

Montrose School

Community Report 2021-2022

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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.

Montrose Mission

We create a safe, nurturing learning community where every child is engaged and inspired to reach her/his potential. Our goal is for each student to emerge as a socially capable, creative and literate citizen with a passion for learning.



WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION



About our school

Montrose offers a multi-age learning environment to 270 children in the River Heights community of Winnipeg. Our inclusive classroom practices acknowledge, value, and support diversity and student engagement through inquiry and sustainable actions. We recognize that the Arts add value and vibrancy to our lives and contribute to a healthy wellbeing. Our teaching and learning outdoors is an integral part of restoring a balance in our student's lives, instilling sustainable values with the next generation, and represents part of our response to Canada's Truth and Reconciliation Commission's *Call to Action*.

We believe in a multi-age philosophy; that children learn best when given the opportunity to work and learn collaboratively with each other allowing for a wider breadth of experiences, abilities and perspectives to be brought into the classroom. We believe in an inquiry approach to teaching and learning. Students' voices, ideas and questions are instrumental in the planning of instruction. We believe that learning should be authentic and meaningful to our students' lives.

Highlights

Friluftsliv

The Montrose School culture encourages students and families to live an active lifestyle at school and at home. Our Outdoor Education program is based upon Manitoba Education's pillars for sustainable development –

Economy, Environment, and Human Health and Wellbeing. Montrose continues to lead by example as our students explore and discover our community resources and participate in **land-based teachings** with an Indigenous perspective. Students at Montrose school worked with their teachers and leaders from Fort Whyte Alive to uncover all of the amazing natural wonders in our school community! This year we also took part in an outdoor challenge in June- students and staff took learning outdoors for two weeks enjoying all of the different weather Mother Nature offer's Winnipeggers in June.

Academics: Targeted Instruction

We planned for three **Learning Cycles** during the school year. Each cycle we gathered data from three sources, implemented targeted lessons, gathered exit (learning) data, and analyzed the results to inform our next steps.

Performing Arts:

Our Performing Arts program includes Dance, Drama, and Music. Despite all of the challenges this year presented students were still able to explore many types of dance, as well as drama mediums such as playwriting and improv. Many classes collaborated to create their own winter concert performances, which given this year's restrictions were presented through by video.

STEAM:

This year we also introduced a STEAM program. This program is available to all students in Nursery to Grade 6. Students are given the opportunity to develop inquiry driven individualized or group projects. Students develop their creativity, collaboration, and communication skills through design challenges coding and building. The STEAM program topped off it's inaugural year by hosting the first Cardboard Arcade for our community- which was a huge hit for the students and community members alike!



Priorities in Action- 2021-22

1. Strengthen Instructional and assessment strategies for all students using all available resources including the integration of technology.

Our Inquiry approach to learning, STEAM program, and the responsible use of Media/technology enhanced classroom programming and provided enrichment to all students in the areas of design, coding, and film making.

2. Improve academic and behavior support services for students with special needs.

Teachers also embedded Mindfulness, outdoor learning and anti-anxiety strategies into their practices to allow students to process stressful situations in healthier ways.

3. Strengthen and enhance Education for Sustainable Development initiatives that address environmental, social and economic issues world-wide.

Students participated in community outreach projects donating to The Winnipeg Harvest, Santa to a Senior, and The Health Sciences Center. All students took part in our Friluftsliv- outdoor learning program where they were immersed in outdoor learning throughout our community and enjoyed two weeks of outdoor learning in June.



Priorities for 2022-23

Our school plan includes on many fronts including:

- Indigenous Education
- Friluftsliv/Outdoor Education,
- Education for Sustainable Development
- STEAM

We will continue to develop our language arts and mathematics skill sets as we target specific literacy and numeracy objectives. We do expect our students to follow their passions and take action in response to their expanding knowledge.

The Department of Education and the Winnipeg School Division ask us to target specific areas in Literacy and Numeracy. Upon a review of our school data, our next Literacy targets include strengthening reading strategies and critical thinking when researching and working with social media. In creative writing students will work on developing ideas, word choice, and writing traits. Our Numeracy targets include developing one to one correspondence, mental math strategies, place value, number concepts and arithmetic operations.



Parent and community involvement

Our parent community continued to stay active in the partnership of educating the children of Montrose in spite of the pandemic. Your support and confidence in the school is greatly appreciated. We welcomed back volunteers in May of 2022 and look forward to a return to normalcy when we can have parents volunteer in various capacities, participate in Parent Council, or lunch program. In the past Montrose truly occupied centre stage in the community and we look forward to that again.

The teachers continue to use See Saw to communicate directly with families. This online forum gives families a peek into the classroom and access to students' digital portfolio. Our teachers are expanding their use of See Saw and parents are visiting the classroom blog frequently. Our weekly tracker indicates hundreds of visits every week! (During Covid-19 thousands!!!)

