



## WESTDALE SCHOOL

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### Mission Statement

Westdale School's mission, as a collaborative community, is to inspire students to be resilient, responsible citizens, and lifelong learners.

Principal  
Penny Riffel



### 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.

### 2021-2022 School Plan Priorities:

- Mental Health/Engagement for Students, Staff, and Community: To explore ways to engage all of our learners while focusing on themes of building resiliency, well being, and positive mental health approaches. Modelling these characteristics for our students and building collective efficacy on our school team.
- Indigenous Student Success Initiatives: To continue our journey of education and reconciliation with Indigenous people. We are all treaty people.
- Numeracy and Literacy: continuing our journey to improve student success in these areas using strategic interventions, including Level Literacy Interventions.

### Progress Toward School Plan Priorities:

- This year has been hope-filled as we continue to see the return of many things that makes our school a great place to be. A very exciting moment for everyone was the first Pep Rally of the year, where the teachers took on the Grade 8 Basketball Teams. To hear the cheering of students from the stands and to feel the excitement was a moment our community will never forget. Each week has brought an exciting 'first' for our students and community, and we look forward to every move towards normal.
- Part of 'getting back to normal' is learning how to work, together, as a community. A focus this year has been working with students to build social interaction skills as they relate to resiliency. We need to remember 'how' to be together as restrictions have been removed. We have done this through programs like MindUp, Project 11, Words Hurt Campaign, and our own Mental Health and Wellness week. As a staff, our focus has been on implementing a trauma-informed response, as we work with our students and families.
- Indigenous Student Success Initiatives: We continue our journey, as a staff and community, on the road to reconciliation. This year, we have focused on Treaty Education (Grade 8's), Waterways and Paddle Making (grade 7), and Land Acknowledgements (grade 6). Our grade 8's have also engaged in an exploration of the historical significance of Charleswood spurred on by the 'What's in a Name?' journey of the Division's newly named school, Prairie Sunrise, formerly known as Ryerson. As well, we have been part of a Provincial initiative called Engaging Elders and Knowledge Keepers. We have been so fortunate to enlist the support of several members of the Indigenous community. Our Art students worked with Jacques St. Goddard, a local artist, who gave students the gift of the seven teachings, Cookem Daisey, Glenna Henderson, has

worked with our staff and our parent community to build fellowship through food. Chickadee Richard has brought new learning of traditional knowledge to our students, and Wanda Lavasseur has worked with our students to begin teaching Anishanaabemowin to our school community. We had students participate in Walking Together, an initiative with Sakgeeng First Nation and the Winnipeg Foundation. We are proud of our continued journey.

### **Progress Toward the Three Expectations for Student Learning 2020-2021**

#### **All students in Pembina Trails will be personally and intellectually engaged in their learning at school:**

- At Westdale, we will continue to focus on identity and self-determination for our students. It is important for Middle Years students to be able to explore their passions and find their voice. We have participated in the Pembina Trails STEM challenge, where several students built chairs out of cardboard. One chair held over 500 pounds without collapsing. Students have participated in extra curricular sports, band trips and concerts, student council (raising over \$2000 for the Red Cross appeal for Ukraine), and so many more opportunities to see themselves as learners and contributors to the community.

#### **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 of success in high school:**

- Literacy: this year, we focused on the implementation of the Levelled Literacy Intervention (LLI) program. **We have great data to share (get from Sabrina)**
- Numeracy: this year we had an entire month focused on numeracy. Students actively engaged in STEM activities related to math, number challenges, and, of course, all things Pi Day! Our math teachers have been working with Divisional consultants to infuse more inquiry into their programming.

This coming year, we will continue strategic target setting in both literacy and numeracy. We continue to explore the Divisional data program, Compass for Success. These interventions will focus on our students that are receiving ND, 1, and 2 as performance indicators on the report card. Our goal is to improve all students' understanding and knowledge in literacy and numeracy. We know that success in these areas lead to success in high school and beyond. We will continue to strive for strong academics for all of our students.

#### **All students in Pembina Trails will graduate from high school:**

- Graduation depends on early and often successes in education. We look forward to continuing to provide amazing opportunities for our students in a variety of areas. Our students are exploring their talents and gifts and we will continue to provide support, encouragement, and experiences for our Wildcats. We continue to look at new ways to engage students in all aspects of their development. We continue to offer strong academic opportunities, including enrichment experiences. As well, we also focus on all aspects of student talents including Creative Arts, Industrial Arts, social activism, and athletics.
- Attendance: We continue to work with families and students around attendance. We know that strong attendance is a big indicator of school and graduation success. With the support of our school social worker, we have made great strides in engaging families with community agencies to remove barriers around attendance.

As a community of learners, we feel strong and know that resilience is needed to continue to create opportunities for our students. We value community involvement and look forward to continued collaboration. Thank you to all families who reached out to make our community stronger this year. We are strong. Go Wildcats!