

Westview School Community Report

600 Hoka Ave. 204-958-6412
R2C 2V1
Principal – A. Hirst



WE are a safe school that believes in creating a community for everyone. WE strive to develop self-confident, caring and respectful individuals by finding the talent within. WE believe that growing is learning through working together, sharing and being positive.

About Us

- 202 students
- Grades K - 5
- 10 Classroom Teachers
- .5 Teacher Librarian
- .5 Music Teacher
- 1.0 Resource Teacher
- .5 Guidance Counsellor
- 1 Phys. Ed Teacher
- .5 Reading Recovery Teacher
- 1 Administrator
- 8 Educational Assistants
- .5 Library Technician
- 1 Secretary
- 2 Custodians
- 1 Enhanced Cleaning Aide
- 7 Lunch Supervisors
- 1 Literacy Support Worker
- Student Support Services
- Extra-curricular opportunities in drama, chess and coding
- Parent Council
- In-house Daycare and before and after school program

2020 - 2021 Priorities

The world wide COVID-19 pandemic caused multiple disruptions to our normal school year. These changes to our normal way of operating have required us to shift our focus throughout the year. In many ways the pandemic accelerated our learning in technology and has forced us to examine many of our teaching practices. Teachers have learned to adapt lessons and delivery methods, they have increased their assessment tools and have gained a greater appreciation for some pre-pandemic teaching methods that they desperately want to get back to next fall. Throughout all of this the teachers at Westview have done a remarkable job of creating a safe, consistent environment for our students that provided them with high quality learning opportunities. The Westview parent community has been awesome during this past year. They have kept students home when they are not well, they have supported their sons/daughters at home during remote learning. This flexibility and commitment to our students from the community and school staff have been remarkable.

This year our school priorities were :

1. Strengthen educational practices to meet the learning needs of all students in the area of literacy and numeracy.

Successes: The forced shut down of schools in March 2020 had a significant impact on the learning of our youngest students. Staff at Westview recognized this reality and started the school year off with a increased focus on review of essential skills needed for student success. As expected our trimester 1 report card data did show a noticeable but not significant drop in student achievement. However, our trimester 2 report card data showed that our student's achievement indicators had returned to pre-pandemic levels.

Our schools Literacy and Numeracy committees continued to meet and plan professional development for the staff during the year. Our students participated in several on demand literacy and numeracy tasks that staff then analyzed to see areas of strength and areas for growth. By the end of the year we were able to report 80% of our students were meeting or exceeding our numeracy goals for the year and 89-91% of our students were on track to meet our literacy goals. Our Reading Recovery program continued to run, sometimes in person some times virtually. We received some additional support from the division this year and as a result 32% of our grade one student received some reading recovery support. 100% of these students showed progress in their reading and writing as a result of their reading recovery lessons.

Westview School's Guiding Principles

I am aware of my thoughts and feelings so I can be...

- Safe
- Respectful
- Responsible

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2. Create and enhance safe and respectful school culture to enhance student performance.

Successes: This fall we spent a considerable amount of time “recollecting” our students. In the spring of 2020 our school year came to a jarring halt and we recognized the worry and anxiety that many of our students might have returning to school. The whole school worked on celebrating students’ individuality and strengths. Each classroom worked on a project where students could express “their Genius”. This started the school year off on a positive and strength-based note for all of our kids.



At the same time we were teaching all of our students the new safety procedures and protocols to keep them and our staff safe during the pandemic. Schoolwide expectations were a major focus for the first 3 weeks of school. Our PBIS committee and teachers continued to work at the implementation of a support model—School-Wide Positive Behavior.



Our school’s PBIS committee worked very hard to reimagine our school-wide matrices adding a matrix for online learning and an important statement about being mindful; “I am aware of my thoughts and feelings so I can...”. Students have been taught and have practiced behavior expectations. We reinforced these teachings with our “We Care” tickets that staff give out to students who are displaying pro-social behaviors. Students who get a ticket have their name put into a draw for a “we care” prize drawn every day over the announcements. Winning students get to come to the office pick a prize and sign our we care leaf (see the picture of our we care tree) Students are also learning self-regulation strategies and problem-solving using “The Zones of Regulation.” Data from our student management system indicates a decrease in problematic behavior in all grade levels. We also had 92% of our student body following school-wide expectations on a regular basis.

3. Enrich educational opportunities and enhance student performance through purposeful connections between the school and its community.

Success: COVID 19 made this goal especially difficult to even attempt. Our school remained closed to the public, only staff and students were allowed in the building during the school day. This meant that we could not have volunteers or guests into our building to work/read with our students. It also meant that all of our open houses and parent nights had to be done virtually. We did maintain a good connection with our Parent Council who met virtually throughout the year. As the year progressed and staff became more comfortable with technology we started to see opportunities to connect with our community virtually. A number of classes took virtual field trips to museums and zoos. We also invited presenters into our classrooms including two authors who spoke to students about their books and the writing process.

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Highlights 2020-21

- Students participated in a socially distanced Terry Fox run
 - Westview was able to reinvent its breakfast club by creating breakfast baskets that were placed at each door and made available to any student who missed/needed breakfast.
 - Westview's grade 5 students took part in chess club over the lunch hours run by one of our teachers. The students played each other online to maintain social distancing. Our students then played in a tournament against another school in the city and one of our students won the tournament.
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- We gave out over 300 WE care prizes to students who were “caught” following our school's expectations,. Students who won were called to the office to sign a we care leaf for our tree.
 - In the fall all staff participated in an afternoon of Minecrafting with one of our divisional; technology teachers,. Minecraft is an online tool that can be used to serve many educational purposes it involves problem solving creativity and collaboration. A number of staff implemented this program in their classrooms this year.
 - Mrs. Drepaul and our grades K - 5 students created a Nutcracker themed virtual winter concert that was shared on the teachers TEAMS sites for parents and grandparents to view.
 - The girls and boys washrooms across from our music room were renovated over the winter break.
 - Guided reading literacy program was implemented in all of our classes
 - I Love to Read month was a huge success all of our staff and students participated
 - Westview teachers were able to reach out and connect with a number of guest speakers through TEAMS including a geologist from Alberta, David Robertson (a Manitoba author) and Ms. Terry Lynn Johnson (a Canadian author).
 - In February our grade 4-5 students were able to participate in an outdoor voyageur challenge put on by a presenter from Oak Hammock Marsh.
 - Our partnership with the Transcona Public Library continued
 - Our teacher librarian continued to support inquiry learning in the classrooms as well as modeling and promoting the use of educational technology in the classrooms.
 - Students participated in art and drama clubs at lunch in their cohorts
 - P.A.C. continued to meet in person and virtually depending on public health orders
 - Prior to our winter break our staff donated over \$250.00 to the Transcona Food bank.
 - During the various school closures Westview staff taught our students in grade level teams connecting with the students multiple times per day.
 - Westview school is currently undergoing a major renovation, the school will be getting a new air handling system, new roof, two new accessible door ways, an expanded crawl spaces under the school, as well as a new facade and new larger classroom windows.
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Westview Priorities for the 2021—2022 School Year

As a school community, we have selected to work within the three priority areas below; these continue to be priorities that align with the provincial and divisional areas of focus:

1. Continue to strengthen educational practices to meet the learning needs of all students in the area of literacy and numeracy.
2. Enhance our student's sense of safety and security while providing them with tools to help them follow our school wide expectations by focusing on mindfulness.
3. Focus on various sub groups of students in our population who are not experiencing the same levels of academic success as their peers. As a school we are committing to providing these students with the additional supports needed to allow them to experience the same levels of success as their peers.