



BRANDON
SCHOOL DIVISION
WWW.BSD.CA

NOVEMBER
2017

A Monthly Insight into the Brandon School Division

On Track

Upcoming Events >>>

- **November 6** **No Stone Left Alone Ceremony**
Brandon Cemetery @ 10 AM
- **November 10-11** **Vincent Massey High School Presents: The 25th Annual Putnam County Spelling Bee**
Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium
- **November 13** **Green Acres School Gymnasium Grand Opening**
Green Acres School @ 2:30 PM
- **November 13** **Regular Board Meeting**
Division Office Board Room @ 7 PM
- **November 17** **Student/Parent/Teacher Conferences**
No Classes K-12
- **November 27** **Regular Board Meeting**
Division Office Board Room @ 7 PM
- **November 30** **École secondaire Neelin High School Presents: Singin' in the Rain (Based on the MGM Film)**
Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium
- **December 2**
- **December 7** **AM Professional Development Day—No Classes K-12**
PM Regular Classes

Board of Trustees >>>

Focus of the Board & Community Engagement

October began with an unique event hosted by the Brandon Teachers' Association Executive at Earl Oxford School. The "Home Economics" teacher, (aka: Red Seal Chef), Lani Parker provided a learning experience for all by presenting lesson plans and preparing a delicious meal replicating skills taught by her for her students.

In addition to the two regular Board Meetings on October 10 and 23, a wide variety of community connections were made including a joint meeting with City Council. The audited 2016-2017 Financial Report was presented and accepted at our October 23 meeting while plans for the 2018-2019 school year have already begun. On October 17 trustees met with Parent Council representatives to seek input on budget and will continue to meet with several other stakeholders.

Other community meetings included the BSD Aboriginal Committee at which Dr. Casavant shared details regarding the process of ongoing assessments and interventions to ensure success for all students. The Friends of Education Committee received updates of the generous donations from community members and organizations many of which were designated for academic

scholarships and awards as well as addressing the replacing of playgrounds. Three very informative consultations took place regarding the Grade 7 and 8 Options Programming Review. We appreciate the reflections of our community in all of these endeavours.

While the annual LIFT Conference on October 20 hosted hundreds of educators from throughout the province as well as the Brandon teachers, the trustees attended the Manitoba School Boards Association Regional meeting to discuss a plethora of issues that impact schools today.

As we move into the details of November, trustees have been invited to several schools to recognize Remembrance Day. We also note that this is the month for Student/Parent/Teacher Interviews and report cards. We encourage you to attend these valuable opportunities to become apprised of your child's status in many areas of their development with academic progress being a prime focus.

Board Meetings!

To have a letter included on the agenda of the Board meeting, please address it to the Chairperson of the Board and submit to:

sangster.bernadene@bsd.ca

For more information:

www.bsd.ca/board/meetings



Continuous Improvement in Brandon School Division >>>

Brandon School Division is committed to providing Professional Development to our staff to support our Continuous Improvement Plan.

During the 2016-2017 School Year, we examined the factors impacting the school calendar. Representatives from Senior Administration, School Leaders (K-8 and 9-12), and Presidents from BTA & CUPE Local 737 reviewed and considered factors including: provincial exams, semester balance, parent teacher interviews, professional development needs, parent concerns, and legislative and provincial requirements.

In support of our new [Continuous Improvement Plan](#), the 2017-2018 School Calendar was designed to:

- Reduce costs for the delivery of professional development;
- Increase alignment of calendars between K-8 and 9-12;
- Change 3 full-day professional development days to 6 half-days;
- Provide a platform to better respond to new Continuous Improvement Framework focused on improving student achievement; and
- Comply fully with Legislation & Provincial requirements.



Transportation For Half-Day Classes >>>

Throughout the 2017-2018 School Year, we have set aside six half-days for professional development for our staff. This means that there are six half-days of instruction for our students. The following schedule has been created for students who currently receive transportation services from the Brandon School Division:

Should you have any questions regarding transportation during these six half-days, please contact our Transportation Office by phone at 204-729-3975, or by email at: transportation@bsd.ca.

Thursday, November 2, 2017

AM Regular Classes
PM Administration Day

Wednesday, February 14, 2018

AM Regular Classes
PM Professional Development Day

Wednesday, May 30, 2018

AM Regular Classes
PM Professional Development Day

Thursday, December 7, 2017

AM Professional Development Day
PM Regular Classes

Wednesday, April 25, 2018

AM Professional Development Day
PM Regular Classes

Thursday, June 21, 2018

AM Professional Development Day
PM Regular Classes

AM Professional Development Day

PM Regular Classes:

Your regular bus will arrive 4 hours later than your normal morning pick up. For example, if your regular morning pick-up is 7:45 am, then pick-up time will be 11:45 am.

AM Regular Classes

PM Professional Development Day:

Your regular bus will arrive 4 hours earlier than your normal afternoon drop-off. For example, if your regular afternoon drop-off time is 4:15 pm then drop off time will be 12:15 pm.

**SCAN HERE TO VIEW OUR FULL
2017-2018 SCHOOL DAY CALENDAR**



School & Student Achievement >>>

For these stories and more, visit www.bsd.ca/news

On Wednesday, November 1, 2017, students from Riverheights School were at the Brandon Cemetery to help the [Defenders Motorcycle Club Chapter 19](#) of Brandon, dress the graves of fallen soldiers. Painted crosses, built by former Grade 8 Industrial Arts students, and Canadian Flags were placed at each soldier's grave in their honour.

For the last seven years, the Defenders Motorcycle Club Chapter 19 of Brandon has helped dress the graves of fallen soldiers in the Souris Cemetery; this is the fourth year they have dressed the graves at the Brandon Cemetery.



Riverheights School
Principal: Mr. John Minshull
32 E Fotheringham Drive, Brandon, MB R7B 3G3
Phone: 204-729-3210 Email: riverheights@bsd.ca



@RiverheightsBSD



Neelin High School Off Campus
Vice Principal: Ms. Susan Gilleshammer
Unit A, 638 Princess Avenue, Brandon, MB R7A 0P3
Phone: 204-725-2630 Email: neelinoffcampus@bsd.ca



@NeelinOffCampus

Samantha Dellezay, the Education Facilitator for The Marquis Project presented to a group of students from Neelin High School Off Campus about her experience living abroad in Fort Portal, Uganda.

Samantha lived there for six months while completing her Master's degree in Human Security and Peacebuilding. She spoke to the students about her experiences, the challenges and successes.

Samantha touched on voluntourism, international development, health and gender equality.

The Grade 4s and Grade 1/2s have joined together as Buddies. Sometimes we read, sometimes we share our projects, sometimes we play Math games and sometimes we make Art!

Mrs. Dobrescu and Mrs. Laluk are so proud of how kind our Grade 4 Buddies are when they are helping the Grade 1/2s!



J.R. Reid School
Principal: Mr. Shawn Lehman
813—26th Street, Brandon, MB R7B 2B6
Phone: 204-729-3955 Email: jrreid@bsd.ca



@JRReid_BSD



On October 18th Green Acres hosted a kindergarten parent night. Parents participated in a short presentation regarding the Kindergarten curriculum. They were able to learn about the activities their child completes at school and strategies to help continue their child's learning at home.



Green Acres School
Principal: Mrs. Shelley Cords
335 Queens Avenue East, Brandon, MB R7A 2B9
Phone: 204-729-3265 Email: greenacres@bsd.ca



@GreenAcres_BSD

School & Student Achievement >>>

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Riverview School finished 4th in the Adopt a School voting with 189 Hearts, and has now been selected as the Grand Prize winner of the Manitoba Adopt a School Story Contest!

The Indigo Adopt a School Team is thrilled to be able to award our school a **\$2,500 Indigo Gift Card** which can be redeemed to buy new and engaging books for our students. This is in addition to the amount we raised through donations to Riverview School and through the Indigo Love of Reading Foundation's matching programs which means we should be receiving approximately **\$3,810** for new books!

Thank you so very much for your support of the Adopt a School Program, your support will go a long way towards strengthening Riverview School's commitment to literacy!



Riverview School
Principal: Mr. Kelly Braun
1105 Louise Avenue East, Brandon, MB R7A 1Y2
Phone: 204-729-0330 Email: riverview@bsd.ca

@Riverview_BSD



Middle Years Options Program Review

The Brandon School Division is undertaking a review of the Middle Years Options Programming available to our students in Grades 7 and 8.

During the 2016-2017 school year, a consultant was hired to review our current Middle Years Options Programming. A report has been submitted to Senior Administration for review and it is now time to engage with our stakeholders to determine the direction we want for our Middle Years Options Programming.

Students in our Division are suggesting and stating that they would like to see more program options for themselves. School Leaders are also stating that they would like to see more program options being held in the schools in which students attend, rather than having students transported to other locations.

Please visit our website to view a recording of the meeting, together with a PDF copy of the presentation. A survey link will also be available for you to submit your feedback for a period of two weeks, closing on Friday, November 17, 2017.

[MIDDLE YEARS OPTIONS PROGRAM REVIEW - WEBSITE](#)



"Accepting the Challenge"



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BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION CONTACT INFORMATION:

Mailing Address:	Phone:	204-729-3100
1031—6th Street	Brandon, MB R7A 4K5	Fax: 204-727-2217
Website: www.bsd.ca	Email:	info@bsd.ca

Newsletter Questions/Comments?

Contact: Terri Curtis
Senior Management Executive Secretary—Communications Coordinator
Phone: 204-729-0388 Email: curtis.terri@bsd.ca



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