



Arthur A. Leach School

1827 Chancellor Dr, Winnipeg, MB R3T 4C4

Phone: 204.269.1674 | www.pembinatrails.ca/arthuraleach

Mission Statement

Pembina Trails is dedicated to educational excellence through challenging and enriching experiences in a safe, inclusive, and caring community.

Principal

Penny Riffel

Vice-principal

Shawna Nagler



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.

2023/2024 School Plan Priorities:

Our staff is guided by the Safe and Caring School framework, along with *Mamatawisiwin*, the Poverty in Education Report, and the 'Be Good People' Social Emotional Learning Curriculum to increase student belonging, safety, and agency. Our focus continues to be in the area of equity, healthy relationships, school-based mental health, and digital citizenship.

We continue our Journey with the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Call to Action #63 as we engage with Elders and Knowledge Keepers, grow partnerships with families, and work alongside community stake holders.

We anchored our school plan in two main areas:

- Connection and Community (Sense of belonging and connection for all students; collaborative and focused planning for identified students focusing on early intervention; restorative practices).
- Comprehensive School Health (Early identification and intervention in the areas of attendance, academics, mental health; addressing student needs in the context of school, alongside family, and community).

Highlights of our year:

- **Indigenous Ways of Knowing** : Understanding who we are in relation to the land we are on is an important ongoing journey. Starting each day with our Treaty and Land Acknowledgement reminds us of ways to be good relatives and in good relationship with Treaty One land. Led by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action and informed by *Mamahtiwisiwin* Indigenous ways of knowing, being, and doing were woven throughout our school year. We commemorated the National Week for Truth and Reconciliation by deepening our learnings of the truth of residential schools and their lasting impacts. We welcomed Kyle Copenace from Naothamegwanning/Whitefish Bay First Nation who shared his family's journey and offered a song as we declared our commitment by tying orange ribbons on our school fence. Onashowewin came to our school to share teachings and deepen our restorative justice practices, and Vanessa Lillie from Peguis First Nation shared drumming teachings and songs. Our school held our first annual round dance with over 400 attendees. Our MC Jason Parenteau from Delaware Nation at

Moraviantown led us through our evening along with our stick man Kyle Copenace. Our feast was catered by Glenna Henderson and we had a give-a-way. National Indigenous Peoples' day was celebrated, students attended Vision Quest Conference and Summer Solstice Ceremonies at the Canadian Museum of Human Rights.

- **School Culture and Student Engagement** Safety Caring and Belonging inform everything we do. Students engaged in the Be Good People Social Emotional curriculum through lessons and activities designed to support student mental health, belonging, and communication/problem solving skills. The Proud Heritage Club planned learning for Black History Month, we celebrated Asian Heritage Month, and we had many culture days. Arthur A Leach's GSA (Gender Sexuality Alliance) Club led our Pride month activities, our student action club held bake sales raising money for United Way, and we had a Movie night as well as a Spring Fling Dance. Community Cook Nights welcomed families to prepare and share recipes, and students enjoyed learning opportunities through numerous field trips.

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

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

- Staff have worked to provide opportunities for students to explore their interests, develop new skills, and foster meaningful connections with the school community. These include academic opportunities, creative arts, technology education, athletics, leadership and social activism.
- Student engagement in school clubs and extracurricular activities increased through out the year, and many new clubs were formed based on student voice and choice. Gym blasts, holiday hoopla, grade wars, and spirit weeks created community and connection.
- Grade 7 students attended a band trip at Camp Assiniboia, and grade 8 & 9 band students went to Edmonton for the Cantando Festival. Grades 7 and 8 students participated in the Gauss math contest, and students participated in the school musical. Students were featured in the divisional art show, and we fielded numerous divisional sports teams (volleyball, basketball, badminton, cross-country, track and field and intramurals).

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: Our grade 5 & 6 classes combined for one period a day into literacy groups building skills to solve words, increase fluency, and bolster comprehension through a variety of genres of texts. Grades 7-9 students continued their literacy growth in all content areas. We are pleased to report that all students have maintained consistent progress while increasing their literacy levels.
- Numeracy: Teachers worked collaboratively and engaged in team teaching to use resources such as Knowledgehook and Desmos patterns tasks. Overall, students demonstrated growth in the area of Patterns and Relations, and interventions are planned for students still requiring support.

All students in Pembina Trails will graduate from high school:

- Regular attendance is a strong indicator of academic success and graduation. Following the Student Presence and Engagement framework, our attendance committee met monthly to plan and work alongside families to lower barriers and increase attendance through a team approach.
- An important way of supporting student attendance is fostering a sense of safety and belonging. Unconditional positive regard and a belief that every student can succeed drives everything we do.

At Arthur A. Leach, our motto is "opportunity awaits". We strive to ensure that every student will feel a sense of safety, belonging, and agency that they will carry forward with them on their academic journey, and beyond.