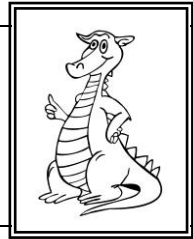


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Report to Community 2016-2017



Our Mission

“We help all children entrusted to us to develop to their full potential, through teaching and learning in a safe, cooperative environment.”

About Donwood School

-  We are a K – 5 dual track school with both English and German Bilingual programming in the River East Transcona School Division. Our enrollment is 291 students divided within 16 classrooms.
-  We have an instructional staff of 22 full-time equivalent teachers, along with 12 educational assistants to support learning in our classrooms. We have specialists for Phys.Ed. Music, Library, Student Services, a literacy support coach as well as a Reading Recovery program.
-  Donwood School hosts a Community Connector. Her role is to bridge connections between home, school and community.
-  We also have access to divisional clinicians (psychology, social work and speech /language) as well as behavior and reading specialists.
-  Donwood School is a Socially Responsible Community that focuses on creating a positive, respectful community that values everyone and fosters both learning and responsibility.
-  Donwood School works in partnership with a very active and supportive Parent Council. They continue to support the greening initiatives, numerous activities that support all of our students.
-  Donwood School also houses a user pay lunch program and Laugh’N’ Learn School-Age Centre Inc.
-  Our pre-school was built to accommodate 72 pre-school and infant spaces for our community.

2016-2017 Priorities

Expected Outcomes: Enhance student performance through authentic and appropriate literacy instruction

Successes:

- ✓ This year our staff focused our professional learning community in the area of reading comprehension with the Divisional Early Years consultant. This work has supported increased literacy achievement for all learners.
- ✓ Our students have published authentic pieces of writing. We celebrated by holding our second book launch in our school library during the month of February.
- ✓ Our students shared their writing with an audience during student led conferences.
- ✓ All of our students shared their writing on featured school bulletin boards.
- ✓ All of our classrooms received support from our educational interns.
- ✓ Our Parent Advisory Council was instrumental in providing reading incentives for our students to celebrate reading and literacy learning throughout the year.
- ✓ Our school has committed a student author area in our school library.
- ✓ We have created “Maker Space” learning center in our library to support scientific writing and the design process.
- ✓ An Engineer volunteered to support many of our students and staff with the design process for a Bridge Building competition.
- ✓ We continue as a staff to model and build a strong community of readers, writers and mathematicians at Donwood School.

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

- ✓ We celebrated many successes with significant programs offered at our school. Such as participation with our “Walking School Bus”, Nakoda Girls club and the Big Brothers/Big Sisters school groups, a new boys club, morning sport clubs, breakfast club, kids cooking club, open library, reading club, chess club, building club and many after school intramurals.
- ✓ We enjoyed several opportunities for our community to come together with our staff during evening events, such as a movie night, ginger bread house making event, a reading event and a fitness night.
- ✓ With support from our Community School’s grant, we hosted a community BBQ in the fall. Well over 550 parents and students attended the event.
- ✓ We appreciate all our parent volunteers. An active Parent Advisory Committee also supports us. Our grades 3, 4 and 5 students have taken on many leadership roles within our school to help make Donwood School a great place to be.
- ✓ Each month our students attended assemblies focusing on the seven teachings. Donwood School offered four smudges for our students and families in our community.

- ✓ All of our students took part in with our “Caught You Caring” program. This initiative recognized students putting the school behavior matrix into action. Our student house groups met monthly to have students of all levels interact and work with projects/assignments surrounding the school matrix.
- ✓ Our Grades 4 and 5 students were invited and participated in planning the activities for our house groups. Other leadership responsibilities to allow for student voice and to build student leadership capacity.
- ✓ Our school completed year 2 of a divisional Positive Behaviour Intervention System (PBIS) residency. Our staff has collated data to enhance safety and positive engagement in the social aspects of school life for all students.
- ✓ Our breakfast program expanded from 3 days a week to 5 days a week, offering healthy snacks to all students.
- ✓ CSPI grant funds have been used to support community programs such as Community Cupboard, Clothing Closet and Parenting Programs
- ✓ Our German Bilingual classes supported many cultural events (lantern walk and St.Nikolastag), Grade 5 students completed the first level of the Deutsches Sprach Diplom and celebrated their achievement with the grade 12 GB students who wrote the third and final exam level at REC.
- ✓ Donwood School participated in the Special Olympics Manitoba in the Schools Program. Five athletes from Donwood trained and participated in Basketball, Snowshoeing and Track & Field events throughout the school year
- ✓ Matrix and professional wall mounts are visible in the hallways and stairway in our school.

Expected outcomes: Enhance student performance through authentic and appropriate integration of technology

- ✓ Our Grade 4 and 5 teachers have taken part in divisional Technology Enabled Learning Professional Development.
- ✓ Each staff member took part in PD to support literacy and numeracy through technology.
- ✓ Each of our classrooms published digital stories to enhance their classroom and our school libraries.
- ✓ Our library created a maker space area with Lego and K’NEX to inspire our students to design and write about their projects. An engineer volunteered his time to work with some of our students to create many wonderful projects.
- ✓ All of our students and staff participated in an “I Love Math Week” This included: daily math stations that students; daily announcements, math challenges for students of all ages; and a math dress up day.
- ✓ Students had an opportunity to participate in Coding projects using robotics.
- ✓ Virtual field trips occurred in the library, with students Skyping professionals from Egypt amongst other places.