

June 2, 2021



Mr. Ted Fransen
Pembina Trails School Division Superintendent of
Education
181 Henlow Bay
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3Y 1M7

Dear Mr. Ted Fransen and the Board of Trustees,

I believe the name Ryerson is a bad school name because Egerton Ryerson was a person who supported residential schools. Residential schools mistreated Indigenous children and they took them from their homes and families. If this happened to me, I would feel sad and I would find it difficult to move past it even as an adult. So, I feel that changing the name of Ryerson School is a good step forward in helping our Indigenous people move forward after all that has happened to their children.

Sincerely,

Grade Five Student at **Newly Named** School

June 2, 2021



Mr. Ted Fransen
Pembina Trails School Division
Superintendent of Education
181 Henlow Bay
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3Y 1M7

Dear Mr. Ted Fransen and the Board of Trustees,

I am very shocked that Ryerson School is named after a man that suggested genocide. I request we rename Ryerson School to something that has done good things for Indigenous people and is a good role model. I am deeply sorry for the kids that attended or died because of residential schools.

Sincerely,

Grade Six Student at **Newly Named School**

June 2, 2021



Mr. Ted Fransen
Pembina Trails School Division Superintendent of Education
181 Henlow Bay
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3Y 1M7

Dear Mr. Ted Fransen and the Board of Trustees,

I am writing this letter to say that I am not proud to have our school be named after someone so terrible. This man recommended the horrific practice of residential schools. I don't want to say his name and it really shivers me to be learning inside a school named after that person. When I heard that a school had 215 children buried under a residential school it shivered me to my core and saddened me. I stand here saying that Ryerson School is not my school. I want that name to be changed and I really want it to be done by our school because our school doesn't support residential schools and our school understands the horrific things that were done to Indigenous children.

I want to have a school name that I am proud of. I want to have a school name that doesn't remind me and all people of the horrific torment of the Indigenous society. Ryerson deserves to be named after someone or something good. Maybe it could be a Canadian that stood up for the rights of Indigenous people. Whatever the name is, it needs to be good.

Sincerely,

Grade Five Student at **Newly Named** School

June 2, 2021

Mr. Ted Fransen
Pembina Trails School Division Superintendent of Education
181 Henlow Bay
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3Y 1M7

Dear Mr. Ted Fransen and the Board of Trustees,

I am a grade six student from Ryerson Elementary. I humbly request that my school is renamed because it was named after Egerton Ryerson. I consider that Egerton Ryerson was a person who discriminated women and targeted Indigenous culture. He was significantly involved in the making of residential schools for Indigenous children. The purpose of these schools was to take children away from their families and their culture. In my opinion, Ryerson School should be renamed after someone who has helped the women and children of our country in the past, like Bertha Clark-Jones. I think this because she was a (Nehiyawak)- Metis advocate for the rights of Indigenous children and women. She was also a veteran of World War

2. Clark-Jones joined the Aboriginal Veterans Society and advocated for the fair treatment of Indigenous ex-service people. She was also the co-founder and first president of the Native Women Association of Canada. Bertha Clark-Jones was born on November 6, 1922 in Alberta and died October 21, 2014.

I hope you will take my letter into consideration because I have Indigenous friends and I disagree to have my school keep Egerton Ryerson's name.

Sincerely,

Grade Six Student at **Newly Named School**