



MACKENZIE MIDDLE SCHOOL SCHOOL COMMUNITY REPORT 2018-2019



School Mission Statement

“At MMS, it is our mission to create a safe and caring learning environment that fosters success through mindful citizenship.”

School Profile

Mackenzie Middle School (MMS) is located in the city of Dauphin, which is situated in the Parkland region of Manitoba. It is the educational home to a diverse population of grade 6-8 students. MMS is a triple track school offering language courses in English, French Immersion, and Ukrainian Bilingual. Our staff consists of 28.25 full-time equivalent teachers. This group is complemented by 15 educational assistants, with full-time resource, and guidance support. Our school also receives regular service from our school division in the areas of psychology, speech pathology, social worker, and our hearing consultant. Our youth support worker also assists us in helping students and families with school related concerns.

We pride ourselves in bringing our students a well-rounded middle years education in all areas academically, socially, and culturally. Our classrooms are outfitted with all of the current technology to allow students to achieve at the highest possible level. We continue to work towards our school goals of student transition, literacy, and numeracy. We continue to work towards implementation of the new ELA curriculum, and we are focusing on seeing improvement in problem-solving and mental math. We continue to strive to work collaboratively in furthering our understanding of Truth & Reconciliation and expanding initiatives around our Indigenous cultures.

Message from the Principal

As we complete the 2018-2019 year we begin yet another renovation phase of our school. This phase will have a much bigger impact on our classrooms, specifically the grade 6 & 7 wings. This project is scheduled for completion in July 2020. We hope to have all classrooms ready for full operation this September.

As we wish our Gr.8s all the success in high school, we are better prepared in welcoming a new crop of Gr.6 students. We are expecting 170 grade 6 students next fall, which now brings our enrolment just over 450. We will be operating with 18 homerooms as well as the return of the student support center. As our building continues to change physically we have also added 3.5 new teaching staff. We continue to grow and improve as one of the largest middle years schools in the region. Lastly, this will be last community report as I have announced my retirement for this June. I have thoroughly enjoyed my time as Principal, and the opportunity to work with so many students, and a very dedicated staff. I want to thank those parents that have supported our school in so many different ways and I know you will continue to help us in providing a quality education for your children.

Enjoy your Summer, September will be here soon!
D. Anderson

School Staff

Dale Anderson—Principal; Blaine Johnson—Vice-Principal; Secretary—Linda Boyko & Karen Yarema

Gr.6 Homerooms- D. Liwiski (French), J. Marshall, K. Mitchell, E. Durston, J. Lenius

Gr.7 Homerooms— S. Thomas(French), K. Kuzyk, J. Slobodzian, S. Cook, R. MacInnis, M. Rodgers

Gr.8 Homerooms—R. Bray (French), C. Carefoot, C. Momotiuk, S. Paziuk, C. Todoruk

S. Hudyma/O. McIntyre—Physical Education, K. Monaghan/ J. Bettner/ C. Papadopoulos - Band Program, J. Michasiw/ P. Barkman—Tech Ed., V. Ogg/C. Hockridge—Home Ec., W. Ohryn/O. McIntyre—Guidance, M. Maffenbeier/ C. Hockridge—Resource

EA Staff: M. Gayowsky, , L. Bogoslawski, L. Smith, K. Yarema, C. Frith, F. Kowalski, A. Harlow, S. Neault, C. McMaster, W. Kabel, C. Caplan, R. Smigelsky, T. Bayduza, G. Reeve, J. Thompson, F. Moar

Youth Support Worker - N. Flett; Custodial: T. Tokarchuk, E. Funk, C. Padnorski



School Improvement Plan

Planning for Continuous Improvement



Background Information

We have revised our three primary goals: Literacy, Numeracy, and Student Transitions. Our literacy goal centered around the new ELA curriculum, and working towards having all homeroom teachers on board with implementation. For numeracy we continued to focus on improvement in problem-solving both in student learning and new teaching strategies.

The addition of the gr.6 population has been very positive to overall climate and school community. With our students now completing 3 years of middle years we have a much better opportunity to strengthen relationships and improve overall student learning. We now run two different report cards with the provincial formats being different for grade 6, and then the 7-8 combined report. All classes at MMS now do online reporting for students and parents in the areas of assessment and attendance. We have now completed the improvements made divisionally as a new website platform was put in place last fall.

Priority #1: Improving Student Literacy

Outcomes

(What We Wanted)

By June 2020, MMS students will have improved critical literacy skills across all curricula. A focus will be on the element of "power & agency" in the development of rich learning experiences for all students.

Strategies

(What We Did)

- In Social Studies and ELA there has been explicit teaching of critical analysis of online sources of information.
 - Students have been asked to conduct intelligent and critical search strategies.
 - They have also been asked to evaluate websites for their reliability and accuracy.
- What's Going on in This Picture? (New York Times Learning Network) asks students to critical analyze a variety of visual texts.
- Annotated texts – students asked to annotate a variety of texts as they read for comprehension, summary, main ideas, connections, and questions.
- Explicit instruction for analysis of problem statements in math.
- Examination of bias in texts. Whose voice is heard? Missing? In a variety of texts.
- Examination of persuasive strategies in text.
- Examination of connotation and denotation in texts – what

Indicators of Success

(What We Accomplished/Measured)

- Regular STAR assessments for student identification. Annual report summarizing yearly growth.
- New ELA PD session for all staff (ongoing)
- PLC planning teams/goals dedicated to this outcome.
- blocked time for advanced learners
- cross-curricular connections implemented in other core subjects.
- developed units in TRC and the 7 teachings.
- ongoing focus with the practice of "Power & agency."
- Gr.8 MYA assessment results have maintained a 17% increase over a 2 year period in responding critically to a variety of texts (MVSD indicator).

	<p>is the impact and power of language?</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Increased classroom strategies using self and peer assessment. • An exploration of reconciliation through the lens of the seven teachings. 	
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Priority #2: Improving Student Numeracy

Outcomes (What We Wanted)	Strategies (What We Did)	Indicators of Success (What We Accomplished/Measured)
<p>By June 2020, our students will demonstrate a 10% increase in their conceptual understanding in numeracy. The focus will be on developing and improving overall problem-solving, and mental math skills.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Creating a more balanced approach in developing instructional strategies for problem-solving and mental math. - Annual tracking of assessments in all three report card categories for math. - Development and implementation of more open-ended, and critical thinking tasks/ assignments/ projects. - Gr.7 MYA numeracy assessment numbers are showing a decrease of 10% over a 2 year period. - However our MRLC June assessments are indicating <p>Increase PD opportunities in mathematics for all involved staff.</p>	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Team PLCs dedicated to establishing numeracy goal - Math talk PD sessions, - “EDLabs – focused teacher planning (numeracy) - Co-teaching periods dedicated to numeracy - Summative assessments designed to assess all three categories: knowledge & understanding, problem-solving, and mental math - PRC - June data will be available in Sept. 2019. - June assessment scores being compared to last year’s baseline indicated an increase in each grade level: Gr.6 = 1.5%; Gr.7 = 7%; Gr.8 = 2.15%

Priority #3: Successful Student Transitions

**Outcomes
(What We Wanted)**

By June, 2020 we will have an effective transition process in place for new and graduating students. This will include the addition of grade 6 students to our school enrolment for the 2017-2018 school year.

**Strategies
(What We Did)**

- Middle Years Life/Work Exploration Grant – Gr.8 tours of ACC (Parkland)
- Xello student profiles
- Local Career Day (local community representatives)
Gr.7 Real Game Unit
- Gr.8 Class tours of DRCSS
- Pre-registration sessions
- Resource/Guidance team consultations
- Gr.8 Amazing Race/ Report Card Pickup @ DRCSS
- Gr.6 Classroom invitations – Reading café, French Immersion Improv Activity
- Gr.5/6 Transition Week (individual school tours)
- Band/Art program demonstrations
- Band Parent Info Night

**Indicators of Success
(What We Accomplished/Measured)**

TTFM survey results indicated:

- Elementary school staff indicated a greater comfort level for their students when they were offered their own tour and school visit. Follow up tours were offered for students who missed the assigned days.
- Student anxiety levels, bullying, and sense of belonging however remain areas to focus on for improvement.
- Day 1 September 2019 will be set as an orientation day for “new” students only. Grade 7 & 8 students will be assigned as tour guides and activity leaders to assist in the overall orientation. This decision has been endorsed through PAC and an overall parent survey completed June 2018.

We now offer a breakfast program everyday for all students, as well as a lunch service 3 days a week.



MMS
MAGIC

Celebrating Learning!

Check out some of the wonderful things that have happened, or that will be happening soon.

Highlights of this past year:

Parent Night/ Open House

Terry Fox Run

First Note – Band Information Night

RCMP – Internet Safety Presentations

Mom's Pantry Fundraiser

Tornado Hunter

Addictions Awareness

Healthy Together – Anti tobacco

Parkland/Norman Honor Band Festival

Canadian National Youth Band Tour

ACC/Bu Gr.8 Tours (Parkland)

Robb Nash Tour

Seven Teachings

Ukrainian Language Camp/ Vegreville Trip

Skills Manitoba

MADD

Career Cruising - Xello/ Real Game

Parkland/Norman Honour Band Festival

Indigenous Education Celebration Day

MMS Indigenous Education Committee

RMNP Backpacking

Awards day transition activity/ amazing race/ school dance/ report card pickup



Plans for 2019-2020

As we prepare and plan for the fall and a new group of grade sixes (170), our school enrolment has now grown to over 450 students. We have added the student support center back to MMS, as well as 4 additional teaching staff to support the additional programming required. The new renovation project is underway and we are hopeful that much of the work needed for our classrooms will be complete for September. The work to do on making the classroom link a 2-story structure will be a major undertaking next year, but will be a welcome addition to finding your way around the school in the future. As a staff we have endured many interruptions due to renovations, and we are very much looking forward to the day when the work is done and we can enjoy a much improved Mackenzie Middle School.

