



Arthur A. Leach School

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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.

2024/2025 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 achievement.

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:

- Student Achievement and Success (Understanding the "Middle Years Brain". Supporting students to be calm, alert, and ready to learn. Embedding best practices in numeracy and literacy.)
- Creating School Culture (Co-creating a safe and caring school. Shifting to a true middle years model. Increasing student presence, engagement, and sense of belonging).

Progress Toward School Plan Priorities:

- **Indigenous Education and Reconciliation** : 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 to be good relatives and be in good relationship with Treaty One land. We commemorated the National Week for Truth and Reconciliation by deepening our learnings of the truth of residential schools and their lasting impacts. All Grade 8 students attended The National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation Youth Empowerment Gathering. The theme, "Mino-Pi-Matisi-Win," encouraged us to live from the heart as we listened to survivors and celebrated Indigenous Excellence. Our Grade 7 and 8 students participated in the water rangers project through The Kiskinhamakiwin program learning about our relationship with and impact on water. Many students worked on our newly installed Water is Life expressing teachings shared by Lucy Ducharme through a stunning tile mosaic. We held our second annual round dance, celebrated National Indigenous Peoples' day, attended Vision Quest Conference and the Next Gen gathering through Manitou Ahbee.

- **School Culture and Student Engagement** Safety Caring, Belonging, and Agency underpin and inform our school activities and engagement. Students participated in the Be Good People Social Emotional curriculum through lessons and activities designed to support student mental health, belonging, communication/problem solving skills and agency. As reported through a student engagement survey, over 90% of students participate in at least one of the over 30 clubs/extra curriculars offered this school year. There were several events planned including: Black History Month (planned by our Proud Heritage group), Holiday Hooplahs, Gym Blasts, Sprit Weeks, Movie nights, and fundraising with United Way and Canadian Red Cross. These events encouraged our students to look beyond themselves to the community.

Progress Toward the Three Expectations for Student Learning 2024/2025

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

- Guided by Manitoba Educations and Early Childhood Learning's Framework for Learning and reflective of Pembina Trails School Division's Strategic Priorities, teachers constructed learning opportunities which embedded the Global Competencies.
- 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.
- Grade 7 students attended a band trip at Camp Assiniboia, and grade 8 band students went to Edmonton for the Cantando Festival. Grades 7 and 8 students participated in the Gauss math contest. 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 comprehensive literacy skills to solve words, increase fluency, and bolster comprehension. 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: Our school continues to participate in Numeracy Achievement Program developed by the Manitoba Rural Learning Consortium. This high fidelity math delivery model has been shown to increase numeracy skills and problem solving. This year two grade 6 classes participated. Next year, we will onboard three more classes.

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. Student presence continues to increase as we find unique and impactful ways to support all learners.
- 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.