

# Bison Run SCHOOL



## Bison Run School

60 Frontier Trail, Winnipeg, MB R3Y 2H1  
Phone: 204.488.1973 | [www.pembinatrails.ca/SCHOOLNAME](http://www.pembinatrails.ca/SCHOOLNAME)

**Be Inclusive**  
**Be Community**  
**Be Innovative ...**  
**Be a Bison**

**Principal**  
Caterina Romeo-Mzakar



### Board of Trustees Three Expectations for Student Learning

1. All students in Pembina Trails will be personally and intellectually engaged in their learning at school.
2. By the end of grade 8, all students in Pembina Trails will meet the provincial curricular standards in literacy and numeracy, allowing them the greatest possibility for success in high school.
3. All students in Pembina Trails will graduate from high school.

### 2022-2025 School Plan Priorities:

- **Opening:** By January 2023, Bison Run School will open to students from K-7.
- **Belonging and Culture of Inclusivity:** By June 2025, a culture of belonging, inclusivity, diversity and hope will be established throughout the school community.
- **Indigenous Learning:** By June 2025, 100% of students will describe and understand (developmentally appropriate) Treaty, Land Acknowledgement, Broken Promises, Residential Schools, Circle of Courage.
- **Setting Learning Goals / Critical Thinking:** By June 2025, 100% of students will chart growth and articulate their learning goals in the areas of literacy and numeracy using classroom data collection systems.

### Progress Toward School Plan Priorities:

#### Opening

- The school opened to K to Grade 7 students on January 30th. Ribbon cutting with provincial and divisional dignitaries followed this spring.
- Open houses for Kindergartens, and for Grades 1 to 8 were a great success.

#### Belonging and Culture of Inclusivity

- 3 school-wide assemblies were greatly received and very positive.
- Students received Bison Run school t-shirts, bringing them together under the school mantra: **Be Inclusive, Be Community, Be Innovative ... Be a bison!**
- Bison Boutique was launched. School apparel was ordered and purchased by families further creating a visual and an emotional connection to the new school.

- Sporting teams were started and participated division-wide. A fan base was developed. Pride and excitement for the teams was strong.
- Both classroom and school presentations and ongoing student seminars with Stephanie Zirino, our Divisional Equity and Inclusion Consultant, in the area of **Words Matter** and acceptance began.
- Grade 6-7 Students presented to PTLC (Pembina Trails Leadership Community) their interpretation of **Words Matter** at Bison Run School.
- Presentations with our School Resource Officer about Cybersecurity and community citizenship
- Grade 3 and 4 students created *Bracelets for Turkey and Syria* to support these areas where devastating earthquakes took place early this year.
- 4 school-wide excursions and activities further brought students together reinforcing their commitment and belonging to Bison Run School: The Human Rights Museum, The Indigenous Forks Excursion, Festival du Voyageur and Cultural cooking, etc.
- Establishment of a Parent Advisory Committee is underway so that parent voice is shared and a school / home partnership is fostered.

### **Indigenous Learning**

- Classroom gathering carpets were purchased and are indigenous inspired.
- Daily morning announcements include the Land Acknowledgement and Canadian Anthem in Indigenous languages.
- Plans to create signage above water fountains acknowledging the water that is provided to us from Treaty #3, the Shoal Lake region.
- Individual classrooms (developmentally appropriately) have discussed/taught indigenous history with respect to the land upon which Bison Run School resides, Winnipeg Forks as an exchange centre, residential schools and broken promises.
- Elder Dr. Winston Wuttanee provided indigenous drumming seminars for band students.
- Elder Dr. Winston Wuttanee opened band / choral concert with a drum prayer with students.
- School landscape is filled with indigenous grasses and plants, included is an indigenous circle of traditional greenery in the centre of the bus loop.
- Bison Run School has begun the Truth and Reconciliation journey with PTC. We have formed an Indigenous Advisory Committee with various Indigenous members from both schools, the Indigenous community and the school division. A feast is being planned to collect the two schools' learning communities and bless the land upon which the two schools reside this September 2023 during the Truth and Reconciliation week.

### **Progress Toward the Three Expectations for Student Learning 2023/2024:**

#### **First Expectation**

- All Grades had in-person excursions to various locations: Manitoba Farm, Winnipeg Zoo, The Forks, The Human Rights Museum, The Electrical Museum, Bridgwater Park, etc.
- Motivational and team building student-led assemblies engaged all.
- Sports and Arts, Choral/Band/Art Gallery Concert Evening celebrated student learning.

## **Second Expectation**

### **Literacy**

- Literacy Intervention programming, EAL programming, *I Love to Read*, school-wide literacy activities/ enigmas were established throughout the day and school-wide.
- Developing a literacy resource acquisition plan for high interest easy accessibility readers is underway.
- Teacher Professional Development in the area of literacy is in place and will continue into the next school year

### **Numeracy**

- Teacher Professional Development in Math Running Records, Mathology was available.
- Numeracy Teacher Leaders were established.

## **Third Expectation**

- Open Houses for Kindergarten, Grades 1-8 underscored the education journey towards graduation.
- Kinder students received their Graduation Date t-shirts from the division.
- Strong professional and family connections created with Pembina Trails Collegiate reinforce the journey and partnership.

On behalf of the Bison Run staff, we thank you for your support and partnership. Opening a new school is an enormous and amazing endeavor. This can only be successful with the support of all stakeholders and with children at the centre of all decisions: families, community, school, division, builders and the province. We express our gratitude for your contribution to this successful school opening and for these spectacular first five months!