



École Robert H. Smith School

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T. Rossi
Principal

D. Ostermann
Vice Principal

Principal's Parent Advisory Group December Report

WSD Strategic Priorities 2016-2017

- **Students:** To provide robust and comprehensive education, equitable access, diverse opportunity and a supportive learning environment for all students to help them prepare for their journey with values of learning and social justice, and to be responsible community members.
- **Learning Outcomes:** To further improve school attendance, achievements, and graduation rates through the exploration of additional programs and strategies.
- **Addressing Barriers of Learning:** To further develop initiatives and innovative approaches addressing special needs and accessibility requirements, mental health issues, childcare needs, and nutritional needs.
- **Employees:** To retain, attract, and develop our valued staff who are dedicated to the vision, purpose, values and Principals of Learning of the Winnipeg School Division, and reflect diversity.
- **Fiscal Responsibility:** To provide responsible management of tax dollars and resources to ensure long term fiscal sustainability and accountability of the programs, facilities, and service that we provide.
- **Communications and Partnerships with Community:** To further develop communications and partnerships with the communities we serve, parents, families, government, business, health, and social service agencies, Indigenous education, other community organizations, and our valued volunteers.
- **Sustainability:** To strengthen and enhance sustainable development initiatives that address environmental, social, and economic values.

Ecole Robert H. Smith School (The Jane Goodall Institute of Canada, Roots and Shoots School) Priorities include:

1. Develop within students an increased knowledge, attitude and behaviour of the three pillars E.S.D and Roots and Shoots. so that students may integrate these practices in to their daily lives and their learning.
2. Create more opportunities in the Arts program that will enable students to integrate all four strands into their learning of existing curriculums.
3. Provide students with further practices of innovative learning that uses technology to extend curriculum learning.

1. Book Fair, thank you once again to Mrs. McCallum and her team which included Mr. McCallum, Mrs. Danner and Ms. Gomes for organizing our Book Fair again. The funds raised at the book fair go directly back into the school for literacy in the classrooms and library.
2. Canadian Citizenship Ceremony will take place in our school Monday January 23, 2017 at 1:30pm in our school gym. Open to the public.
3. Christmas Concert will be taking place on Thursday December 15th this year with N & K performances at 9:45, Grades 1-4 at 1:30 and 6:30. Our grade 5/6 Choir will perform for the N and K concert in the morning. This year's theme is Hockey Night at Robert H Smith School! All the students and staff are very excited about this.
4. Community Breakfast Charity on Friday March 3, 2017. Grade 6 students researched, presented and voted for Project 11 as our charity this year. This charity has to do with middle years mental health issues.
5. Emergency Practice Procedures to date we have had 3 fire drills, 1 lock down drill and one evacuation to date. All drills ran smoothly and we feel that staff and students are prepared in the event there is an emergency situation. Following the WSD Guidelines this year, we are having 1 fire drill every month. The students will be permitted to wear appropriate clothing when exiting the building for drills. Staff and students are aware that they must wear something on their feet at all times during the course of a day at school.
6. Envirothon this year was once again a very successful fundraiser at our school that engaged all students. Students participated in numerous activities throughout the day including making sounds and music with sustainable products. Our Ocean Museum in the gym was a huge success. Every class had a reserved spot for them to display students' work that had to do with the ocean. Our multipurpose rooms was used for a Wildlife Presentation and the gym included a presentation throughout the day by the department of fisheries from the U of M. The focus of our Envirothon once again was on using the processes of learning that are linked to curricular areas such as the Arts, as well as Science, Social Studies, Language Arts and Mathematics. The processes used were Analyzing, Communicating, Discovering, Explaining, Exploring, Imagining, Investigating, Observing, Representing and Thinking. Our second fundraiser is the Exercise-a-thon which will take place in May. All the kids were engaged for the entire day.
7. Last day of school for the Winter Holidays this year is Thursday December 22nd. Students return Monday January 9, 2017.
8. Math plan includes the following; Dreambox is being implemented with our grade 1 and 2 students once again, Jump Math is being used again with a number of our grade 3-6 classrooms, and our grade 5 and 6 staff are continuing to implement math drills from their Spirit of Math Professional Development they received from the division All our teachers have been taking part in ongoing professional development for math resources throughout the school year.
9. MTYP's Dib and Dob and their Journey Home will take place at our school Monday February 13th, 2017 at 9:45am in our gym for grades 1-6.
10. PAG Fundraising – On behalf of the school we say thank you to Mrs. Garcia for all her efforts raising funds for the school playground and in particular the obstacle course, landscaping and the buddy bench (we will turn it around to face the field). Our kids have been well versed about the buddy bench in class and during our Envirothon. We had a powerful video from a child in Australia that told his story about being in school, being bullied and how the buddy bench helped him and others.

11. Remembrance Day was honoured during the month of November once again we remembered those that fought for our wonderful country, by showing respect at our *Remembrance Day Service*. . This year we had Lieutenant Torchinsky (parent of a grade 6 student) share his insight and knowledge about Remembrance Day. We were all moved and learned a lot from him. Our grade 5/6 choir also did a wonderful job singing a meaningful song.
12. School Initiatives so far include; collecting tabs for someone that may need a wheelchair, collecting books for an inner city school, environment awareness lost and found, envirothon, exercise a thon, Project 11 Community Breakfast. Prime Minister letter writing campaign, school decorations for the Christmas Concert.
13. Staffing updates include a thank you and farewell to Mrs. Bradshaw who has been working with Mr. Zajac teaching phys ed to our students. Her last day is Friday December 16th because Mrs. Cullen will be returning the following week from her entitled maternity leave. Congratulations to Ms. Lewis who is off on her maternity leave, she had a baby girl last week. Congratulations to Ms. Mignone who moved from part time kindergarten to teaching full time grade 2/3. Congratulations to Ms. Lylyk who is new to our school and doing a wonderful job teaching part time kindergarten now. Last but not least, Mme Novotny has been off for week on medical leave until further notice. M Longfield is filling in and we wish Mme Novotny a speedy recovery.
14. Stage (10 pieces with 2 carts) has been purchased for our school now. We thank the superintendent's department for assisting us with some financing. A majority of the funds came from the school E Funds, not fundraising money from the school or PAG.
15. Tri-Conferences once again were very successful and the students had an opportunity to answer question and demonstrate their learning to parents.
16. Weather Conditions, please remember to go to the division website for the temperature outside. This is what all the schools in the WSD use for its guidelines for indoor recess and entry to the school.
17. WSD 2017-2018 Budget Information and Survey – As per our synrevoice messages parents are encouraged to go to the division website and click on Board of Trustees and then click on Budget to see a video and complete the survey. The direct link is <https://www.winnipegssd.ca/budget/Pages/Default.aspx>

