



École Robert H. Smith School

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T. Rossi
Principal

D. Ostermann
Vice Principal

Principal's Parent Advisory Group Report WSD & Robert H. Smith School Priorities for 2015-2016

1. Strengthen instructional and assessment strategies for all students using all available resources including the integration of technology.
2. Improve academic and behaviour support services for students with special needs.
3. Strengthen and enhance Education for Sustainable Development initiatives that address environmental, social and economic issues world-wide.
4. Further improve school attendance and graduation rates through the exploration of additional programs and strategies.

Additional school priorities include:

1. Strengthen instructional and assessment strategies in the areas of Literacy, Scientific Inquiry and Information and Communication Technology.
2. Improve Students' French oral language proficiency.
3. Strengthen and enhance E.S.D. in the areas of positive school climate, mental health and aboriginal education.

School Related Information

1. Community Breakfast Charity on Friday March 4, 2016. Grade 6 students researched, presented and voted on the Children's Rehabilitation Foundation as our charity this year.
2. Create A Thon this year was the most successful fundraiser at our school that engaged staff and students. Students participated in numerous activities throughout the day, made a classroom tableau, students and staff were part of our 'In a Creative World, Everybody is a Thumbbody' Mural. Staff and students had their thumb print converted to a person and pasted on the mural. Our Art Gallery Walk in the gym was a huge success. Every class had a reserved spot for them to display students' art work. Our multipurpose rooms was used to demonstrate dance and movement and all the students demonstrated this, led by Mr. Coffie and his African Drums and Xylophone. The focus of our Create A Thon 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.
3. Creative Christmas Concert will be taking place on Tuesday December 8th this year with N & K performances at 9:45, Grades 1-3 at 1:30 and 6:30. Our grade 4 Choir will perform at all of them.

4. Dreambox is being implemented with our grade 1 and 2 students once again, Jump Math is being used with a number of our grade 3-6 classrooms, and our grade 5 and 6 staff are in their second year of the Spirit of Math which the division provided professional development last year. Our teachers have been taking part in ongoing professional development for this resource.
5. Everybody Has the Right Student Summit for Grade 6-12 students on January 12th during the morning at St. John's High School. We will have 3 grade 6 students going.
6. Leadership Teams in our school consist of grade 5 and 6 students. All students are part of a leadership team; Troops or Communication Crew.
7. Our Roaming Laptop Cart has been an excellent addition to our school, replacing our computer lab that was converted into a classroom. More productive and meaningful learning taking place because the classroom teachers own it now.
8. On January 18, 2016 PD Day, all our staff will be having a training day on the Roots and Shoots Program that Dr. Jane Goodall is involved with. Our staff is very excited to be piloting this program in Manitoba.
9. 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 skyped Lieutenant Corporal Carlson somewhere in near Qatar and he shared his thoughts with our community. We also had Captain Provan share his insight and knowledge about Remembrance Day and the past and present times. We were all moved and learned a lot from both of them.
10. We have had 6 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.
11. Please remember to go to the division website for the temperature outside. This is what the school uses for its guidelines for indoor recess and entry to the school.
12. Mme Ostermann and Mr. Rossi attending a division information inservice on a Balanced Timetable and Calendar. It was very informative.
13. Last day of school for the Winter Holidays this year is Friday December 18. Students return Monday January 4, 2016.
14. Staffing updates, Mrs. Tsouras is retiring and her last day will be Friday December 18th, 2015. Welcome to Ms. Mignone who will be teaching the nursery morning class. Ms. Bueti will be teaching the nursery afternoon class. Mrs. Cullen and Mme Brunel are off on maternity leaves. Mme Baxter returns to us in February from her maternity leave. Welcome to Mr. Burnham who is replacing Mrs. Cullen as one of our phys ed teachers. Mme Henson who has been one of our resource teachers will be leaving us at the end of December. Welcome to Mme Ghia who will be joining us in January as a Support Teacher until Mme Baxter returns.
15. Thanks again to each and every one of you for your continued support and thanks to all our parents for caring, understanding and volunteering in our school when needed.
16. Thank you to Mrs. McCallum and her team which included 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.
17. Tri-Conferences once again were very successful and the students had an opportunity to answer question and demonstrate their learning to parents.
18. Wi-Fi Upgrade to the school. 12 new access points with 3 MTS Hotspots.
19. WSD 2016-2016 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 <http://www.winnipegwsd.ca/BoardofTrustees/Pages/Budget-2016-2017.aspx>