



Laidlaw School

515 Laidlaw Blvd, Winnipeg, MB R3P 0L2

Phone: 204 888 1678 | www.pembinatrails.ca/Laidlaw

Mission Statement

To provide a safe and inviting environment, where all students can develop to their fullest potential, becoming life-long learners, and responsible contributing members of the community.

Principal
Jacqui Kroeker



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.

2018/19 School Plan Priorities:

- **Literacy:** To focus on writing skills for all students using the newly created school-based writing continuum to improve the quality of student writing. Teachers focused on checklists and student exemplars to guide instruction and learning.
- **Numeracy:** To improve flexibility, accuracy and efficiency in math problem solving through exploring real-life problem solving contexts and connecting to prior knowledge.
- **Citizenship:** To increase student empathy, respect and improve cultural sensitivity.
- **English Learners (EL):** To continue the journey of understanding the adaptations necessary to support new Canadians be successful at school and in the community.

Progress Toward School Plan Priorities:

- **Literacy:** Teachers formed two professional learning communities: early years and middle years. They completed a book study by Regie Routman: *Writing Essentials*. They shared their learning at staff meetings and professional development days. We support literacy by involving students and their families in events. For example, cuddle up and read, summer reading program, artist in residence, winter concert, band and art concerts, student book launches and class plays. Teachers also met in literacy team meetings to share programming enhancements and learning opportunities.
- **Numeracy:** We hosted a numeracy evening on Tuesday, April 9th with a theme on problem solving. We invited all families to join their children in math stations which included robotics, break out boxes and a variety of hands on problem solving activities. Math program leaders were involved in divisional mathology professional development opportunities and shared this knowledge during staff meetings. Teachers also met in numeracy team meetings to share programming enhancements and learning opportunities. Math manipulatives are actively being used in the classroom to aid student learning.

- Citizenship: We have used the Circle of Courage framework and the Laidlaw Lion mascot this year to frame our work around citizenship. In building community, we hosted five school wide assemblies to teach everyone at Laidlaw about the Circle of Courage in addition to other school assemblies. On Orange Shirt Day our community came together in the spirit of reconciliation and hope because every child matters. Elder Winston hosted the assembly and he taught the school how to sing the alphabet song in Cree amongst other Indigenous teachings around belonging and kindness. Parent Council helped us to support the United Way's Conscious Kindness day that encourages acts of kindness and belonging. Laidlaw certainly paid it forward. Other assemblies included Jump Rope for the Heart and Terry Fox.



The Circle of Courage promotes a more harmonious and balanced community. It is a model that has promoted positive youth development through the lens of safety, adventure and resiliency. It is based on four universal growth needs of all children: belonging, mastery, independence and generosity. Below is a short account of how we have encouraged each growth segment this year:

- **Belonging:** Keith Macpherson hosted an assembly and promoted wellness, mindfulness and creating a sense of belonging in both self and others. We hosted a Canadian Citizenship ceremony for new citizens including Principal Jacqui Kroeker, a movie night, student leadership team, tea with the

Principal that promoted student voice and student led initiatives like the “Tree of Belonging”, improvements to morning wellness and the Green Team. The parent council wellness committee organised for positive messages to be painted in the washrooms and changing rooms as well as providing fruit bowls in common areas like the office and student support services. Keith Macpherson also hosted an information evening so families received the same messaging to help support their children.

- **Generosity:** Students and their families have not only paid it forward with kind gestures and words but they have collected very generously for the Ralph Maybank Breakfast program, Siloam Mission and the United Way. We cannot forget to mention the \$375 000 that the Laidlaw community helped to raise with fundraising and grants to reinvent the school grounds. The PEG committee organised and managed this project as part of the parent council.

- **Independence:** We hosted an assembly that celebrated all the student initiated projects and skills by having student present their work. We offered a grade 7 and 8 team building trip to Camp Stephens in Kenora and will also be offering a northern cultural student exchange program to Nunavut in 2020 to grades 7 and 8.

- **Mastery:** We celebrate mastery through student participation in band and art shows, sports teams and achievements (i.e., MB marathon, track and field, volleyball, basketball, ultimate clubs, intramurals etc.), everyday learning that occurs in the classroom, the annual talent show and the many events that take place in our Library Learning Commons (hacker-girl, makerspace, skyping with authors from around the world etc.)

- English Learners (EL): Divisional support teachers hosted a professional development day to train all teachers in the use of clevr—a system that supports student specific plans. Many adaptations including visuals, picture cards, social stories, daily plans, iPad apps, home language books are being utilised to help with the acquisition of the English language. We have EL support

teachers that work one on one with students as well as co-teaching in the classroom, this benefits all learners. A group of EL students created a survey and produced graphs to represent the many countries and languages that are represented in the Laidlaw community. This has been a positive talking point for students and their families as they arrive as it is visually represented in the front foyer. We are delighted to see a higher engagement of our EL families at community events, we have tried hard to communicate in different ways to enable the information to flow to all students and their families. This has been done via Principal monthly blogs, emails and the use of social media via Instagram and twitter.

Progress Toward the Three Expectations for Student Learning 2018/2019

- All students in Pembina Trails will be personally and intellectually engaged in their learning at school: the staff at Laidlaw strive to engage students in the learning process every day through relationship building and providing authentic learning opportunities that are relevant to student's personal passions. We have engaged students through the Circle of Courage, story telling and sharing circles. These strategies have allowed students to access a more personal learning experience. Laidlaw staff support all students in their learning from student specific support through to enrichment opportunities that are provided locally at school for example, WE are Social Entrepreneurs, Canadian Citizenship Ceremony, field trips and through divisional events (Pembina Trails Unite, PT Voices, Urban Stable, swimming programs, coding, Niniimi'iwe performance) just to mention a few.
- By the end of grade 8, all students will meet the provincial curricular standards in literacy and numeracy, allowing them the greatest possibility for success in high school: we have four program leaders in our leadership team that are aligned with delivering our school goals. Laidlaw teachers are supported by the student support services team that provides programming support along the literacy and numeracy continuums from student specific planning to enrichment of learning. We have a comprehensive team that believe that inclusion and the child should be at the heart of all we do in school. We have reading recovery in the early years and staff who provide one on one support in early years and middle years. We provide homework club before and after school in addition to individualised programming.
- All students in Pembina Trails will graduate from high school: at Laidlaw, we work at establishing rigorous and high standards for all students and staff. We want all students to achieve individual academic success through project and inquiry based learning, experiential and land based learning, student specific learning plans as well as social and emotional well-being. A healthy mind and body is important to instil the value of life-long learning. Our mission of striving for excellence is at the centre of our minds in all we do.

