



Learners Today,
Leaders Tomorrow

Publisher

Park West

A Message from CEO, Tim Mendel

We are off to a good start for the school year in Park West School Division. Enrollment for the division is meeting projections. This will be the year that the board will undertake the creation of a new 4 year strategic plan. Similar to the process used last time the board will consult and solicit input from various stakeholders across the region. A new aspect of this year's process will be more student input than in the past. Trustees and I will meet with high school students across the division to gather their thoughts and ideas regarding what the board should consider for its new strategic plan. The board will also be setting aside a day to review and set some goals for itself. They will be looking at ways it can improve how it functions as an organization. This self-reflection/team building by the trustee is important given that the board has four new members. If a board is to be effective it needs to periodically reflect on how it functions and does its work; making changes when needed or reinforcing current practices. All in all we have another exciting year ahead of us in the division. I leave you with this poem as we begin another year.

Just One ~ Unknown Arthur

One song can spark a moment,
One flower can wake the dream
One tree can start a forest,
One bird can herald spring.

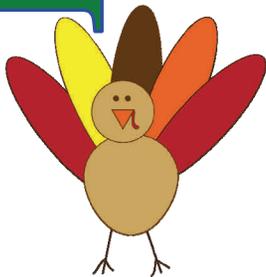
One smile begins a friendship,
One handclasp lifts a soul.
One star can guide a ship at sea,
One word can frame the goal

One vote can change a nation,
One sunbeam lights a room
One candle wipes out darkness,
One laugh will conquer gloom.

One step must start each journey.
One word must start each prayer.
One hope will raise our spirits,
One touch can show you care.

One voice can speak with wisdom,
One heart can know what's true,

One life can make a difference,
You see, it's up to you!



Welcome back everyone. Hopefully you had an exciting summer and a productive first month back. As trustees, the first month has seen a change in our board executive. Newell Johnson takes over as Vice-Chair from Don Cochrane. I look forward to working with Newell this year. I also want to thank Don for his work as Chair and Vice Chair for the past five years. Your guidance has left this division a better place; so for that, I thank you.

The board is starting the process on developing a new strategic plan. Our present strategic plan was developed four years ago with input from all stakeholders: trustees, administration, staff, students, parents, municipalities, and chamber of commerce. The question we will be asking all of our stakeholders is where our focus as a division should be for the next four years. The division will be hosting two regional meetings to gather input from the larger community. I encourage everyone to attend one of the meetings to share ideas so that we can create a strong strategic plan for our division. The first meeting will be held at the Shoal Lake School Gym on October 20th at 7:00 pm and the second meeting will be held at the Major Pratt School (Russell) Multipurpose Room on October 29th at 7:00 pm. The plan that we develop as a community will guide the board in the decisions that we make around the board table including the resources we commit in our budget process and the programs we will be offering to our students.

The board is looking forward to another great year in Park West School Division! We would like to wish students, parents, and staff a successful school year!

~Submitted by Darren Naherniak, Board Chair

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Park West School Division Strategic Plan Community Meetings

Do you want a greater voice in your child's education? Do you have ideas on how to improve our education system? What should be the focus of the school division? Park West School Division is hosting two community meetings to gather public input on the priorities of the school division.

October 20th
Shoal Lake School Gym
7:00 PM
Shoal Lake
Refreshments Served

October 29th
Major Pratt School Multipurpose Room
7:00 PM
Russell
Refreshments Served

**Current Enrollment for 2015/2016
as of September 30th, 2015**

School	Projected 2015/2016	Current 2015/2016	Difference
BIN	76.5	77.5	1.0
BCI	154	168	14.0
BES	64.5	65	0.5
DCS	21.5	22.5	1.0
HCI	139	140	1.0
HES	123	128.5	5.5
ING	46.5	47.5	1.0
MPS	499.5	501.5	2.0
MIN	54	53.5	-0.5
RCI	88	94	6.0
RES	88.5	87.5	-1.0
SLS	165	171.5	6.5
SCS	155	145	-10.0
WWS	325	317	-8.0
O/C	15	34	19.0
Adult Ed	40	39	-1.0
TOTAL	2055	2092	37

Kindergarten students are counted as 0.5 fte for funding purposes



Grade 5 & 6 Transition to Birtle Collegiate

This fall began with a staggered start for Middle Years and Senior Years students to support our new students as they transitioned to BCI. Since our first days, there's been no looking back! Our new, young students seem to be right at home in their new school. It has perhaps been a bigger adjustment for our senior students, who are familiar with the school, but are now getting used to doing things just a little bit differently. Everyone has been patient with this adjustment period, and we are settling right in with our new school family.

We are very excited about our expanded Middle Years program. Our Middle Years teachers have created an engaging learning environment, and have taken their students into their care, making this transition a positive one. Having Grades 5-8 in one area has meant increased collaboration among Middle Years teachers, and greater access to extra-curricular programs for our students. Already the Grade 5 & 6 students have been busy with extra-curricular activities – golf, volleyball, and cross-country running all in this first short month.

Although June was a hectic time as we prepared to restructure and move classrooms for the upcoming change, the dedicated efforts, hard work, and flexibility of the Birtle Collegiate staff ensured that everything went very smoothly. The PWSD Maintenance Department commitment to this project also contributed to the transition success. Thanks to all of you for going above and beyond! Pictures of the new classrooms are shown below.



New Strathclair Daycare Opening in Strathclair School

The daycare construction at the Strathclair School is almost complete. This new facility will be licensed for 4 infants (12 weeks - 2 years) and 8 preschool (2 years - entrance into grade 1). The early learning program will offer all the same aspects of a nursery school program in a play based environment. This includes math, science, literature, social studies, fine motor skills, gross motor skills and social and emotional development. Shelves will be stocked with materials for using as their interests direct, as well as more structured circle times based on children's interests and developmental levels.

The Hamiota Daycare will act as the home centre for the Strathclair daycare with the administration being handled in Hamiota for both centres. The facility will have a supervisor and one early childhood worker. Further staffing will be added as enrollment demands.

The tentative opening date is November 1st, 2015 depending on licensing approval. Pictures of the renovations are shown below.



Tundra Oil and Gas Donates to Birtle Elementary School

Birtle Elementary would like to say a big thank you to Tundra Oil and Gas. BES received a \$2950.82 donation from Tundra Oil and Gas to help purchase the Levelled Literacy Intervention program for grade three. The Levelled Literacy Intervention program is a resource based program. It is used for small group daily instruction outside of the regular classroom to help students who find reading and writing difficult. Through reading, writing, working with words and text, students are able to increase their reading and writing ability and reach grade level expectations. The grade three Levelled Literacy Intervention program includes 6 copies of each of the 144 original levelled books, 6 copies of each of the 6 novels, teacher guide, lesson plans, on-line support, and many other organizational tools to help run the program. The donation is made possible by Tundra Oil and Gas Virden field and office staff's annual United Way fundraising campaign. The funds that are raised are donated directly to charities in the local area.

The adults in the picture are (from left to right): Darren Naherniak, Tanis Cheasley (Principal of Birtle Elementary School), Jason Lewis (Surface Land Representative from Tundra Oil and Gas), and Newell Johnston. The students in the picture are all of the grade 1-4 students at Birtle Elementary School.



Educational Assistant Diploma Program

Park West School Division, Waywayseecappo First Nation, Aboriginal Affairs and Northern Development Canada, Government of Manitoba, and Assiniboine Community College (ACC) are partnering to offer an Educational Assistant Diploma program to First Nation students at Waywayseecappo. The program started in September and will be completed by March 2017. Classes are conducted two evenings a week and one Saturday a month. Once completed participants will have an EA Diploma from ACC. The program has an enrollment of 22 participants.

The funding for this program is from grants by the federal and provincial government as well as the Waywayseecappo/Park West School Division education partnership.

Rosburn Elementary – Designated a UNESCO Associated Candidate School

The UNESCO Associated Schools Project Network (ASPnet) is a global network of **10,000** educational institutions in 181 countries. Rosburn Elementary School (RES) has been chosen as one of its newest Candidate Schools! UNESCO stands for the United Nations Educational, Scientific, and Cultural Organization.

Canadian schools that are part of the UNESCO Associated Schools Project Network make a commitment to support the ideals of UNESCO through four pillars of learning and four themes of study, in order to contribute to local, national and global culture of peace. According to the UNESCO website, the four pillars of learning are fundamental principles for reshaping education.

Themes of Study	Pillars of Learning
ASPnet and UN Priorities	Learning to Know
Education for Sustainable Development	Learning to Do
Peace and Human Rights	Learning to Be
Intercultural Learning	Learning to Live Together

Member institutions – ranging from pre-schools, primary, secondary and vocational schools to teacher training institutions - work in support of international understanding, peace, intercultural dialogue, sustainable development and quality education in practice. In June 2015, Principal Yvonne Knight submitted an application for RES to have the possible opportunity of becoming a Candidate School. She explains, "Rosburn is located next to the UNESCO-designated Riding Mountain Biosphere Reserve, which is one of only 16 biosphere reserves in Canada. Our unique location, together with our School and Division goals for nurturing global citizens, made membership in the Network a logical next step." On September 2, 2015, RES learned that they had been successful in their application. They have now become only the 5th rural school in Manitoba to receive this designation. "We are thrilled to have been accepted as a Candidate School and are excited about the possibilities," says Mrs. Knight. RES has already participated in a number of projects to help students learn about the world, to connect with students in other countries, and to learn to live peacefully and sustainably. In keeping with Park West's motto of "bringing the world to our students to prepare our students for the world," RES staff hope that membership in the UNESCO Associated Schools global network will provide even more opportunities for learning through collaboration with teachers and students in other schools, whether they are close to home or across the globe.

Making a Difference

An old man walked up a shore littered with thousands of *starfish*, beached and dying after a storm. A young man was picking them up and flinging them back into the *ocean*. "Why do you bother?" The old man scoffed. "You're not saving enough to make a difference." The young man picked up another starfish and sent it spinning back to the water. "Made a difference to that one," he said.

MacPhail McCormick Memorial Fund Information

This fund was established by Marion McCormick and Alexander MacPhail and is administered by the Park West School Division Foundation. Some of the guidelines are:

- be a grade twelve graduate having attended either BCI, RCI, SLS for the last two years (all conditions are listed on the application)
- be enrolled in a university, community college, bible college or recognized educational institution as a full time student;
- be about to embark upon or are already engaged in a course of studies leading to a career in any fields listed on the application;
- remain a full time student in an eligible program (as recognized by the educational institution attended) for all terms of the academic year;
- provide a statement of their marks of the previous year, grade twelve or college, etc.;

Full application details can be found at www.pwsd.ca

Application deadline is November 13th, 2015

Lauman Scholarship Information

This scholarship was established by George and Mabel Lauman and is administered by the Park West School Division Foundation. Some of the guidelines are:

- be a graduate of one of the following High Schools: BCI, DCS, HCI, SLS, SCS; and have been a resident of PWSd and a student of the above schools for a minimum of two years;
- be a student taking a full course of studies at a University, Community College or School of Nursing where the program of studies is two years or longer;
- along with the application provide official academic standing;
- an applicant may apply twice: once in second or third year of studies; once in fourth or fifth year of studies.

Full application details are at www.pwsd.ca

Application deadline is November 13th, 2015

Any questions regarding these scholarships can be emailed to Tanya at tthompson@pwsd.ca

Welcome New Staff!

- Nikki Blackman - Teacher, RES
- Allan Brandon - Custodian, Off-campus/Adult Ed
- Dave Chipelski - Bus Driver, MPS
- Peggy Colon - Teacher, WWS
- Christina Denis - Teacher, WWS
- Bryan Foley - Teacher, MPS
- Tia Fouillard -Teacher, BCI
- Dorelle Fulton - Secretary-Treasurer Executive Assistant
- Jacque Gage - Secretary, HES
- Cheryl Glenn - Educational Assistant, SCS
- Kalena Green - Teacher, MIN
- Debra Jackson - Bus Driver, MPS
- Nathan Klassen - Educational Assistant, HES
- Amy Kowalchuk - Educational Assistant, BIN
- Caitlyn Lavich - Teacher, RES

- Kayleigh Lavich - Teacher, ING
- Leah Logan - Teacher, SLS
- Patrick Loewen - Teacher, Off-campus
- Brittany MacDonald - Teacher, BCI/BES
- Brandy Matheson - Finance Assistant
- Chelsey Novakowski - Teacher, HAM/SCS
- Annette Ramsden - Bus Driver, MPS
- Michael Smart - Teacher, BIN
- Ted Smith - Bus Driver, MPS
- Christine Spence - Educational Assistant, WWS
- Marsha Stevenson - Educational Assistant, WWS
- Jenna Stewart - Educational Assistant, HES
- Drew VanLandeghem - Teacher, Off-campus/Adult Ed
- Kyla Wilson - Teacher, SLS



Student Citizenship Awards

Park West School Division supports the Manitoba School Boards Association Student Citizenship awards. These awards recognize individual and groups of students that demonstrate their commitment to the values of citizenship through various activities.

Park West hosts an annual banquet to honour the students that have displayed leadership, citizenship, and social justice qualities. Each school nominates individual students or groups which have made a positive impact on their schools, community, and global community.

The Criteria

The Board of Trustees select one individual applicant and one group applicant and submit these nominations to the Manitoba School Boards Association. The below criteria is considered when selecting the applicants:

1. Volunteer service to the community (i.e. service to health care facilities, senior citizen groups, shelters, day care centers).
2. Involvement in citizenship or character building organizations.
3. Participation in student government programs or activities.
4. Leadership ability to motivate others to actions to benefit the community.

The Information

If you are interested in learning more about the awards please contact your school principal or a teacher. Please visit our website for additional information including past winners and a sample application form. Go to www.pwsd.ca and look for the Student Citizenship link.

Each school within Park West School Division is invited to nominate one student AND/OR one student group for these awards. A student, staff member, or a community member may initiate a nomination.

A. Student Application

1. Completed application form
2. An essay (maximum 500 words) from the student or group that defines what citizenship means to them, and/or describes how the student or group has tried to live out the concept of good citizenship in school and community.

B. Two Sponsoring Letters as follows:

1. A letter from an official at the student's or group's school that describes the context in which the sponsoring official has known or worked with the student or group and describes how the student's or group's actions at school demonstrate good citizenship.
2. A letter from a representative of a community organization that: indicates the individual's relationship with the student or group describes how the student's or group's actions in the community demonstrate good citizenship.

C. Digital pictures

Please submit up to 5 digital pictures to accompany your application.

The Timeline

The applications are available from your school or on our website in the late fall. The deadline for applications is early January. All applications must be complete and submitted on time in order to be considered.



*"be the
CHANGE
you wish to
see in
the
WORLD"*

*~ Mahatma
Gandhi*

