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Report to Community 2022-2023



Our Mission:

don@retsd.mb.ca

At Donwood School, it is our goal to foster a safe and caring environment that maximizes the intellectual, social-emotional, and physical development of our students.

Donwood School strives to provide a positive, respectful, and inclusive environment that challenges students to reach their full potential.

Cooperative, safe, and respectful behavior is taught, encouraged, and reinforced. Communication between parents, staff and students is considered essential to student success.

It is our goal to foster community and a love for learning that will allow students to become independent, confident, and successful learners!

About Donwood School

- We are a K 5 dual track school with both English and German Bilingual programming. Our enrollment fluctuates between 320 and 340 students divided amongst 17 classrooms.
- We have an instructional staff of 26 full-time equivalent teachers, along with 11 educational assistants, 1 youth care worker, and 9 educational interns. We have specialists for Phys. Ed., Music, Library, Student Services, Literacy Support and Reading Recovery as well as an Early Numeracy Intervention Program.
- Our Community Connector provides support to our students and families. She offered pre-school programs as well as evening virtual and in person community events. She runs our clothing closet and assists with our community

2022-2023 Priorities

Expected Outcomes: Enhance student performance through authentic literacy and math instruction including the use of technology as tools.

- Donwood School Staff took part in two professional learning sessions with our Divisional ELA Consultant on literacy instruction that focused on Regie Routman's work.
- ✓ Our Divisional ELA Consultant along with Admin, our Reading Recovery Teacher, our IAA/Literacy Support Teacher and our Grade 1-3 Classroom Teachers participated in Literacy Professional Learning. This is a continuation of our literacy work focused on creating a sustainable school wide approach to teaching literacy and increasing literacy achievement for all learners.
- The Divisional Reading Clinician worked with our Grade 4/5 teachers on reading and writing strategies to support all learners.
- ✓ The Divisional EAL Inclusion Teacher, the Divisional EAL Consultant, Admin and two Classroom Teachers facilitated professional learning for staff on inclusive practices for all learners.
- ✓ Teachers attended PD on Interactive Math Books, iPadapalooza, Grade 3/4
 Provincial Assessment, EDI Training and Information, Phonological Literacy,
 Divisional ELA Priority Workshops, Write Here Write Now, Digital Literacy and
 Out of the Box.
- Students celebrated, "I Love Math and Global Outdoor Day" that included many school-wide activities that celebrated and promoted numeracy. Our Numeracy Committee also provided monthly interactive bulletin boards to promote mathematical engagement and learning.
- ✓ Our students participated in a fall and spring School Wide, "On Demand Write".
- ✓ Students celebrated, "I Love to Read Month" with our "Under the Sea" theme that included many school-wide activities to celebrate and promote literacy.
- ✓ Students were supported by ENIP (Early Numeracy Intervention Program), and PD was provided to all K-2 teachers.
- Teams and digital literacy support were provided to all classrooms by our ICT Coordinator.

Expected outcomes: Enhance the climate and culture of our school by further developing a safe and inclusive environment.

- ✓ Walking School Bus, breakfast club, snack baskets, community food support, community closet and school clubs were available to students.
- CSPI grant funds have been used to support the community initiatives listed above, as well as Kinder Links Programming, Family Events including our open house as well as other school wide initiatives with a focus on literacy, numeracy, and mental wellness.
- ✓ We appreciated the opportunities for our community to come together during our Open House, our virtual Family Pumpkin Carving Night, our in-person Gingerbread House Making Evening, our virtual and in-person Student Led Conferences, our Volunteer Luncheon and our Grade 5 Farewell.
- We had several virtual read alouds and school wide assemblies throughout the year to highlight and celebrate the cultural diversity within our building. (Diwali, Black History Month, Chinese New Year, Ramadan to name a few)
- ✓ Project 11/Mind-Up programming continues to be provided to support wellness. Our Divisional Student Services Psychologist and our Divisional Student Services OT worked with two classes on the "We Thinkers" program.

food support. We utilize divisional clinicians (psychology, social work and speech and language) as well as behaviour and reading specialists to support our students. Donwood School is a socially responsible community that focuses on creating a positive, respectful, and inclusive environment. Our school motto is: Donwood C.A.R.E.S. C = Cooperate $\mathbf{A} = \text{Aim to do your best}$ $\mathbf{R} = \text{Respect}$ $\mathbf{E} = \mathbf{Empathy}$ S = Stay Safe.Donwood School works in partnership with an active and supportive Parent Council. They continue to support greening initiatives, fundraising, hot lunch, and numerous other activities that support all students. Our PAC constitution can be found on our school website. Donwood School supported 129 registered students with a daily breakfast/snack. We were able to reinstate our full breakfast program this year due to the muchappreciated support of volunteers from the local church as well as financial support from a nutrition grant and other generous donations. Donwood School houses a user pay lunch program and Laugh 'N' Learn Before and After School-Aged Centre Inc. Please visit our school website to keep up to date with school information. Go to www.retsd.mb.ca and follow the link to Donwood School.

- Our Donwood C.A.R.E.S. was taught and reinforced throughout the year in classrooms, through hallway meetings, during assemblies, and in our student led morning announcements.
- These matrices and professional wall mounts, which reinforce expectations for all areas of the school including school events, are visible in the hallways and stairways and throughout the school in all classrooms.
- All students participated in our "Caught You Caring" program to promote positive school wide behaviour. These student contributions were recognized by admin weekly during our Caught You Caring announcements.
- ✓ Staff, including lunch supervisors, have been trained in Zones of Regulation and Kelso strategies. Both Zones and Kelso are used by staff to provide language and strategies to help children to solve conflicts.
- Donwood School supported by our German Language classes celebrated cultural events (Lantern Festival and St. Nikolastag).
- ✓ German Language teachers participated in professional development with our German Language Consultant and colleagues from Princess Margaret. Collaboration including classroom visits between schools took place four times throughout the year.
- ✓ 67 Donwood Patrols were trained and supported the safe crossing of students.
- Each hallway received new outdoor recess equipment. Polar Bear Recess was successfully implemented during the cold winter weather.
- Our Sensory Path to support student movement and gross motor skill development will be installed this summer.
- Maintenance upgrades have been completed to improve the roof, mechanical and ventilation system of the school as well as add windows and improved exterior and interior finishes to the building.
- Our school was awarded a Teacher's Idea Fund Grant for an outdoor learning space which will be installed this summer and will include a shade shelter with amphitheater seating, interlocking paving stones with a medicine wheel design, an accessible path from the basketball court, greenery, and removal of the existing retaining wall to support grading and resodding.

Expected outcomes: Enhance student achievement through thoughtful and authentic work with our Indigenous Academic Achievement and Educational Sustainable Development work.

- All staff participated in Walk with Us that was facilitated by Divisional IAA staff and an Indigenous Elder.
- Divisional staff also worked with classrooms throughout the year doing land acknowledgement work and land-based teaching/learning. Classes shared their learning at our whole school, Land Acknowledgement Assembly. We also unveiled our Land Acknowledgement plaque that hangs in our front foyer.
- Authentic and inclusive resources continue to be purchased for all classrooms.
 Our Sensory Path scheduled to be installed this summer will include the Seven Sacred Teachings.
- Divisional IAA staff along with school staff provided many opportunities for our Indigenous boys' and girls' group: Drumming, Smudge Leadership Training, Ribbon Skirt Making, Bannock Making, Nana Gikenin, and Learning from the Land. Our girls shared their gift of drumming at our Global Outdoor Day and Indigenous Peoples' Day assemblies.
- ✓ MTYP presented Frozen River to our Grade 3-5 students with follow-up MTYP workshops for all Grade 4/5 classes called, "Living Water". Metis Fiddlers/Jigger presented for Grade 2-4 students. Grade 4/5 students learned about Gift Giving and prepared gifts for the divisional Powwow.
- New outdoor learning space will be inclusive of all students with Indigenous perspectives incorporated in the design and accessibility for students with additional needs. This structure will also welcome families into our school community and support an increase in outdoor learning as indicated in our grant application: No Child Left Inside.

Donwood School Report to the Community - June 2023