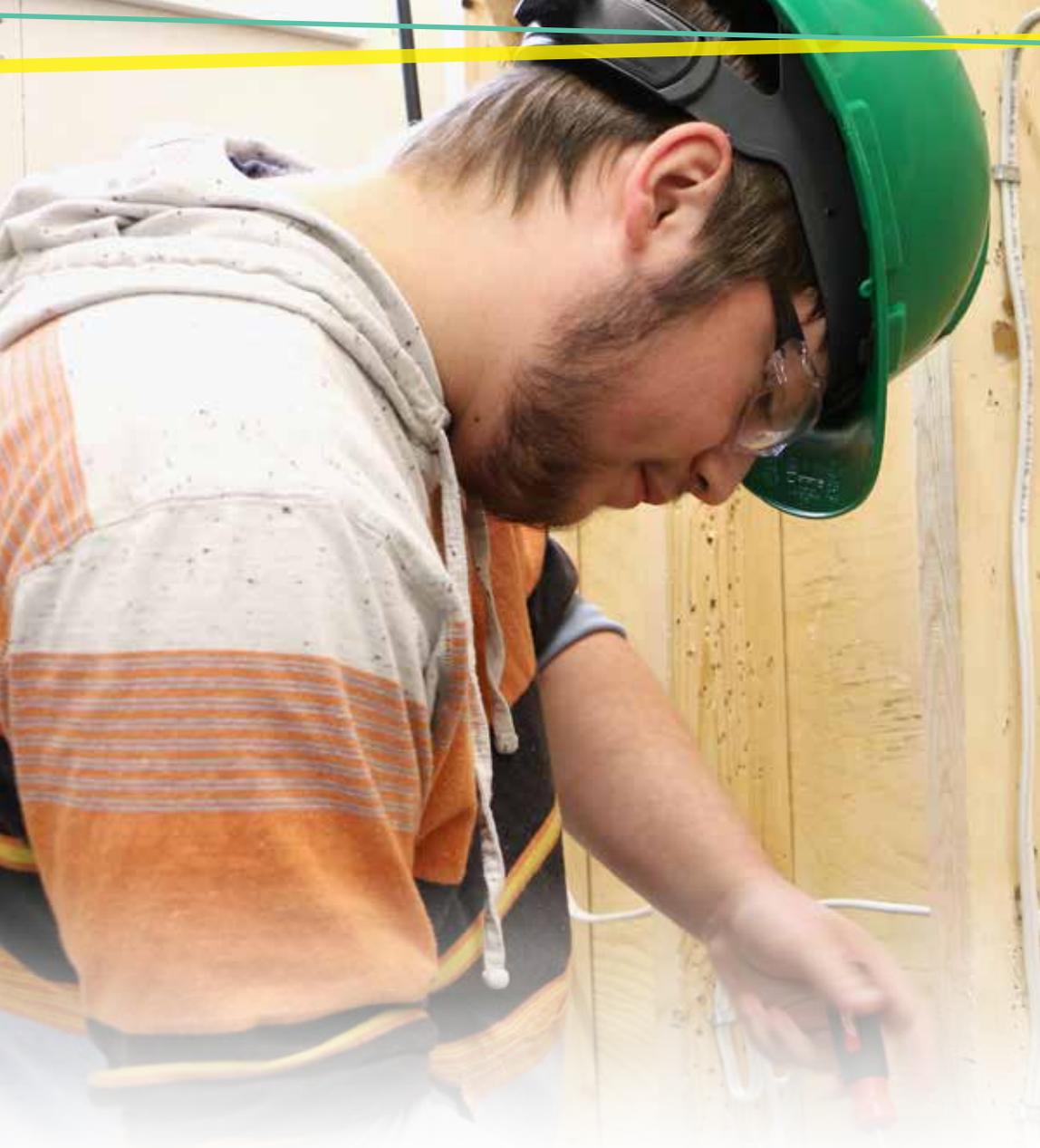


# To High School and Beyond...



Your Future  
Begins Here



Your Future



Did you know two of every  
three Seven Oaks graduates  
will continue their education  
after graduation?

We would like to think that is – at least in small part – due to the boundless opportunities our high school students receive to prepare for post-secondary education before even donning their cap and gown.

Our students can explore careers through internships, take university and college courses for credit and participate in rich, extra-curricular programs.

We provide these opportunities because, to us, high school graduation is more than a finish line ... it is a launch pad on the pathway to life.

In this book, you will find stories from alumni who followed the path from high school straight into real-world greatness. You will also get a glimpse into our most popular high school programs and hear from students already carving out their own journeys.

Read on; because community begins here – and so does the future.

# Begins Here





Need a doctor? Look no further than Maples Collegiate, where five (yes, five!) current University of Manitoba Med students enrolled.



Photo: Tyler Hunter, Aman Gera, Gaganjot Singh and Ryan Houston

# Success Beg

Tyler Hunter, Ryan Houston, Gaganjot Singh and Aman Gera (pictured) are four of these students – all in their second year of study – and they are just a small sampling of the success to come out of Maples.

The Division's largest high school has a history of graduating driven, determined students. That has a lot to do with the school's diversity of programming, dedication of staff and culture of community that you can feel just by walking the halls.

"Maples didn't put you into an academic label ... instead you were able to be a good student but also had the opportunity to explore other interests," says Hunter. "Once I got to university. I had experienced the other stuff and was able to say, 'Okay – now I do want to be an academic' ... If I hadn't experienced other things I wouldn't know and I think there's a chance in that situation to burn out before you get where you want to go".

All four doctors-in-training credit Maples and its staff with helping build the skills they rely on to work hard and succeed in a demanding program. For most of them, their journeys were set into motion by one inspiring moment – or one inspiring course.

"Grade 10 chemistry was one of the first classes where I was kind of treated like an adult," says Houston, describing a classroom where the teacher allowed for freedom of exploration ("like many university classes do") the students were given the opportunity to work cooperatively to find solutions.

"It was kind of liberating for me," he says. "That class was an oasis for me, kind of a respite from the rest of our classes that was more fun. It really kind of pushed me in the right direction and was a beginning point from potentially not focusing on academics at all to where I am today."

# gins Here



Before you knew her as a kick-butt role model and star player on the Canadian Olympic Soccer Team, Desiree Scott was a self-proclaimed homebody in need of a little encouragement.

As luck would have it, that encouragement emerged from the halls of West Kildonan Collegiate, where a teacher saw a diamond in the rough and helped polish Scott's now infamous shine and confidence.

"Mr. Prime really motivated me," says Scott. "He saw potential in me and always really encouraged me. I spent every spare moment I had working with him. He would say that there's something special here and really helped me gain confidence. He pushed me to strengthen my talents."

Scott is seen often in Seven Oaks schools, visiting classrooms and inspiring kids to be active in sport

and put hard work into whatever passion they have.

She just calls it "giving back," as the 28-year-old credits her journey through Seven Oaks schools with kick-starting her career.

"I played tons of different sports in elementary school – basketball, volleyball, soccer," she says. "I was really exposed to so many different kinds of activities that really allowed me to explore. Then playing on teams throughout high school helped build so many friendships and relationships that really inspired me."



# Role Models



s Begin Here

Photo: Desiree Scott



Photo: Taylor Demetrio

# Difference-Ma





## Taylor Demetriooff did not have what you would call a cookie-cutter high school experience.

The Garden City Collegiate grad struggled with what he calls “very dark and negative thoughts” throughout high school. But it is those experiences he credits with allowing him to become a difference-maker for other students.

“I think the staff there and friends I made pushed me towards a better path,” says Demetriooff, now the Youth Mental Health Promotion Worker at the Canadian Mental Health Association (Manitoba and Winnipeg). “My teachers always had my best interests at heart and made sure I kept going no matter how tough things got.”

Demetriooff’s job takes him into classrooms where he educates teens about mental health and mental illness. He also spends time working with the community to break down the stigma surrounding youth and mental illness.

At 19 he created a summer music camp for kids affected by mental health issues in partnership with the Mood Disorders Association of Manitoba. Four years later he gained funding for the program through United Way. The program garnered him the local Canadian Mental Health Association’s 2014 RBC Local Heroes Award – one of many accolades Demetriooff has earned for his community outreach.

Despite his honours, Demetriooff says his professional highlight is going back into Garden City to talk to students – many of whom he knows feel similar to the way he did in school.

“I really love knowing that I can go spread a message of hope to those who may need it,” he says. “...The people I met through Garden City made me into a better person and I can only hope I’ve had a similar effect on their lives.”

# makers Begin Here



High School Your



## Want to experience high school your way?

We are proud to now offer students that opportunity!

The Met School is a Manitoba Curriculum program with an interest-driven focus that connects curriculum-based learning and student passions to the real world.

Students earn all their required credits while at the same time participating in hands-on internships in their chosen field and tailoring their work to the areas of study they are most interested in – whether it be graphics, carpentry or chemistry.

“We are very lucky to have a Big Picture Learning School right here in Winnipeg, it’s a very unique learning environment. With over one hundred BPL schools worldwide, the Seven Oaks Met School is the first and only one to open in Canada. At the Met School, students are able to pursue their interests and passions through project work, internships, and mentor connections. With a focus on relationships, relevance, and rigor, the Met School continues to be a wonderful and inspiring place to complete high school in an engaging way. As our 35 graduates - many of whom are pursuing a post-secondary education - can attest to, it is a great school to prepare you with the skills needed for life after graduation.”

– Nancy Janelle, Principal .

# Way Begins Here

Our **Beyond Grade 12 Now!** program (formerly First Year University Now) offers university and college classes right inside our high schools – all within the regular timetable and at no cost.

Course selection is designed to jumpstart the journey towards a career and includes offerings from Red River College, Université de Saint-Boniface and University of Winnipeg in subject areas from English and Math to Pipe Trades and Early Childhood Education.

That means Seven Oaks students can graduate with some post-secondary course credits and experiences already in-hand and move on to university or college with the tools to succeed and go beyond Grade 12... now.

## GET WITH THE PROGRAM

University and college courses offered may include:

- Calculus
- English
- Psychology
- Applied Computer Science
- Anatomy & Physiology
- Accounting
- Broadcasting
- Psychologie
- Français

Cooperative Vocational Education courses offered include:

- Aviation Trades & Technology
- Automotive Trades & Technology
- Culinary Services
- Early Childhood Education
- Electrical Trades & Technology
- Health Care Aide
- Hospitality Services
- Plumbing & Pipe Trades
- Refrigeration & Air Conditioning
- Sustainable Energy



# Real Life B



eginns Here

# WAYFINDERS:



# ANOTHER WAY TO POST-SECONDARY EXPERIENCES

Every child deserves a chance at education, community and a brighter, better future – and our Wayfinders mentorship and outreach program is just another way to ensure kids get that chance.

Wayfinders supports students from at-risk communities in their high school journey and provides the encouragement so many need to graduate and make successful transitions to post-secondary experiences.

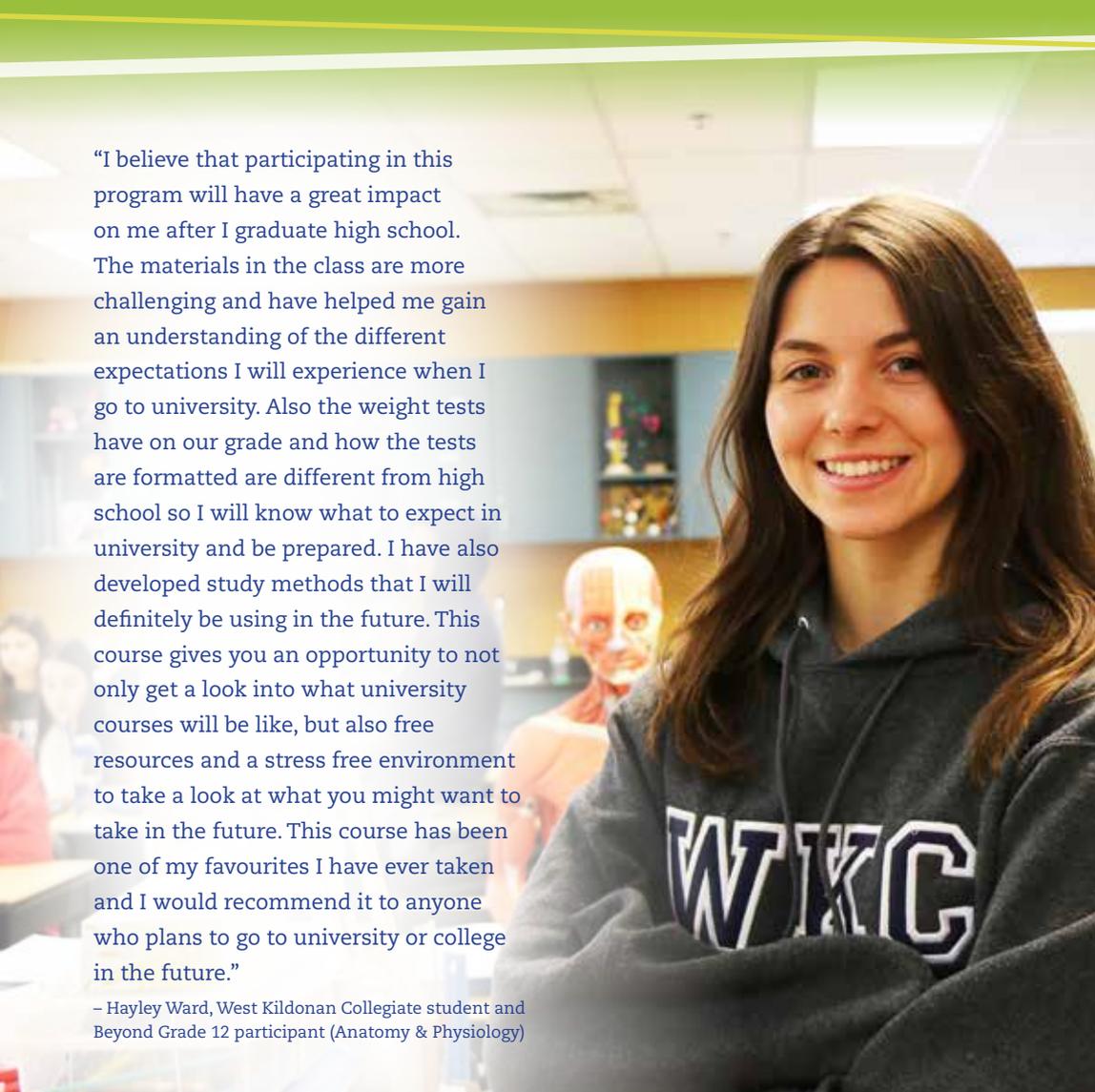
Our dedicated program staff and volunteer mentors help our students build a strong self-image, establish goals, explore career and life interests and learn to give back through community service.

## Every Wayfinders student receives:

- A Student Parent Support Worker who works with them and their family as an advocate, encouraging them to achieve their academic and life goals.
- Homework support from a network of subject-specific volunteer experts, who work with them to improve achievement and explore new interests.
- Encouragement to invest in themselves through new life experiences.
- Opportunities to participate in activities that give back to and strengthen their own communities.
- \$600 per year towards passion and talent development such as arts lessons, athletic equipment or fees, workshops and camps.
- \$1,000 per year to be held in trust for education/post-secondary expenses after high school graduation.

To participate in the program, our students must commit at least 7 hours per week in both mentorship activities and homework support, as well as 40 hours community service. (Our students participate in everything from community cleanups and barbeques to planting neighbourhood gardens and mentoring younger students!)

Wayfinders participants are also required to attend high school classes regularly and maintain a minimum 70% academic average ... just another stepping stone to successes after graduation.



“I believe that participating in this program will have a great impact on me after I graduate high school. The materials in the class are more challenging and have helped me gain an understanding of the different expectations I will experience when I go to university. Also the weight tests have on our grade and how the tests are formatted are different from high school so I will know what to expect in university and be prepared. I have also developed study methods that I will definitely be using in the future. This course gives you an opportunity to not only get a look into what university courses will be like, but also free resources and a stress free environment to take a look at what you might want to take in the future. This course has been one of my favourites I have ever taken and I would recommend it to anyone who plans to go to university or college in the future.”

– Hayley Ward, West Kildonan Collegiate student and Beyond Grade 12 participant (Anatomy & Physiology)

## Learn more about Beyond Grade 12 Now! at our high school open houses:

MET School – Wednesday, February 17 – 6:00 p.m.

Maples Collegiate – Monday, February 22 – 6:00 p.m.

Garden City Collegiate – Wednesday, February 24 – 6:00 p.m.

West Kildonan Collegiate – Tuesday, March 1 – 5:00 p.m.



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