

Miles Macdonell Collegiate

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www.miles.retsd.mb.ca

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For more information about the board of trustees, visit: www.retsd.mb.ca/BoardofTrustees



RETSD is on Facebook and Twitter! Like and follow us to stay up-to-date on what's happening in the division.





Check out our new digital Community Bulletin Board to learn more about events, camps, and special offers for RETSD students and their families.

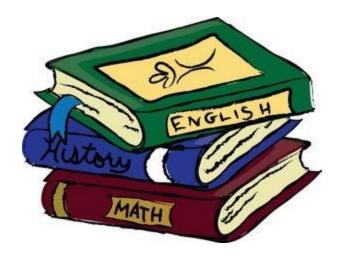
retsd.mb.ca/community

Principal's Message

Welcome to our first school newsletter of the year! Inside you will find some highlights of the many activities we have going on here at Miles Mac! We continue to be proud of the efforts of our students to be actively engaged in their classes and around the school through a wide variety of clubs and extra-curricular activities. Way to go Buckeyes! Our school renovations are progressing with students and staff now enjoying our new gymnasium, dance studio, and weight room. Other areas are still under construction and we anticipate full completion around the December timeline.

On a personal note, thank you so much to our Miles Mac students, families, and staff for the incredibly warm welcome that has been extended to me in my new position here as Principal. I look forward to continuing to support this community through a commitment to excellence, engagement, and individual growth and improvement.

Mr. John Muller



Attendance Telephone Number



Did you know that Miles Macdonell has a designated Attendance Line?

This is the phone number you can and should call when reporting a student absence.

You can leave a message on this line stating your student's name, the date and the reason for the absence at the following number:

MMC Attendance Line: 204-663-4068

PLEASE USE THIS NUMBER WHEN REPORTING ANY ABSENCE

Miles Macdonell Alumni Association

Here is a wonderful way to stay connected to Miles Macdonell Collegiate!

Please consider joining the Alumni Association.

Most importantly, this is the group that organizes multi-year reunions for all MMC graduates.

The Alumni Association also carries on a few activities that are of value to current and former students alike, such as:

- Scholarships for graduating students
- Grants for changes to and equipment for the school
- Pizza lunches for EAL students
- Sale of digital versions of MMC Year Books dating back to 1952-53.

With the next major milestone reunion expected to be the 75th in 2027, the current slate of Association directors is unlikely to be the group that organizes it.

In addition, the funds in the trust that allows the Association to provide the scholarships and other grants for school changes and equipment will require ongoing attention.

The best ways you can get in touch with the group are by visiting and liking their Facebook page at www.facebook.com/MMCAA, or you can contact the current Board of Directors elected officers directly via email as follows:

- Honorary Chair Darlene Lindsay (Former teacher)
- Chair: Ronald N. Storozuk ronsto
- Vice-Chair: Jim Smith
- <u>Treasurer: Donna Cudmore</u>
- Secretary: Maureen Silk

ronstorozuk@mts.net

jimsmith@mts.net

dc2cd@shaw.ca

mtsilk@shaw.ca

Other Directors are: Rick Dondo and Carmen Dondo

They look forward to hearing from you!



Pay Pal!

Did you know that you can pay your student's outstanding fees online? You can sign in to the Parent Portal and you will see a series of tiles, one of which is "Fees & Billing".

Fees owing are visible and you now have the option of paying for outstanding fees this way. There is a nominal fee to use this service.

You can also continue to pay any outstanding fee with cash or cheques.





Supreme Court of Canada



By Alison York

This past month, an historical event took place across Canada. The nine Supreme Court Justices left Ottawa, to travel across the country. In its 144-year history, the Justices through the ages, have never undertaken such a mission. The mission they chose to accept, was to hear two appealed cases, one in Manitoba and one in British Columbia. Supreme Court Chief Justice Richard Wagner indicated in an interview, they felt they needed to be more accessible to Canadians, stressing the need to include young people in discussion. Their intent included talking with Indigenous, Metis and French leaders as well. 'Order all rise, the Supreme Court Justices have left the building!'

It was an honour for Miles Macdonell Collegiate to be chosen as one of the five schools in Manitoba to host a Supreme Court Judge for an afternoon of information sharing and questions and answers. Manitoba Court of Appeal Justice William J. Burnett accompanied Supreme Court Justice Russell Brown and an escort from Winnipeg's 'finest'.

There seated on stage, after the introductory informational video about the Supreme Court in Ottawa, sat the two highly esteemed gentlemen of our country, ready to answer prepared questions from several high school students. They looked relaxed; these incredibly well-educated Justices did, until the first question was fired at them! "How do you distinguish was is legal and what is just?"

The Justices looked at each other and Justice Brown paused for a second and then said.

"That is an outstanding question.... a most philosophical question."

And he continued to answer the question more fully as did Justice Burnett.

The second student came to the mic.

"Is consensus important to your decisions or is conflict useful."

Justice Brown asked,

"Are we getting any soft balls this afternoon?"

The audience laughed and then Justice Brown tackled that one, doing a good job in outlining that conflict of opinion on cases often leads to a more thought out decision. It took him several minutes and when he was done, he turned to Justice Burnett and said. "You take the next one!"

It was an instructive and entertaining few minutes that continued through the afternoon I am told. We hope the students at Miles Mac long remember this historical occasion in Canadian History.

Summer Student Exchange Opportunity to Switzerland

Since 1997, Miles Macdonell Collegiate (MMC) has been involved in a student exchange program with the Kumon Leysin Academy of Switzerland (KLAS). KLAS is a private, Japanese boarding school located in Leysin, Switzerland. KLAS has approximately 200 students from Japan in grades 10-12. The primary purpose for participating in this exchange is to create more opportunities for KLAS students to practice the English language and to expose MMC students to the Japanese language and culture.

The students involved in the exchange will fly to Geneva, Switzerland in early July and will return to Winnipeg in early August (for a total of 4 weeks). While in Leysin our students will study Japanese Language and Culture, European Culture, Drama, and Art, Positive Psychology or Graphic Design weekday mornings. In the afternoons, students will be involved in sports and outdoor activities in the school and community. In the past, activities have included trekking, rock climbing, aerobics, basketball, soccer, volleyball, and swimming, to name a few. On weekends, there are excursions to other regions of Switzerland as well as Italy and France. MMC students can also earn a Cultural Exploration credit for taking part in the exchange.



In return, MMC students and their families will be required to host one KLAS student in their home. Our guests will arrive with our students in August and will depart at the end of the month for a total of 3 weeks. While in Canada, the KLAS students and Canadian students will take part in various cultural activities (Folklorama, Human Rights Museum, Lower Fort Garry, etc.) The MMC teacher supervisors will also organize a few group outings as well as a farewell.





Cost of the Program

MMC students will be responsible for their own passport, insurance (medical insurance is mandatory), and spending money. The cost is \$2,800.00 per person, which will include the student's airfare, a portion of the supervisor's airfare, admissions while in Europe, and admissions while in Winnipeg. All meals and accommodations will be provided for the MMC students while at KLAS.

Scholarship opportunities are available.



Interested?

Come to a student info session on Tuesday, October 29 in Room 2 at lunch for more details.

For more information see Ms. Propp in Room 2 or email jpropp@retsd.mb.ca





Belize 2020

Come join the Adventure in Belize, Spring Break 2020!

Please see Ms. Vince or Mr. DeGagne for more information!





Ski Trip

SKI / SNOWBOARD TRIP Fernie, B.C Saturday, February 8th – Thursday, February 13th, 2020

The ski / snowboard trip is heading to Fernie, B. C. this February, 2020. Students in grades 9, 10, 11, and 12 are welcome to join the trip. The cost of the trip is dependent on the number of participants, but will be around \$975, plus rentals and food. All students, regardless of skill level, will be required to take a half day lesson in the mountains with skilled ski/board instructors on our first morning. Students will be skiing/snowboarding for 4 full days in the mountains. You may be nervous about your child skiing/snowboarding in the mountains, but it is actually a great place to start and/or continue their development. Students are NOT allowed to use the terrain park at Fernie. Not to worry though, as the mountains provide a ton of green, blue, and black diamond options to keep your child entertained for the four days we are away. There is one fundraising opportunity available to assist with the cost of the trip. There will be a student meeting in the next couple of weeks with more information. If you have any questions, please contact Melissa Vince at 204-667-1103 or mvince@retsd.mb.ca, for more information.







Grad 2020

Please go to the following link for all the information you will need regarding Grad 2020!

The 2020 Grad Committee has created an amazing Grad 2020 Website that is up and running:

https://www.mmcgrad2020.com/



Orange Shirt Day



Pictured (from L to R) Juscenta Haligowski, Paige Larocque, Ms. Proulx, Precious Genaille and Misty-Laine Woodhouse.

Precious Genaille, Juscenta Haligowski, Paige Larocque and Misty-Laine Woodhouse, students of "Current Topics in First Nations, Metis and Inuit Studies," shared a presentation with staff on Friday, October 4, 2019 on the importance of honouring and remembering Manitoba's Missing and Murdered Indigenous Women and Girls. The girls had the staff place red ribbons on (created by Ms. L. Harris) and a moment of silence followed. Great job girls! It was very powerful!

RETSD staff Lisa Aymont-Hunter, Leanne Smith (not shown), Leigha Jackson, Sheri Stoesz and honoured guest Elder Peter Parisian, along with Miles Mac students participated in the very moving and powerful "Walk With us" exercise on Orange Shirt Day, September 30, 2019. This was done to raise awareness of the residential school experience and to ensure that EVERY CHILD MATTERS, always and forevermore!



Concern Protocol



AFM News

Addictions Foundation of Manitoba services available at Miles Macdonell Collegiate

ADDICTIONS FOUNDATION OF MANUTORA

The Addictions Foundation of Manitoba (AFM) is pleased to have a strong partnership with the River East Transcona School Division which ensures all youth and families within the Division have easy and confidential access to services offered by the Addictions Foundation of Manitoba in the school.

Youth are able to ask questions and get accurate information related to substance use for either themselves or someone else. They are also offered the opportunity to look closely at their substance use or gambling. This could involve exploring their pattern and/or progression of use and examines their choices and the impact these choices have on various areas of their lives, such as family, social life, physical health, emotional/psychological health, school work and potential legal involvement. On-going counseling, treatment planning and referral to complimentary resources is also provided.

The youth is able to access this service confidentially within the school.

Referrals for AFM services can come from the youth themselves, school staff or parents. If youth are not interested in AFM services but parents are concerned about their youth's use, the parent is able to connect with the AFM counselor for supports and resources to try to influence the youth in considering change.

Parents are the best educators and role models in the conversation about alcohol, drugs and gambling. You do not need to be a "drug expert" to have conversations with your youth about substance use. There are many excellent resources to help guide your conversation. Some of the resources many parents find helpful are:

Parent Action Pack about Alcohol and Other Drugs:

http://parentactionpack.ca/wp-content/uploads/2018/05/PAP ENG 2018 FINAL single pages.pdf

Cannabis Talk Kit: How to Talk to your Teen:

https://www.drugfreekidscanada.org/wp-content/uploads/pdf/Cannabis-Talk-Kit EN.pdf

Building Resilient Youth:

FOUNDATION

https://parentactionondrugs.org/for-parents/building-resilient-youth/

Alana Sigurdson
Addictions Foundation of Manitoba Miles Macdonell:
Monday's, Thursdays and alternating Fridays(204) 223-8829
asigurdson@retsd.mb.ca

Are you Concerned about your Teens Alcohol or Drug Use?

You are invited to a free information and support group offered by the Addictions Foundation of Manitoba.

WHEN: Tuesday November 19 & Thursday November 21, 2019

5:30 p.m. - 8:30 p.m.

(parents must be able to attend both nights, a light supper will be provided)

WHERE: RETSD Student Services 760 Kildare Avenue

<u>WHO:</u> Any parent or caregiver interested in more information or support regarding their young person's alcohol, drug or gambling use.

The Parent Intervention Program offered by the Addictions Foundation of Manitoba is designed to provide information and support related to youth involvement with alcohol, other drugs, and gambling. A young person does not need to be involved with the AFM for their parents or caregivers to attend.

The purpose of the Parent Intervention Program is to:

- Introduce the AFM Youth Services' philosophy in working with youth;
- Strengthen the understanding of how a youth's substance use affects everyone;
- Introduce parent response strategies that may assist and support youth in making healthier choices;
- Re-introduce principles of self-care to aid parents in maintaining health;
- Decrease isolation of parents/caregivers by providing information about available community supports and a network of mutual encouragement and support.

This program is free to attend and is open to any parent/caregiver seeking information and/support regarding their young person's substance use or parents who are interested in learning more about the signs to watch for to determine if your young person may be using alcohol or drugs.

There is no charge to attend this program. To register for the Parent Intervention Program, please call:

Alana Sigurdson at 223-8829 or Candy Burke at 223-9952

Languages Department

September at Miles Mac is always a busy month. For us in the Languages Department, we have a new teacher of Français as part of our French Immersion team: Mr. Ernest Touwa. This year we are fortunate to have many student teachers working in our Language classes and we have also a French Languages assistant from France! Her name is Anne-Claire, and she will be working with us all year long, three days a week! We wish everyone a good year and look forward to their contributions to our department and school.

We also welcome another Spanish Languages assistant who is sponsored by the Spanish Government. His name is Carlos. He will be working part time at St. Boniface University and part time here at Miles Mac under the guidance of Señora Cardenas.

Our Languages literary magazine is working towards deciding its theme for this year's edition! Stay tuned for that decision. All language students are encouraged to submit original creative works to be published.

To start off our many cultural activities, we are preparing to welcome individuals from Québec Cinema, who will provide a cinematic experience. Near the end of this month, they will bring a current French film to our theatre for viewing by all our semester one students enrolled in French: Communication and Culture and French Immersion Français courses. This cultural event will enrich students' cultural knowledge and intercultural understanding as well as provide an opportunity to use their oral skills in a different context, a large-group discussion about the film, led by Québec Cinéma, after its projection.

Further, we are looking forward to preparing our French and French Immersion students to participate in our Poetry competition: Les voix de la poésie, which will take place in December. This year we hope to have a local Francophone poet come to work with our students to prepare their poems for the competition. More information to follow in the next newsletter!

We thank students and staff, new and returning, for a great start to this school year!



Dance Program

New Dance Studio at Miles Mac!

The Dance programme (and Mme. Ybanez) are thrilled to be dancing in the new dance studio. The studio was part of the renovations that were done to the school during the summer. Located in the old Gym B, the spacious new studio has a beautiful sprung dance floor to help prevent injury for the dancers and mirrors to help in learning choreography and corrections. All dance classes and rehearsals are taking place in the studio and it is quickly becoming a great place to hang out during spare. It is much more fun to dance, listen to music and create in the dance studio than to try and do that in the tunnel!!

The dance students are looking forward \underline{to} many more years of learning, dancing and creating in this beautiful space.

ACE Dance Crew

For the second year in a row, auditions were held for the performing dance group, ACE Dance crew. This year over 40 students <u>auditioned</u> and 24 students were selected based on their talent, drive and character.

Right now, the Crew is mainly working on Hip Hop choreography with our guest teacher, Brendon <u>Virtucio</u>. But the group is thinking of become more diversified and adding different dance styles to its repertoire.

ACE Dance Crew will be performing at different functions throughout the school year. Their first performance will be during intermission at the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra performance with the choirs from the River East Transcona School Division on Tuesday October 29th. This is the first time that dance will be included in the show and <u>all of</u> the dancers are thrilled to be a part of this « first .» The students will also be performing in the Dance Manitoba Showcase on November 29th and at different school performances.

Mme. Ybanez is already impressed with the <u>students</u> talent, energy and their drive for perfection. The students are scheduling extra rehearsals as a team to help one another learn the choreography. A teacher couldn't ask for anything more. Look for ACE Dance Crew at these performances. You will not be disappointed!!!

Students go to see the Royal Winnipeg Ballet production of La Bayadère

On Tuesday October 1st, twenty-two dance students went to go see the dress rehearsal of the Royal Winnipeg Ballet's production of the famous ballet La <u>Bayadère</u>.

The students were extremely lucky as they were the <u>only</u> people in the audience. The Royal Winnipeg Ballet performed for Miles Mac!!

The students had been studying ballet for the week <u>previous to</u> the excursion and they were all mesmerized by the talent and technique of the dancers. The costumes were <u>beautiful</u> and the music played by the Winnipeg Symphony orchestra was enchanting. <u>All of</u> the students enjoyed themselves and were motivated to put what they saw into practice the next day in class.

The Dance Programme is looking forward to the second semester performance which will be the ballet Moulin Rouge performed as well by the Royal Winnipeg Ballet.

Save the Date

On Thursday, November 7th, Miles Mac's dance programme will be celebrating the new dance studio. All students enrolled in the dance programme during first and second semester are invited to participate in classes with guest instructors. Classes will take place during period 4 and after school from 3:30-7:00. Guest instructors include: GeNie Baffoe, Orielle Marcus, Makenzie Frias and Brendon Virtucio.

There will be sign up sheets on the bulletin board outside of the Dance Studio starting on Thursday October 31st for all students interested.

This is also open to graduates who were previously students in the dance programme at Miles Mac. Please pass the word on to any of these students and ask them to contact Mme. Ybanez at this email address for more information: kybanez@retsd.mb.ca. We look forward to dancing and celebrating the new studio together!!





New Dance Studio!





Social Sciences Department

It has been an extremely busy start up for the Social Sciences Department as our students have been taking part in a variety of field trips and events throughout the school. Here are some of the highlights:

ESD (Education for Sustainable Development)

Our MMC ESD committee has been busy organizing and implementing a variety of initiatives throughout the school and community. The committee, which includes over 40 students, is lead by students Kathy Nguyen, Josef Thiessen and Charelle Constantino and teachers Kara Street and Gord Fritzsche. The first big event that the group put on was the 100 Debates on the Environment which was part of a national event to bring attention to environmental issues in the federal election. Our students hosted and moderated the event that was attended by 300 students and 3 candidates – Daniel Blaikie (NDP), Jennifer Malabar (Liberal), and Rylan Reed (Green Party). The event was a huge success and our student leaders who moderated and hosted the event did an incredible job. The audience was amazing, the questions that students asked were extremely thoughtful. CTV news filmed the event and interviewed our ESD student leaders and the following week CBC radio invited them to take part in the Federal Election townhall for the Elmwood-Transcona Riding.

The ESD group has also been busy maintaining and harvesting our community garden and planning a multitude of events and fundraisers in the school such as a Farmer's Market that was held at Meet the Teachers night, a pumpkin pie and salsa fundraiser (made from vegetables grown in our garden). We completed the installation of a mural made from plastics to bring attention to the issues facing Lake Winnipeg. Our next big events include a Hackathon for the Climate event in December and our annual Earth Day conference in April.









Farmer's market!



Geography Caring for our Watersheds

Mr. Fritzsche and Ms. Street's PB Geography students had the opportunity to visit Oak Hammock Marsh on October 18th to learn about our watershed, geocaching, and participate in an eco challenge. After taking part in this field trip, they will be inquiring into environmental issues facing our school community in order to put together action projects to address these issues and promote sustainability. These projects will ultimately be entered in the province-wide "Caring for our Watersheds" competition where they can be selected for funding so that the projects can be implemented.

Ethics Bowl

Under the direction of Ms. Street, our Ethics Bowl team has been selected and is ready to compete in the upcoming regional event in December at the University of Manitoba, and hopefully compete in the national event at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights in April. The Ethics Bowl is a collaborative yet competitive event in which teams analyze a series of wide-ranging ethical dilemmas. Responses are judged according to the quality of a team's reasoning and how well team members organize and present their case, attend to and analyze the morally relevant features of the case and anticipate and pre-emptively respond to commentary and question. Since this is not a debate, students are rewarded for their skills at acknowledging and/or enriching their opponent's strengths. This year's team members are: Jakob Gamblin, Anhelina Havrylyuk, Gaelen Maderazo, Sarah Bacchus, Evelyn Creed and Soundarya Raj.



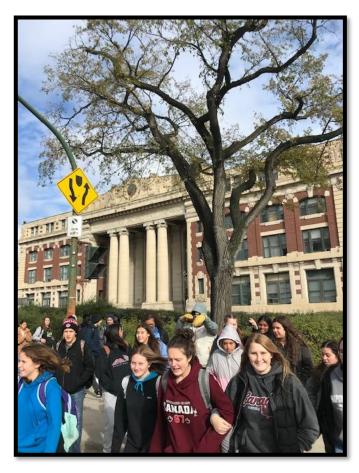
Local History

It was a chilly morning for October 1 but grade 11 IB History students made the most of it on their annual local history tour with Mr. Fritzsche and Ms. Street. We started the day at the Kildonan Presbyterian church, final resting place of many of the Selkirk settlers from Scotland originally brought over to the Red River Colony by Captain Miles Macdonell. We worked our way south along the Red River, stopping by the location of the Battle of Seven Oaks and learning about the lives of the Metis. When we hit downtown, we visited the old CRPO station, and the site of Fort Douglas, founded by Miles Macdonell in the early 19th century. We toured sites associated with the Winnipeg General Strike before we stopped for lunch in Old Market square. The afternoon featured a visit to our newest Provincial park at Upper Fort Garry, as well as Union Station and the Forks. Students put together interactive presentations on what they saw and learned and those will be available for viewing soon.

















Student Vote

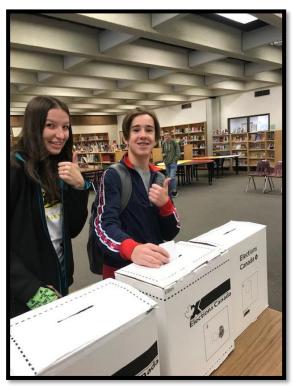
Miles Mac participated in the nationwide Civix Student Vote program. This is the largest federal mock election ever held, with over one million students participating. Buckeyes did themselves proud by having 796 votes cast for close to 70% turnout, the highest in our riding of Elmwood-Transcona. Before the election, students had the opportunity to learn about the candidates, issues, and platforms through displays and through an online vote compass. A committee of students administered the election day and the count, gaining valuable insights into the inner workings of our demoncracy. Here were the results from Miles Mac:

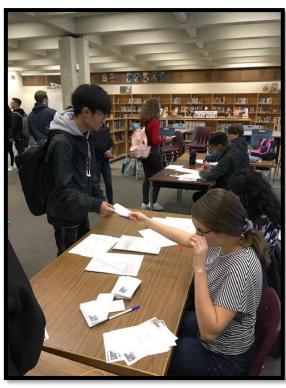
Daniel Blaikie (NDP)
Lawrence Toet (CON)
Jennifer Malabar (LIB)
Kelly Manweiler (GRN)
Noel Gautyron (PPC)
24 spoiled ballots
404 votes
146 votes
76 votes
723 votes

See https://studentvote.ca/results/nationalresults/33 for national results.











Christmas Craft Sale 2019

