



News Release

Winnipeg School Division literacy and numeracy results see dramatic improvement

June 24, 2019 (Winnipeg, MB) – Winnipeg School Division (WSD) Board of Trustees is pleased to release the inaugural WSD K to 12 Framework for Continuous Improvement (Framework). The Framework is a planning and reporting process that provides important data on student achievements and educational outcomes. The Framework’s specific requirements, as outlined by the Province of Manitoba, address accountability in planning and reporting, literacy and numeracy as a priority and continuous assessment of progress related to WSD’s identified targets and Provincial mandates.

Dramatic progress in numeracy within WSD is seen in the percentage change in Grade 3 outcomes from 2009 to 2017 which have improved by over 132 percent ([see Framework page 13](#)). The tremendous positive increase over the eight years has resulted in not only closing the gap with provincial results, but exceeding them in 2017 by four percentage points.

“We recognize there is more work to be done, more ways to approach the uniqueness of our students,” says Chris Broughton, Chair, Board of Trustees, Winnipeg School Division. “But we also recognize that within Winnipeg School Division, we have the skilled and experienced educators who have the ability to make the difference we want to see in our students’ achievements – even more so when they are appropriately supported.” The Framework was prepared on behalf of WSD by an independent consultant and is available to view on winnipegdsd.ca.

WSD is a provincial leader in making improvements in literacy and has developed two highly effective programs called Talk to Me and Read to Me. For example, Grade 3 reading levels in WSD have improved by 50 per cent since 2009.

WSD’s focus on Early Years education, such as listening and talking, are the foundation for reading and writing, and to building a solid base for students at an early age. Talk to Me and Read to Me are WSD Early Years programs designed to help students improve their communication skills. Studies have shown that students with stronger speech and language skills become better readers and learners, setting the stage for later academic success.

“Throughout its rich history, Winnipeg School Division has developed many unique initiatives to respond to the needs of its students,” says Broughton. “Through our Strategic Plan, we ensured local needs would be addressed with an emphasis on improving results in mathematics and literacy and the holistic needs that support the diverse student population in Winnipeg School Division throughout their school careers.” Broughton expressed appreciation to all Winnipeg School Division staff, on behalf of the Board of Trustees, for their contributions to the continuous improvement identified in the Framework.

WSD was established in 1871 and currently has 78 schools, 33,000 students and 6,000 employees. Its purpose is to provide a learning environment that fosters the growth of each student’s potential and provide equitable opportunity to develop the knowledge, skills and values necessary for meaningful participation in a global and diverse society.

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[Link to Framework](#)

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