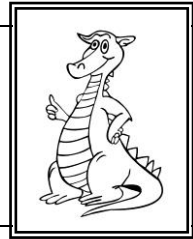


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Report to Community 2020-2021




Our Mission


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 330 and 340 students divided amongst 17 classrooms.

 We have an instructional staff of 24.5 full-time equivalent teachers, along with 10.5 educational assistants, 1 youth care worker, and 6 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 supports our students, parents, and caregivers. She offers pre-school programs as well as evening virtual community events. She runs a clothing closet, and also supports our Walking School Bus along with two additional supervisors.

2020-21 Priorities

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

- ✓ Throughout the year, our staff continued to take part in professional learning on literacy instruction with our Reading Recovery/Teacher Librarian and our IAA/LST Teacher. This was a continuation of the literacy project that we began last year focused on creating a sustainable school wide approach to teaching literacy and increasing literacy achievement for all learners.
- ✓ Staff participated in professional development on inclusive practices for all learners with our Student Services Team, our Divisional Student Services Consultant and our Divisional PBIS teacher. This work included a staff book study of Shelley Moore's book, "One Without the Other."
- ✓ Members of our Numeracy Committee participated in a book study of Tracy Johnston Zager's book, "Becoming the Math Teacher You Wish You'd Had".
- ✓ 3 teachers attended the Regie Routman Workshop offered by the division, 2 staff members attended the Shelley Moore Workshops, and 2 staff members attended the Technology Betterment Session on Document Cameras.
- ✓ The Divisional EAL Inclusion Support teacher worked with our Grade 1 classrooms on Inclusive practices. This work was presented to all staff.
- ✓ Our Divisional Student Services Consultant and our Divisional PBIS Teacher worked with 3 classrooms on Universal Design for Learning strategies that were shared with all staff.
- ✓ Our students created authentic pieces of writing in the preparation of a PowerPoint for Donwood's 50th Anniversary. They also participated in a School Wide, "On Demand Write".
- ✓ Students celebrated, "I Love to Read Month" with many school-wide activities to celebrate and promote literacy.
- ✓ Our students participated in a school wide Numeracy Day in honour of Donwood's 50th Anniversary.
- ✓ Minecraft Education was provided to all Grade 3, 4 and 5 students.
- ✓ Our Grades 2 to 5 classrooms took turns preparing and presenting a Donwood News segment that was shared virtually and viewed by all classrooms.
- ✓ Teams and digital literacy support were provided to all classrooms by our ICT Coordinator/Teacher Librarian.

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

- ✓ Despite the restrictions this year, Walking School Bus, breakfast/snack baskets, cohorted dance, basketball, and beading clubs, Language while we Lunch, and Sign Language Club were available to students.
- ✓ We enjoyed several opportunities for our community to come together during virtual evening events such as our virtual Student Led Conferences, our Family Pumpkin Carving Night, our Gingerbread House Making Evening, and our Family Pizza/Bingo Night.
- ✓ We also had a several virtual school wide assemblies including our 50th Anniversary assembly that allowed both in class and remote learners to participate.
- ✓ Project 11/Mind-Up programming was scheduled daily to support mental wellness. The divisional PBIS teachers/our school counsellor worked with classrooms on mindfulness strategies.



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

A = Aim to do your best

R = Respect

E = Empathy

S = Stay Safe.



Donwood School works in partnership with an active and supportive Parent Council. They continue to support greening initiatives, fundraising and numerous other activities that support all students. Our PAC constitution can be found on our school website.



Donwood School supported over 80 students with a daily snack. Our full breakfast program had to be adjusted due to Covid restrictions. We did receive volunteer support from our local church as well as financial support from a nutrition grant.



Donwood School houses a user pay lunch program and Laugh 'N' Learn Before and After School-Aged Centre Inc. as well as a pre-school and infant daycare.



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 virtual hallway meetings, during our virtual assemblies, and in our weekly virtual Donwood News.
- ✓ All students participated in our “Caught You Caring” program to promote positive school wide behaviour. These student contributions were recognized by admin daily during our Caught You Caring afternoon 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.
- ✓ Our Grades 2 to 5 students prepared and presented our weekly virtual Donwood News that promoted and reinforced our school wide matrices.
- ✓ Matrices have been created and reinforced for all areas of the school including school events. These matrices and professional wall mounts are visible in the hallways and stairways in our school.
- ✓ CSPI grant funds have been used to support community programs such as Walking School Bus, Community Cupboard, Clothing Closet and additional parenting and Kinder Links programs. It also supports additional literacy and numeracy learning and school wide initiatives.
- ✓ Donwood School supported by our German Language classes celebrated cultural events (Lantern Festival and St. Nikolastag). German Language teachers also participated in professional development with our German Language Consultant.
- ✓ Paul Loewen from Siloam Mission presented virtually to K to 5 students during Socktober.
- ✓ Dale MacDonald, our School Resource Officer, did a digital safety presentation with Grade 4 and 5 students.
- ✓ 50 Donwood Patrols were trained and supported the safe crossing of students.
- ✓ Each hallway received new indoor and outdoor recess equipment.
- ✓ Polar Bear Recess was successfully initiated during the cold winter weather.

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

- ✓ All staff participated in professional learning on the Circle of Courage facilitated by our Indigenous Support Teacher, a traditional knowledge keeper and a traditional elder.
- ✓ Authentic reading resources were purchased for all classrooms.
- ✓ School wide strategies and supports were connected to the Circle of Courage. Our Circle of Courage mural was completed outside the school library.
- ✓ We had two community smudges and our Nakoda Girls shared their gift of drumming at our Orange T-Shirt Day school assembly.
- ✓ All classrooms took part in our Orange T-Shirt Day Assembly, our Global Outdoor classroom day, Indigenous Peoples’ Day and recognizing and remembering the 215 children from a residential school in BC who did not make it back home.
- ✓ Many Grades 4/5 students participated in our cohorted beading club that was offered along with traditional teachings by one of our staff members, our Indigenous Support Teacher and a traditional knowledge keeper.
- ✓ We continue to create outdoor learning spaces including our garden area for classrooms to take the learning outdoor.