



SUNRISE

SCHOOL DIVISION



2021 Report to Community



BOARD CHAIR

Message from Board of Trustees

This past year had been a challenge for all of us. Students, parents and staff have had to adapt on the fly, as we have had to as a Board.

As members of your communities and as parents as well, we strove to provide resources to schools, classrooms and homes to enable staff to support student learning, well being and safety. We have made it a priority to reduce the Mill rate while providing excellent learning opportunities during these unprecedented times.

We as a Board have been committed to learning ourselves as a group during this pandemic.

We are pleased with our accomplishments and proud of the effort and dedication of all members of our Sunrise family.

Paul Magnan, Chair
Board of Trustees

SUPERINTENDENT

Sunrise Education Centre



The staff, students and families of Sunrise School Division were put to the test this year as we all navigated the unknown territory of learning in pandemic times. It is fair to say that every part of our division was impacted by COVID-19 this past year. And although the year was filled with change and uncertainty, people quickly began helping one another figure out the new rules of the road. From social distancing, to mask wearing, to cohorts, and remote learning, everyone deserves a pat on the back for both understanding and following the protocols put in place for schools.

Many of the guidelines were not much fun, but staff and students still managed to find creative ways to enjoy their time at school. There were Halloween parades, Remembrance Day services, graduations, and farewells; all done virtually, of course. A combination of new games as well as a return to some classic outdoor fun found its way onto playgrounds throughout the division. The flexibility, creativity, and positivity shown by all of Sunrise makes me smile from ear to ear.

As we bid farewell, to the 2020-2021 school year, I can confidently say that we are looking forward to next year and whatever it may bring. In Sunrise, we can thrive through anything.

Stay safe and stay well everyone.

Cathy Tymko,
Superintendent/CEO



Work of the Board . . .

Throughout the 2020-2021 school year, the Sunrise Board of Trustees has been hard at work to support students, staff and families. Here is some of the important operational and educational work that was undertaken this past year:

Pandemic Safety:

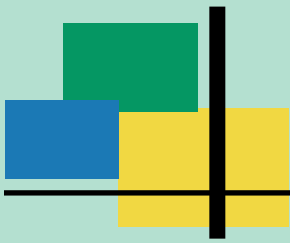
- Installed mitigation barriers in main offices of schools
- Installed additional water-refilling stations in all schools
- Installed new door-lock entry systems in all schools
- Hired 8 full-time substitutes to assist with filling staff absences
- Hired 2.5 additional teachers to work with students who are medically advised to learn remotely at home
- Hired 4 additional teachers to work with grades 1 through 8 students choosing to learn remotely between January and June
- Purchasing of school supplies for students in the 2021-22 school year
- Eliminating student fees for certain activities in the 2021-22 school year
- Meeting as a Board through virtual means and livestreaming meetings to the public

Communications with Public:

- Administered parent and staff surveys to inform strategic planning
- Developed and approved the 2021-22 school division budget
- Met with three local MLAs to discuss implications of the Education Modernization Act (Bill 64)



Back row (left to right): Paul Magnan, Don Nichol, Art Berry, Russ Reid, Robin Harris
Front row (left to right): Jarret Pachkowsky, Dianne Roeland, Karen Insley, Diane Duma



Work of the Board . . .

Property:

- Sold the surplus property at 332 Third Street North in Beausejour
- Extended the lease for ICT office in Oakbank
- Sold 10 surplus aged-out school buses and 1 surplus, aged-out utility van
- Approved the 5-year Capital Plan

Transportation:

- Replaced engines on 5 school buses
- Purchased 4 new school buses
- Upgraded the on-board GPS software system on school buses
- Adjusted a Lac du Bonnet catchment area to be fiscally prudent



Personnel:

- Filled the vacant Transportation Manager position
- Filled the vacant Adult Education Principal position
- Reduced the Senior Management team through the elimination of an Assistant Superintendent position
- Hired a divisional Principal to support student learning in schools
- Filled the vacant Gross School Principal position
- Filled the term Heartland School Principal position
- Filled the term Grafton School Principal position
- Filled the vacant ÉBEYS Assistant Principal position
- Settled the Sunrise Teachers' Association Collective Agreement to June 2022



Financial:

- Developed and approved procedure for local purchasing
- Signed a 5-year switch lease with Bell/MTS
- Passed a motion to freeze all non-essential spending in the 2020-21 school year
- Piloted a purchase card procedure in two schools
- Signed a 7-year photocopier replacement plan
- Signed a 5-year contract for auditing services

The Sunrise Board of Trustees participated in several learning sessions to improve their understanding of governance, decision-making, collaborative communication, strategic planning, and reporting.

Learning presentations at Regular Board Meetings included the areas of early literacy, numeracy, high school credit attainment, language learning, colony schools, technology, maintenance, human resources, and transportation. The Sunrise Board of Trustees advocates for and supports the operational and educational endeavours of the division and invites you to read on for more in-depth information around what is happening at schools with student learning.

LEARNING LEADS THE WAY

Literacy Place is the place to be...

Sunrise has been continuing the work of improved literacy for students in a number of ways. Schools are using common assessment tools to track reading and writing progress so that they can address the strengths and stretches of all students. The Reading Recovery program continues to benefit struggling readers in Grade 1 at all public schools. Classroom libraries have been an ever-growing presence in schools, but the division also added a library app called **SORA** to help keep students engaged in reading at school and at home. And lastly, the division added a common site, **Literacy Place**, so that teachers could find any and all literacy resources in one easily accessible place. Literacy remains a top priority for staff, students, and families in Sunrise.



Making Sense of Math

Learning mathematics is not beyond the reach of any student. With hard work and the right mindset, all learners can flourish in the area of numeracy skills. Sunrise School Division is focused on math instruction in Grades 6 to Grade 9 through the use of common, frequent assessments as well as structured pacing and sequencing guides. The order in which concepts are taught as well as the designed return to them throughout the year is helping students improve their own number sense and mathematical knowledge. The use of student-specific data is also providing teachers with valuable information to inform and transform their instruction practices.

Living in a Virtual World

Prior to the pandemic, Sunrise School Division was prepared for and poised to make the move to Office 365



Teams. Teachers were well underway to mastering the technology tool and classrooms of students were being introduced informally to this digital platform. COVID-19 came along and added some urgency to our full

implementation. All teachers were quickly given even more training opportunities as the need became a reality in every classroom throughout the division. Equipment was purchased so that students could continue to engage virtually with their classmates and teachers. This past year saw all staff, students, and families become masters of meeting and interacting on-screen.

Language Unlocks the World

Fluency in a second language creates additional opportunities for travel, studies, and career choices both in-person and in a virtual environment. Sunrise had 797 students enrolled in the French Immersion Program and 109 students enrolled in the Ukrainian Language Program this year. Research tells us that second-language learners demonstrate enhanced empathy, awareness of diversity, tolerance of difference and a greater sense of social justice. Learning a second language also enhances creative ability by promoting unique problem solving, flexibility, and creative thinking. Look out world, Sunrise language learners are on their way.

It Takes a Village

Sunrise School Division provides a variety of supports to schools. We meet children where they are and help them grow to where they can be, ensuring great learning experiences one student at a time. We have a team of clinicians, program leaders, and a divisional resource teacher that work alongside school administrators supporting in-school student services teams and classroom teachers. We are continuously looking to build upon our existing educational capacity. Our clinicians provide support in the areas of psychology, speech and language pathology, social work, mental health, occupational therapy, and physiotherapy. Our program leaders provide support in the areas of literacy, music, numeracy and student engagement. Our divisional resource teacher is focused on assisting school teams with student services delivery models and student specific planning. Students in all our schools are truly supported by a team of caring professionals.



Students in Sunrise School Division will start the 2021-2022 school year beginning on Wednesday, September 8th, 2021.

Looking forward to another amazing year.



SUNRISE SCHOOL DIVISION
2021 REPORT TO
COMMUNITY





Summer Learning...Disguised as Fun!

Summer is a time to reconnect as a family and to rejuvenate mind, body and senses, but that does not mean that learning isn't still happening! Sunrise has put together family-oriented activities that emphasize being outside as much as possible!

Visit: <https://bit.ly/3wQ1voC> or

sunrisesd.ca. Click Parents & Summer Learning. You will notice that we have recommended the limiting of activities that involve screens. We hope that your children will take a break from their screen time and reconnect with books, board games, and nature. This does not mean that you need to eliminate your normal summer routine, it just gives you some options. We would love to feature photos of summer learning on our website so if interested please forward pictures to jwielgosh@sunrisesd.ca.

Park Your Shopping Carts

At the June 1st Regular Meeting of the Sunrise School Board, the trustees passed a resolution approving a one-time funding allocation to our schools to provide necessary school supplies for students for the upcoming year, and directing our schools to refrain from charging certain fees to parents. Families will be asked to purchase only the following personal items for each child:

- a backpack
- a lunch kit
- gym clothes
- indoor shoes
- water bottle
- headphones/earbuds



It is our hope that in a pandemic environment, this will significantly limit the need for families or staff to shop in-person for supplies over the summer months.

Additional Pandemic Resources

At the beginning of the school year, divisions across the province were making adjustments in order to meet the province's criteria for safe learning spaces. Sunrise created training modules for all staff as well as handbooks for parents and for students. The handbooks were used to



communicate protocols on social distancing, mask use, cohort guidelines, sanitizing, along with many other

important changes. Doors of schools stayed locked, the sharing of food with friends was not allowed, and the washing or sanitizing of hands became second nature throughout the school day. Additional water filling stations were installed to assist with students safely refilling their water bottles. Plastic barriers were installed in school offices to minimize the spread of germs, and digital door locks were installed to help control and track the entry of parents, guardians, and visitors. High-touch surfaces got cleaned multiple times during the school day as an extra measure to keep everyone safe at school.

COVID's Impact on Education

Some long-time educational practices did not make the approval list this past year. Field trips to enhance classroom learning were not permitted, and extra-curricular activities were not allowed to take place either. The typical in-person parent/teacher

conference could not occur, so parents and teachers found other ways to stay in touch about their child's progress at school. Provincial



exams at the grade 12 level were cancelled this year, as were other provincial assessments at grade 3, 4, 7, and 8 levels. The playing of wind instruments was replaced with other musical experiences, as was participation in choral singing. Both Kindergarten registration and orientation shifted to an online or virtual method. Student learning in Sunrise continued on in as normal a fashion as possible thanks to the resilience of our teachers and students alike.

Bridging the Distance with Remote Learning

Several times throughout the year, our students would have experienced their learning in a remote delivery model. High school students at both ÉESS and SCI attended in-person learning every other day only. LdBSS made that switch for second semester as well due to some large class sizes. All grade 7 to 12 students were in remote learning for the first two weeks after the holiday break, and some students in grade 1 through 8 chose to remain in remote learning with our four divisional teachers until the end of this school year. In the fall, there were 78 students who were required to remain at home for medical reasons, and the division hired 2.5 teachers to assist with their remote learning journey. Several students and sometimes schools were placed in remote learning in order to meet isolation requirements from time-to-time.



School Highlights

Adult Education Centres Tannis Magnusson, Principal 400+ adult learners

This year we welcomed 400+ adult learners attending our four adult learning centres located across Sunrise School Division. We have sites in Oakbank, Beausejour, Lac du Bonnet, and Powerview-Pine Falls ready to assist adult learners from those and surrounding communities. We are even able to accept adult learners from across the entire province.

Anola School Anthony Stanley, Principal Kindergarten to Grade 8, 198 students

Students and staff at Anola School have used SORA, a digital library app to which we all have access. 100% of Anola students are actively engaged in reading and students are getting better at choosing their own reading materials. Classroom libraries at the school continue to be enhanced with high interest reading materials.



École Beausejour Early Years School Michael Carter, Principal Gaylene Halayko, Assistant Principal Kindergarten to Grade 5, 433 students

To support social distancing we needed to make a number of changes to how we used the physical space within the building and how programming was offered. This included many of our specialty subjects having to make significant changes to the delivery of their programs. Despite these changes we were still able to successfully have students participating in Art, Talent Development, Physical Education, Music, and Library. This school year we were also able to expand our Outdoor Learning Program to include all grade levels.

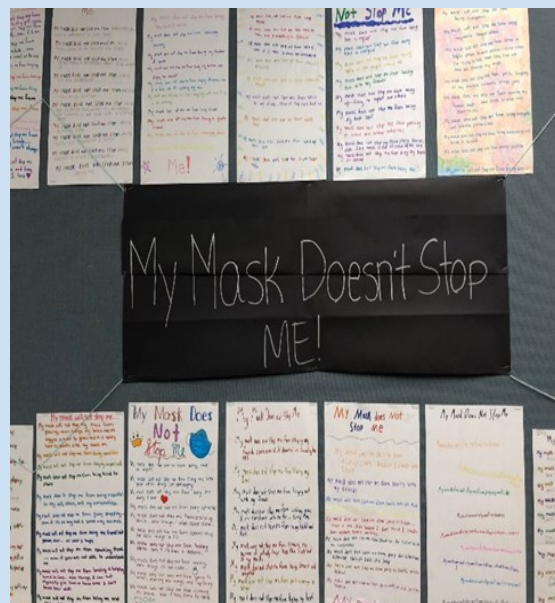
Centennial School David Ogren, Principal Kindergarten to Grade 6, 185 students

Several students in each cohort took it upon themselves to informally take on informal leadership roles. Without guidance and with-

out adult involvement, these students started actively seeking out students who were on their own to see if they could spend time with them. They started helping to mediate disputes and would defuse situations, help solve problems, take kids away from the situation, or go to get adult help to prevent conflict.

École Dugald School Christine Fetterly, Principal Chris Gusberti, Assistant Principal Kindergarten to Grade 8, 456 students

ÉDS Dragons joined the Manitoba ESports league this year for the first time. The season had virtual practices during the week and tournaments on weekends. ÉDS had multiple teams qualify for the National Tournament in April to represent Manitoba. One team finished 2nd in the National Tournament, and another Team finished 1st in the consolation final. Way to go Dugald Dragons! An amazing year and performance by all of the team. A special thanks to Mr. Koblun and Mme McFadyen who brought this opportunity to École Dugald.



School Highlights

École Edward Schreyer School
Lonnie Liske, Principal
Erica Massie, Assistant Principal
Shana Rogers, Assistant Principal
Grade 6 to Grade 12, 629 students

ÉESS was part of a pilot project for Project 11, which has developed a new high school curriculum to help students understand mental health. Through this program, Grade 10 students had the opportunity to speak with Nathan Beaulieu of the Winnipeg Jets, along with his wife Katie.

Gillis School
Anthony Penner, Principal
Kindergarten to Grade 6, 166 students



We are fortunate to have a beautiful school yard to support Land-Based Learning. In May we had additional trees planted to provide shelter and habitat for local birds and insects. Thank you to Uni-Jet for donating a truck to water the trees all summer! Thank you to Tyndall Rocks for the donation of a Covid-friendly "Kindness Rock Garden" in May. It is located in front of the school and children are encouraged to take or leave a painted rock when they like. Classes will once again be planting our garden boxes. This year will see a mixture of wildflowers, root vegetables, and pumpkins.

Hazelridge School
Lana Gardner, Principal
Kindergarten to Grade 5, 72 students

The grade 2/3 class was recruited to be Hazelridge spies that helped identify and report on all the kind gestures they see and hear in or outside the school. I am proud of all the good citizens that are "bucket fillers" at Hazelridge School. In a world where you can be anything, be kind!

Lac du Bonnet Senior School
Chrissy Viznaugh, Principal
Grade 7 to Grade 12, 189 students

Lac du Bonnet Senior School began our Medicine Wheel Garden Project during the 2019-2020 school year. When schools were unexpectedly moved to remote learning in the spring of 2020 this project was put on hold. The 2020-2021 saw our Youth Leaders work hard to bring this project to life. Students spent many hours researching, planning and doing the physical labour to create this amazing school and community space. It is intended as a space for teaching, learning, growing, planting, harvesting, healing, reflecting, and socializing.

Oakbank Elementary School
Orest Deneka, Principal
Diane Drawbridge, Assistant Principal
Kindergarten to Grade 5, 549 students

Students from K-5 participated in monthly school-wide estimation activities. There was an improvement in students' problem-solving/estimation skills from October 2020 to April 2021. In this activity a visual is provided with items to estimate, then grade level appropriate clues allowed students to use their numeracy skills to narrow the set of possibilities to a small set of numbers. As a celebration, students who had the correct estimates each month were recognized on the announcements along with a certificate.



School Highlights



École Powerview School
Trevor Reid, Principal
Larry Sharpe, Assistant Principal
Mary-Jo Hovorka, Assistant Principal
Kindergarten to Grade 12, 370 students

In our Early Years classrooms, we were able to help 71% of our students achieve reading skills that would be consistent with their grade level. For the students who did not reach this point, it is important to note just over half of them (or 54%) did show at least one year of growth, with a handful of students showing two or more years of growth during the school year.



Springfield Collegiate Institute
Kevin Doell, Principal
Carol Blocker, Assistant Principal
Grade 9 to 12, 587 students

A significant number of grade 11 students have been involved in community work places over the past 6 weeks. These SCI students have had excellent hands-on real world experiences which will help in their transition to the world of work. This semester's placements have ranged from interior design, flooring, auto body, vehicle maintenance, electrical work, and food prep.

Springfield Middle School
Bob Welsh, Principal
Heather Bethune, Assistant Principal
Grade 6 to 8, 302 students

Keeping connected with peers and other children in school has been an isolating and challenging aspect of the COVID-19 pandemic. During this time when COVID-19 protocols have made activities between cohorts and staff very difficult, a team of teachers at the Springfield Middle School led a "Check 3 TV" initiative at the school with the goal of supporting whole school communication.



Whitemouth School
Randal Bonneteau, Principal
Kindergarten to Grade 12, 161 students

An outdoor learning space has started to take shape for next year. Our teepee has arrived and will be built in September to create an authentic learning space to help students understand our shared history. Also, the teaching circle is half complete as the rocks have been placed. The next step to completing the learning space is creating a platform for presentations.

School Highlights



Grafton School
Elizabeth Redekopp, Principal
Kindergarten to Grade 12, 15 students

Over the course of the year, the school hosted the literacy program leaders and the active program leader for extra supports. During this time the school started a program called Leveled Literacy Intervention by Fountas and Pinnell with some of the Early Years students. The students who participated in the program showed notable progress in their reading and writing abilities. We are excited to continue the program next school year.

Gross School
Kristen Balleny, Principal
Kindergarten to Grade 12, 35 students

In November, our school went into remote learning for approximately 5 weeks. The students continued to attend school under the supervision of our German teachers; Joseph, Michael, Anna, and Alaina. Cameras were set up in the classrooms and the teachers were projected onto the Smartboards. EA support was provided by Heartland Colony School to assist our staff and students with math instruction. A big thanks to the Whiteshell Colony for making this transition for the staff and students of Gross School seamless!

Heartland School
Lauralee Reimer, Principal
Kindergarten to Grade 12, 45 students

Students have enjoyed having their Physical Education time outside since our return to the school and they have also looked forward to our Team Building activity days every other Friday. During these times we have had a student/teacher soccer baseball game, a skipping competition with all the students in the school and other fun activities that have helped us bond as a school community.



Hofer School
Benjamin Hofer, Principal
Kindergarten to Grade 12, 42 students

Students read 'just right' books daily, engaged in read-aloud stories and novels, participated in discussions, and built confidence in comprehension strategies and responses. All students improved in their reading skills and comprehension of fiction texts.

Richland School
Robert Pankratz, Principal
Kindergarten to Grade 12, 32 students

Ridgeland Colony has risen to the challenges associated with the global pandemic by sewing and donating masks during shortages of personal protective equipment and more recently by contributing to lunches for health care workers being donated to hospitals in Manitoba.

Springwell School
George Waldner, Principal
Kindergarten to Grade 12, 31 students

Springwell School has experienced continued support from parents and the community through this challenging pandemic. The Kindergarten to Grade 4 Springwell Parents WhatsApp group started to inform parents of important information and promote special occasions in the school through pictures or videos.



MEDAL WINNERS

Governor General's Academic Medal Winners

For more than 140 years, the Governor General's Academic Medals have recognized the outstanding scholastic achievements of students in Canada. They are awarded to the student graduating with the highest average from a high school. Congratulations to the following students who were awarded this prestigious award at their convocation ceremonies:



Mylène Usipiuk
École Edward Schreyer School

Charlize Yerex
Lac du Bonnet Senior School

Kennedy Kemball
École Powerview School

Jorden Samuel Waldner
Richland School

Kaitlyn Kleinsasser
Grafton Colony

Thomas Wastle
Springfield Collegiate Institute

Brooklyn Hofer
Heartland Colony

Vanessa Waldner
Springwell Colony

Nicole Karol Hofer
Hofer School

Devon Anthony Nazar
Whitemouth School

RETIREEES

Virtual Premiere June 17, 2021

<https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=RA-hRR5fvCU>

Lianne Carefoot

Deborah McCormick

Margaret Davies

Bonnie Minnick

Heather Deneka

Carol Pearson

Vicki DeMarchi

Allan Poole

Pam Durston

Ida Race

Heather Gogal

Linda Schmidt

Patricia Kavanagh

Deborah Sellen

Nancy Kovachik

Sandy Slattery

Ed Kozak

Jacob Wall

Lynne Lodge

Betty Ann Walls

Tammy Magura



**READY
TO
RETIRE**



SUNRISE
SCHOOL DIVISION

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