

École Secondaire Sisler High School

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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

Our vision is for current and future people learning and working within Winnipeg School Division to be:
Engaged, Confident, Inspired, and Successful Learners.



About our school

As one of Manitoba's largest culturally diverse dual track high schools, located in Winnipeg's North End, École Secondaire Sisler High School is recognized as an innovator in technology education. Utilizing cutting edge pedagogical delivery systems including inverted classrooms, distance education, and collaboration with industry experts from across the globe, Sisler is a leader in this field.

École Secondaire Sisler High School offers programming to meet the needs of all of its learners. From language programming to visual performing arts, from university credited courses to global issues, from automotive to law, from cyber to CREATE—there is something for everyone.

Working on infusing Indigenous perspectives and the Truth and Reconciliation Commission into all courses, as well as building its inclusion program, Sisler recognizes the importance and necessity to be better and do better daily for our current and future students.



Highlights

In Remembrance

- This year, Sisler mourned the passing of its long-time principal, Dr. George Heshka. Dr. Heshka was the principal of Sisler for 40 years and has left quite the legacy. Students and staff honoured Dr. Heshka's memory through a memorial video, a hallway display, and a tribute at the flag in front of the school, where students and staff, past and present, payed their final respects.

French Immersion

- The school name was officially changed to include "École Secondaire". This was approved by the Board of Trustees and made official April 2021.
- The digital school sign is being replaced with a new front which will include the full school name "École Secondaire Sisler High School".
- Morning announcements, as well as the land acknowledgement, are delivered in both French and English.

School Supports

- Room 1 was transformed into a permanent space for our Student Support Services team.
- Room 49 was furnished for safety and inclusivity.
- Room 15 was transformed into a welcome space and hub for resource support.
- The Winnipeg School Division's Professional Support Services team worked with the Math and English departments, introducing Thinking Classrooms to the grade 9 Math team, and curriculum dives and programming to the grade 9 English team.

Indigenous Education

- Many students participated in and attended Sharing Circles, which were offered twice weekly throughout the year.
- Kevin Chief, inspirational public speaker on Truth and Reconciliation, presented to all staff, on two separate occasions, on the topic of equity and diversity with a focus on belonging and the Calls to Action.
- Work with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission began across all courses.
- Depth was added to our land acknowledgement, expanding on the meaning and purpose behind it.

CREATE

- Sisler CREATE students contributed animation to a Netflix short film, *Cops and Robbers*, that was nominated for an Oscar.
- Three animated short films created by Sisler

CREATE students will be streamed across North America as part of *Rise Up Animation's* inaugural showcase.

Cyber

- Cyber Defense students virtually participated in several cyber security competitions (CyberPatriot, CyberTitan, CanHack/PicoCTF, Canadian Cyber Defence Challenge).
- 2 Cyber Defense Teams qualified for CyberTitan - Canadian National Cyber Security Finals.
- CPU for Cancer Research Club - Ranked 2nd globally in providing processing power to the Cancer Markers Research Team.
- Grade 12 student qualified for Skills Canada - Network IT System Administration.
- Discussed Cyber Awareness Education with Prime Minister Justin Trudeau.

Academics and Awards

- Sisler is one of the few schools to offer U of M Calculus II. The class average for students who wrote the exam was an A.
- A grade 12 student from our French Immersion program came in 3rd place in the national *Concours d'art oratoire* (one of only two Manitobans to win).
- At this year's science fair, a Sisler student was awarded a gold medal, a best in category for grade 9-10 environmental and climate change, and the WSD award of excellence in STEAM for her work on the effect of oxygen in decomposition of food waste.
- Walter Schroeder, philanthropist, awarded 15 students from the CREATE program scholarships to the Vancouver Film School.
- Sisler CREATE student teams received 4 medals at the *Skills Manitoba* competition.

Sisler's Most Wanted Dance Troop

- Our SMW dancers created multiple dances this year, some involving staff, and recorded them to share across social media platforms.

Blended Learning

- Staff and students engaged in a blended learning model this year, which saw students attending both in-person classes and on-line/remote classes.
- Winnipeg School Division provided technology to all students requiring.
- Sisler adapted their timetable in accordance to Public Health protocols.

Priorities for 2020-2021

Under the umbrella of diversity, inclusion, and equity, École Secondaire Sisler High School focused on the following priorities:

1. Aligning programming and assessment practices for EAL students with WSD and Manitoba Education documents and expectations

2. Expanding and promoting the French Immersion program and recognizing that Sisler is a dual track school by renaming it

3. Developing our understanding of Indigenous perspectives and the commitments towards the TRC

4. Increased communication for successful educational outcomes for children in care

5. Increased equal learning opportunities for all students, in particular students who have exceptional needs world-wide.



Priorities for 2021-2022

- Strengthen instructional and assessment strategies, including performance-based assessment, for all teachers and students.
- Improve academic and behavior support services for all students, including those with special needs, through implementation of our universal supports.
- Expand the French Immersion program by offering more courses in French.
- Infuse Indigenous perspectives into all courses.
- Strengthen our Grade 9 program, so that academic needs and social emotional needs are being met in an equitable learning environment.
- Further improve school attendance and graduation rates through the exploration of additional programs and strategies.

Parent and community involvement

Due to circumstances this year, in-person involvement proved to be challenging. However, we pivoted and re-adjusted our means of communication and involvement to make sure that parents and community members were always informed, such as:

- Parents were invited to be part of a virtual discussion group with the school's superintendent, to provide their feedback on the hiring of the new school principal.
- Invitation to participate in Parent Council was sent out.
- Parents of grade 12 students attended virtual grad meetings monthly to discuss plans for graduation.
- Three parent-teacher conferences were held virtually this school year.
- Letters and updates were sent out via phone message and email to parents and community members on a regular basis.
- Teachers set up conferences with parents via an on-line platform and stayed in communication with them throughout the year.
- Social media platforms, such as Instagram and our school website, were updated and contain current information for students and families.

