



Whyte Ridge School

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Report for October 2024 PAC Meeting - Mike Weekes and Cyndi Tibbs

School Start Up

- Start up has gone well but definitely has had it's challenges. As of this morning we are at 603 students (which is only 4 students higher than where we were at this time last year). We have 23 classrooms from Grades 1 to 4 and 6 Kindergarten Classes. This means smaller class size but our needs have gone up, and our EA and Student Services time does not match the needs. We continue to register students from many walks of life, while trying to balance the different supports and strategies for what makes up an effective school start up.
- In regards to parking, after our last parking message, parents have been more cooperative with no U turns, staying out of the staff parking lot, bus loop, and with general safety. Our staff have been extra ordinarily efficient with supporting students on busses and helping regulate the stop/drop zones.
- This year's challenge with bussing has again taken on a different flavour. With the installation of the new transportation APP, many students were not routed correctly or on time, but things have settled and are more organized. Bus behaviour this year has been good and we will be doing our own bus ridership in the next couple of weeks.
- School fees have risen to \$50 (1-4) and \$40 (k). Lunch fees have risen to \$175. With the increased prices of supplies, and increased number of classes, costs have gone up.
- Student behaviour has been excellent so far. Student regulation continues to be the focus, teaching students how to play with each other, problem solve and focus on building character.

School Events

- Clubs and events have started up again:
 - Run club will be starting up next week for the grade 4s on Tuesday and Thursday mornings.
 - Our grade 3 and 4 choirs have started.
 - Grade 2 lego club has started.
 - Grade 4 acting and book clubs have started.
 - We are looking forward to running Indoor Soccer, Track and Volleyball club.
- Our grade 3 classes will be taking their students to Fort Whyte in October our Grade 2 classes will be going to the Manitoba Museum in November.
- Major school events that have taken place so far:
 - We had over 300 people attend our community BBQ on September 26th.
 - Orange Shirt Day and our school wide assembly was very meaningful.
 - The Terry Fox Run raised over \$2500.
 - Strong Beginnings provided our teachers with a much-needed opportunity to connect with their students.
- Meet the teacher ran on the evening before the first day of classes was again a success, as it allowed for students to see their class, go through their designated entrance, and it played a part in a very smooth first day start up.
- With the support of PAC, hot lunches start in October and will run the third Thursday of every month.

Tri-Conferences and Assessment

- Tri-Conferences, which build off Strong Beginnings and Classroom Profiles run even later this year. On the evening of November 21st, parents will have a chance to meet their child's teacher. This new date allows teachers to connect with families in a less rushed and more purposeful manner. Each family will have an opportunity to select their appointment times through Edsby. More information will be going home to families during the November community update.
- Our Kindergarten Teachers will be doing a provincially mandated Early Years Assessment (EYE) in October and November and this information will be used as a discussion point for parent teacher conferences.
- The first report card will be coming out on December 6th.

School Communication

- Effective school communication is important to us. Weekly reminders get emailed out via messenger as it relates to upcoming events, calendar reminders, and things like parking, etc.
- Parents will be encouraged to stay on top of things by checking out the school website, and by communicating with their child's teacher.
- Parents are asked to use Edsby for effective attendance communication and to contact the office with things like bussing or changes in pick up/daycare arrangements.

The School Plan

- In October we will be working with our leadership team to do our school plan which takes into consideration all of our student achievement data, attendance, and qualitative observations about student and staff well being and well becoming.
- Our focus for 2024-2025 will once again be literacy, numeracy, Indigenous Education and mental health.

Staffing Updates

- We are welcoming back Mrs. Sawchuk who will be taking over Ms. Friesen's grade 2 class (2HF) on October 11th.
- Ms. Derhak (1KD) is back doing a term for Mrs. Iwan will be coming back in April.
- Welcome back to Ms. Kuran who is teaching grade 2 (2DK).
- Ms. Braun (2BB) is new to us and is doing a term for Ms. Shiach who will be back in January.
- We have a large number of new staff (due to growth and change) –
 - Grade 1 – Ms. Yarmey (1MY), Mrs. Arias (1TA), Ms. McLennan (1BM), Mrs. Siemens (1HS)
 - Grade 3 – Mr. Watson (3SW), Mrs. Khanna (3SK), Ms. Cipriano (3AC)
 - Grade 4 – Mrs. Causon (4LC), Mr. Brown (4RB)
- Ms. Symons is new to our Student Services Team, and will be going on leave on November 29th.
- Mrs. Pereira is new to our physical education team.

School Plan Goals.....

By June of 2024, 95% of students will score 2 or more on the Manitoba Report Card in the area of Reading Comprehension and Writing.

- 89% of students achieved a 2 or better in Reading Comprehension. Even though this did not reach our target of 95%, students who scored less than 2 on the report card decreased from 70 to 53 from term 1 to 3. Students who achieved 4 on their report card in the area of Reading Comprehension rose from 193 to 282.
- 91% of students achieved a 2 or better in Writing. Even though this did not reach our target of 95%, students who scored more than 2 on the report card increased from 297 to 380 from term 1 to 3.

By June of 2024, 95% of students will score 2 or more on the Manitoba Report Card in the area of Problem Solving.

- 92% of students achieved a 2 or better in Problem Solving.

By June of 2024, 93% of students will score 2 or more on the Manitoba Report Card in the area of mental math.

- 92% of students achieved a 2 or better in Problem Solving

By June 2024, students and staff will build perspective and understanding in regards to truth and reconciliation embedded into daily practice.