) Provide a positive space where all students who access the nutrition program can share a meal and engage in positive social interactions with their peers
- 3) Provide healthy meals for students who normally make poor choices due to cost restrictive reasons

Our program is staffed by a teacher who acts as a coordinator and an educational assistant who is responsible for shopping, food preparation, serving meals, and clean up. Students are also involved with the program to support their educational plans or to gain volunteer credit hours. The educational assistant has been trained and certified in proper food handling.

The nutrition program is available for all students. Approximately 50 to 65 students take advantage of the program on a daily basis. A healthy breakfast is offered daily between 9 AM and 10 AM. Both hot and cold breakfasts are offered which include oatmeal, yogurt, fresh fruit, milk, cereal, cheese and toast. Lunch is served on Mondays and Wednesdays, although food is readily available if students require lunch on any other day. Lunches vary, but often include hot soups, sandwiches, salads and pastas.

Meals are prepared and served in the canteen area. Students are able to take their breakfast to the classroom or school cafeteria. Lunch is served out of the canteen where students pick up their lunch and then gather in a classroom to eat and socialize with their peers.



# DANIEL MCINTYRE

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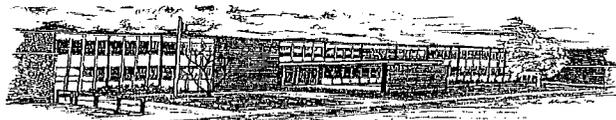
## COLLEGIATE INSTITUTE

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

### DMCI PARENT ADVISORY REPORT April 15, 2015

1. Open House
  - a. Open House was held the evening of February 25<sup>th</sup>
  - b. Information booths were set up in the gym for students and parents to explore and interact with DMCI staff; School tours occurred throughout the evening.
  - c. Entertainment was provided by our performing arts department.
  
2. Leadership Initiatives
  - a. Leadership student group has grown from 11 students a year ago when it first started to 131 students currently involved in leadership activities and events
  - b. Students have partnered up with West Central Community Program where 15-20 students volunteer once or twice a week at Wellington School, Greenway and John M. King. Leaders assist with after school programs which involve homework support, gym activities, arts and crafts and mentorship
  
3. Athletics
  - a. Our Junior Varsity boys' basketball team won the city championship and fared very well in the Provincial finals.
  - b. Our Varsity boys' basketball team also won the city championship
  - c. Our Varsity girls' basketball team had a very successful season and were finalists for the City Championships.
  
4. Performing Arts
  - a. DMCI choir and band will be participating in the Moose Jaw Music Festival May 11 – 14
  - b. Our choir was one of two schools and the only WSD school to be selected to do an opening performance at the Foreigner concert in March
  - c. DMCI will be hosting a Celebration of the Arts from 5:15 pm to 7 pm on May 28<sup>th</sup>
  
5. Community Events
  - a. Africa Night May 7<sup>th</sup>
  - b. A Taste of the Philippines evening celebration June 5<sup>th</sup>
  - c. Graduation ceremony Thursday June 25<sup>th</sup> at 10:00 am located at the Duckworth Centre
  - d. Graduation dinner and dance Friday June 19<sup>th</sup> at Marlborough Hotel
  - e. Undergraduate Awards June 26<sup>th</sup> 10 am in school gym
  
6. Clubs and Co-Curricular Activities
  - a. Skills Manitoba 2-D Animation students earned gold and silver in web design; gold recipient will be competing in nationals taking place in Saskatoon
  - b. One gr. 12 DMCI student will be representing Manitoba at the National Chess Championship in Quebec City

# Elmwood High School



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Winnipeg, MB R2L 0G4 Fax: 204.654.0028  
Website: Elmwood High School Winnipeg School Division

M. Babb - Principal  
mbabb@wsd1.org

N. Batzel -Sr. High Vice-Principal  
nbatzel@wsd1.org

G. McAlpine - Middle Years' Vice-Principal  
gmcalpine@wsd1.org

## Central District Parent Advisory Council Elmwood Report

1. Our Sr. High Student Council organized and ran a tremendously spirited Spirit Week, prior to Spring Break. The positive energy in the building was phenomenal.
2. Two staff and nine students travelled to England over Spring Break. The trip was a success.
3. We hosted a very successful Coffee House that raised money for World Vision and our Drama Program. Elmwood's African Drummers performed, their 6 week program culminates with this performance. Our Choir and Dance troupes performed, as did many talented students who had performed at our Talent Show in December.
4. Our student athletes captured two Gold, one Silver and two Bronze at the Wrestling Provincials championships. Two students earned the right to compete at the Nationals in Fredericton this past weekend and finished 4<sup>th</sup> and 6<sup>th</sup>.
5. Another student athlete will be attending *ACTIVATE 2015!* This year's ACTIVATE 2015 National Youth Leadership Forum is in Ottawa, at Carleton University from May 13-17, 2015.
6. A Grade 11 student and has been selected amongst the nine Winnipeg North high schools to represent Winnipeg North Rotary at the 2015 Adventures in Citizenship Program in Ottawa.
7. Middle Years students will be participating in the Elmwood Apprentice. Students will be selling products over two noon hours. Classes will compete for the title of the Elmwood Apprentice.
8. Middle Years and Grade 9 students will be competing in the WSD Science Fair on April 15 at the Brodie Centre and in the Red River Heritage Fair at the U of W on May 7.
9. Two recent fundraising events will have a positive impact on the students of Elmwood
  - a. A group of EHS alumni hosted a great comedy night in memory of Ralph Peter, aka Nic Rivers. He was a long time member of the bands, Harlequin and Choirboys and was an Elmwood High School band program alumni. Fifty percent of the funds raised will go to the Elmwood Music program. The rest of the funds will support other Elmwood schools' and community programs.

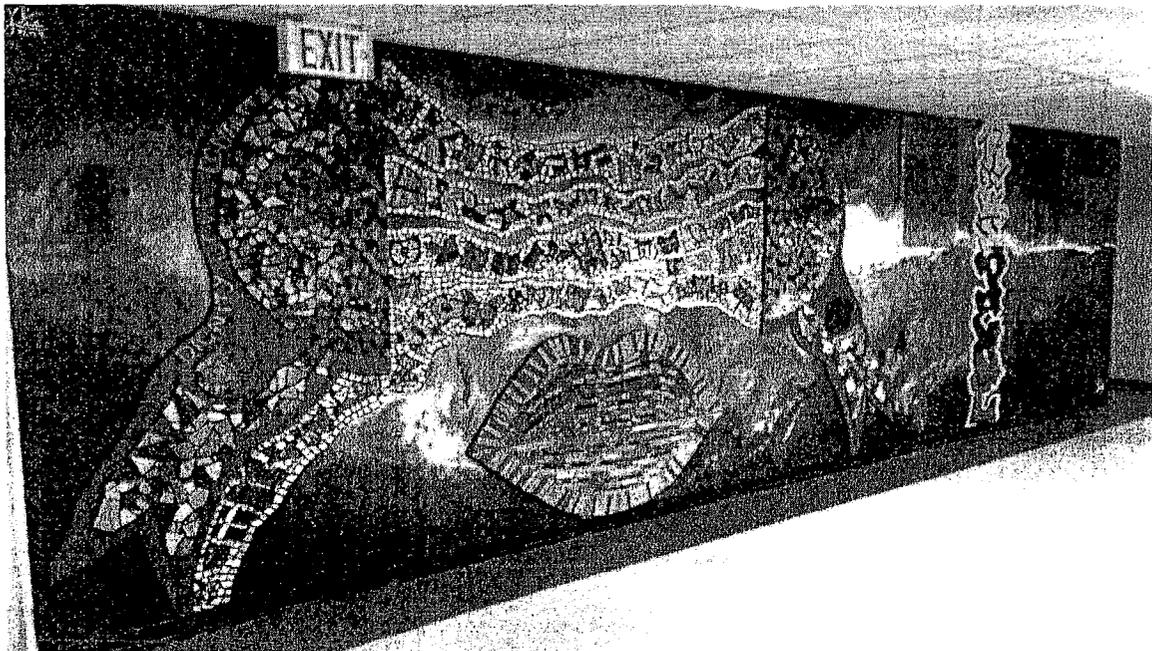


WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION  
INVESTING IN THE FUTURE

HEART + MIND + EFFORT = SUCCESS



- b. Applebee's on Regent hosted a great Grad fundraiser Breakfast Fundraiser on Sunday April 12.
10. Elmwood students completed a Cancer Care Tobacco survey administered through Phys. Ed. classes
  11. On April 23 we are hosting the third annual High-Five Recess Challenge for our Elementary Schools. The event brings in teams from all of our feeder schools and lets them work with very positive Sr. High Leaders.
  12. We will have our first Envirothon team compete on April 22 at Oak Hammock Marsh and we have also hosted our first Robotic Games team.
  13. 47 Grade 7 students and 34 Grade 8 students wrote a math contest.
  14. Seventy-two students have attended The Woman in Black at MTC and many will be attending the Opera on the 16<sup>th</sup>. The WSD and Peter D. Currie support that allows this to happen is greatly appreciated.
  15. An Elmwood senior high band student has been accepted into the Manitoba Intermediate Honour Band and also had the honour of performing with the Manitoba Senior Honour Band in November 2014 as well.
  16. An Elmwood middle years band student has been accepted into the Manitoba Junior Honour Band.
  17. Elmwood will be hosting the WSD's annual Band Blast event on May 12, where grade 8 students across the division will join together for a fun day of music making.
  18. The new multi-cultural mural is awesome and the outside Elmwood letter project is getting underway.





## April 2015

- March Student Led Conferences had an 88% attendance rate by parents and students. Class review meetings and IEP meetings were completed.
- A student in our Adapted Skills program was honoured with a “Yes I Can Award” at this year’s Manitoba Council for Exceptional Children.
- Grade 5 & 6 students attended a track meet at Max Bell Centre in February – four students received medals.
- April 8<sup>th</sup> Day of Pink – students wore pink t-shirts, bulletin boards displayed anti-bullying messages, and positive/kindness messages were read on morning announcements.
- Common Area Training was reviewed for the whole school on April 15<sup>th</sup>.
- Community Pancake Breakfast will take place on April 22<sup>nd</sup> starting at 9:00 a.m. in the gym.
- Greenway’s spring musical *MAKING THE BAND!* will take place on May 6<sup>th</sup> at 1:30 and 6:30 p.m. Auditions are currently underway.
- The last Pow Wow Club will take place on May 27<sup>th</sup>. Parents will be invited to a feast and drumming and dance presentation by the students.
- Parent Centre
  - *Wiggle, Giggle & Munch* program second session will begin April 21st – for parents and children ages 1 to 5
  - Parent volunteers completed vision screening for all kindergarten students. It took 2 days to screen students.
  - *Babysitting Course for Grade 6 students will take place on May 11.*
  - *Popcorn fundraiser was very successful, and will be the last fundraiser for this year.*
  - *Mad Science program is completed. PAC subsidized the program, providing \$500.00.*



## Central District Report – Isaac Brock School – April 15

Lori Armstrong (Central Literacy Support Teacher) was working with grade 5/6 teachers on writing

- Artist in the school- Karen Cornelius –silk screening (March 23-27)

### Extra Curricular Activities :

- Badminton (grades 7-9) - students are enjoying enjoyed competing against students from other schools

- Hip Hop Dance – Tuesdays at 3:30 (grades 6-9)

- Choirs- all of our choirs participated in Winnipeg Music Festival

Echo- (grade 3-6) students- days 1, 3, 5

Sound- (grades 7-9) - as scheduled

- Fit Run Club (grades 7-9)- Tuesdays and Thursdays

Baseball (grades 7-9)- Mondays and Wednesdays

- Cheerleading Club- (grades 2-6) - Tuesday and Thursday at 8:10

- Math Club- (grades 5/6) - Mondays at noon

- American Sign Language Club - (grades 7-9) – Tuesdays at noon

### Intramurals:

- Omnikin Intramurals -Grades 3-5

- Junior High intramurals – every Monday and Wednesday at noon

### Other Dates/ Events :

Spirit week- March 15-20<sup>th</sup> – raised \$90 for Cancer Care

Junior High Ski Trip- March 24-25- students who attended had a wonderful time!

Take Pride Winnipeg Kick Off- Sound<sup>choir</sup> performed at MTS Centre – April 6

Grade 5 Swimming – every Thursday afternoon - starting April 9 – June 11

### Upcoming

April 16- grades 8 and 9 Band Festival

April 17<sup>th</sup> - grades 6 and 7 Band festival

Walkathon Assembly – April 22

Manitoba Theatre for Young People – grades 1-2 April 22

University of Winnipeg Enrichment Program – eleven Grade 9 students will be participating in a week long course - April 28-May 2

Human Rights museum – grades 5 and 6- April 30

Fire Safety Presentation – grades 1-6- May 4

Walkathon - May 8 – PM/weather permitting

Spring Concert Evening – grades 6-9- May 14

Talent show- May 15

### **Ongoing Programs**

-Right to Play- raising awareness about how participation in sports impacts on students in a positive way. All students – even as young as they are can make a difference in other peoples' lives. Our Grade 6 leadership students are being trained to continue to play games with the primary students.

Leadership Students-raised money to buy 5 goats – students are learning about empowerment as a means of sustainable fundraising.



# PRINCIPAL SPARLING SCHOOL

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L. Pang, Principal  
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April 15, 2015

## Principal Sparling School Report

### NEW Swings:

The Parent Council has successfully secured funding for the addition of swings for the existing playstructure. It has been a 2 year process headed up by our Parent Council, Brian Kauste. The input from parents, students (surveyed through the Principal Sparling Student Council), and staff viewed this as an important step to support community building. On any given evening, our current playstructure is actively used by school students and community members. We have scheduled an installation date with Playgrounds R US at the beginning of June. The Parent Council and School will host a celebration with students and families. We are proud of our Parent Council!

### HOOPS Basketball Program:

Basketball Manitoba, Sport Manitoba and Todd MacCulloch are excited to announce Principal Sparling's participation in the Todd MacCulloch Hoop School Program once again. The program was initiated by Basketball Manitoba together with NBA player Todd MacCulloch and the Sport Manitoba. The program is designed to teach Basketball fundamentals to our grade 5/6 children. This program will run once per week over an 8 week period. The program will begin on April 28<sup>th</sup>. A big thank you to Steve Nikkel and Tim Strachan for overseeing the program in previous years. Melanio De Guia, a parent in our school, has volunteered to be the Head Coach for this session which will see the participation of 20 grade 3 and 4 students.

### Fire Safety:

Principal Sparling School continues to reinforce Fire Safety with our relationship with Don Enns, Assistant Chief of the Winnipeg Fire Department. On March 6<sup>th</sup>, the Principal Sparling Roadrunners competed with the Fire Department in a friendly game of basketball. In attendance was Fire Chief John Lane, Mark Proulx, Gord Bakaluk and a crew of Firefighters. Fire Chief John Lane talked about the importance of Fire Safety Plans, which students developed with parents, and reminded students to change the batteries in smoke detectors at home as the clock "springs ahead" one hour. On May 14<sup>th</sup> Mr. Gord Bakaluk will be talking to students about "Arson Awareness". Thank you to Mr. Don Enns for supporting safety in our community!





The Sargent Park School grade 9 Band continued to showcase their musical talents at the Optimist International Band Festival last month, where they received an invitation to perform at the Nationals in Toronto. Unfortunately they will not be able to attend, since they are already participating in a band trip to Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan to be part of the music festival during this time. We know this opportunity will enrich their musical abilities and create a strong sense of community.

Our Junior High Choir performed at the Winnipeg Music Festival placing in the silver category.

Our Grade 5 and 6 students performed with the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra in a concert entitled "One Voice" as part of the WSD Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra choir.

The end of March brought to a close, our basketball season. Basketball was in full swing at Sargent Park until that time, with league games during the week and tournaments just about every weekend. The students worked hard practicing, and all teams experienced success. The Sargent Park grade 9 boys and girls basketball teams travelled to a tournament in Edmonton, where they had the wonderful opportunity to bond as a team and strengthen their playing skills. Our season ended with our teams participating in the cities and provincials.

This month our students participated in Day of Pink, a National Anti-Bullying initiative. Students at the school participated by creating anti-bullying posters and presenting anti-bullying strategies. On April 8<sup>th</sup>, students at the school supported this initiative by wearing pink.

Last week, we had 12 students participate in the Young Women's Conference, sponsored by Skills Manitoba.

Our grade six student participated in the Cool to be Kind anti-bullying campaign sponsored by the Winnipeg Police Service earlier in the year and just yesterday were awarded a \$500 grant for their proposal to recognize acts of kindness at the school. We were one of nine schools in Winnipeg to receive this grant.

Earlier today, our grade four students prepared and presented awesome Heritage Fair projects relating to Canada's and Manitoba's History and a number of them will be presenting their outstanding projects at the University of Winnipeg next month.

Our Me to We Group has organized the screening of *Girl Rising*, supporting women's rights and have pre-sold 150 tickets to tonight's show at Sargent Park School.

Tomorrow, Sargent Park junior high students will be supporting "Free the Children" by taking part in a global fundraising and awareness campaign called "Vow of Silence". This campaign challenges students to go SILENT to raise awareness and funds for the 1 billion children around the world who do not have the right to free speech and are being oppressed. Participating students either choose not to talk or use social media.



## **Tec-Voc High School Report – Central District Advisory Committee - April 15, 2015**

It was announced by Canadian Blood Services that Tec-Voc High School reached their 2014 pledged units of blood donated last December during our blood drive.

Tec-Voc celebrated the Festival de Voyageur on Friday, February 20 during the noon hour in the HornetDome. Activities included snow sculpting, sloshing, a scavenger hunt, Music and Entertainment, picture booths, and of course food.

Tec-Voc students participated in the Waterloo Mathematics contest on February 20.

Tec-Voc High School held its annual **Open House** on Thursday, February 26. It was a very dynamic evening with many interested parents and students in attendance. Students from partner schools visited Tec during the week to get a feel for the place and assist them in making their high school decision. Students and staff visited a variety of schools during February to spread the Hornets message. The reception to our visits to feeder schools, tours and Open House was very positive. Initial indications are that many students and parents are choosing Tec-Voc as their high school. The 2015-2016 applications process was initiated after the Open House.

All Tec-Voc basketball teams had a great season and enjoyed a playoff run. Our JV Boys team made it to the quarter-finals this year, but lost to St. John's. Our Varsity Boys and Girls teams played in their respective Tier II championship games. The boys team lost to DMCI, while the Girls were defeated by Shaftesbury. We are proud of their accomplishments as Tier II Finalists.

The annual ski and snowboard trip to Asessippi on March 5 and 6 was enjoyed by all staff and students. They had great weather and enjoyed themselves gliding down the slopes.

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 (March/April).

Nutrition week took place March 9-12 and focused on information and practice of healthy eating for Tec-Voc students and staff. Good eating, prizes and fun were had by all. Mr. Nutrition was very busy.

The Tec Voc Singers earned silver for their performance at the Winnipeg Music Festival Monday March 9th at Westminster United Church.

Two students and one staff member from Tec-Voc attended the Canadian Roots Exchange's National Youth Forum (supported by the Dept. Of Can. Heritage-Forums Canada) at Children of the Earth School March 5-7, 2015. The mandate of this forum was to facilitate dialogue between indigenous and non-indigenous youth and bridge the gap between youth from diverse communities across Canada. The forum allowed youth to gather and dispel stereotypes, resolve conflicts, and facilitate reconciliation amongst and through youth.

The In.Business Central Region Opening Conference began on Friday, March 13<sup>th</sup>. The conference agenda was full of useful and challenging opportunities for our students to connect with Aboriginal students and business people. Five students attended this conference from Tec-Voc.

Grade 12 students participated in a half-day activity focused on career education on March 17. The second Tec-Voc Career Fair of this school year will take place on Thursday March 19. There will be a virtual science fair type activity based on career study for S2 students.

12 students accompanied teachers Mr. Desjarlais and Ms Sherwin on the trip to Mexico over the Spring Break. In addition we have students travelling to Washington D.C. to visit the Holocaust Museum and to Saskatoon SK for the Skills Canada Competition in April and May.

Tec-Voc students were involved in the 2015 Manitoba Robot Games that took place in the HornetDome on Saturday, March 21.

Tec Voc intramurals was not short of excitement in March as 3-on-3 basketball filled the Hornet Dome. The Phys. Ed. Department is started with Dodgeball after spring break and once again filled up the Hornet Dome with positive, intramural energy.

Hornet pride ruled the school March 23-27 with Spirit Week. Each day had a different theme for dressing up. As well, there were activities in the school each day over the lunch hour. The activities included: Monday: Dodgeball, Tuesday: Sport Relay, Wednesday: Elimination Volleyball, Thursday: Gamers Zone and Friday: Karaoke

The Skills Canada Manitoba competition took place April 9 at Red River C.C. A team of 40 Tec-Voc students participated and 17 of them won medals. Our 6 gold medal winners have earned the right to compete in the national Skills Canada competition in Saskatoon SK May 27-30.

Stingers Credit Union Update:

We currently have 78 members, all of them students. We are impressed that these students have created a total of 171 accounts, with several of them adding multiple "targeted" savings accounts to their portfolio. Students operate the credit union as a practical extension/application of their *Accounting Principles* and *Accounting Systems* courses/credits. These *Member Services Representatives* have been building their confidence and employability skills, with some of them currently interviewing for employment. The students of our school are the true benefactors of this initiative as we/they have made 'financial literacy' a priority. Many have seen their savings grow exponentially.

Tec-Voc students will be participating in the Manitoba Provincial Dance Festival - May 8th - 22nd at Pantages Playhouse Theatre.

Our Gr. 12 vocational students are starting work experience on Monday April 13. They will be out until May 15 on all even days (Days 2,4,6). The purpose of this program is for students to make connections with businesses to gain part/full time career jobs or apprenticeships from the work experience (or summer jobs) while attending school. The work experience can also be added to students' resumes for future job searches.