



**ШКОЛА R. F. MORRISON SCHOOL**  
**SEVEN OAKS SCHOOL DIVISION**

**2019-2020 Report to the Community**

*Working, Learning and Growing Together*

25 Morrison St.  
Winnipeg, MB R2V 3B3

Principal: Andrew Volk  
Vice-Principal: Oksana Kosteckyj



## SCHOOL PROFILE

Grade Levels: K-5 English/K-6 English/Ukrainian Bilingual

Enrollment: 300

Vision:

“Working, Learning and Growing Together”

Mission Statement:

Школа R.F. Morrison School is an inclusive community that values relationships, embraces diversity, and is committed to supporting all learners. We acknowledge and honour that we are on the traditional homeland of the Anishinaabe, Inninew (Cree), Dakota, and Metis people as well as Treaty One Territory.

## 2019-2020 SCHOOL PLAN AT A GLANCE





## 2019-2020 REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

Through consultation with staff, students and the community, Школа R.F. Morrison School identified the following priorities for the 2019-2020 school year:

1. *Creating a Culture of Inclusion and Equity*
2. *Promoting Wellness, Sustainability & Citizenship*
3. *Providing Rich Learning Experiences*

This report will highlight the progress we've made in these areas of focus. While this school year has been anything but typical, we are proud of the work we've done as a learning community, both in our school from September to March and throughout the period of remote learning during the COVID-19 pandemic.

~ 1 ~

### CREATING A CULTURE OF INCLUSION AND EQUITY

Please read our school plan to learn more about how Школа R.F. Morrison School is working to provide a safe, inclusive learning environment that meets the needs of all.

Школа R. F. Morrison School staff work hard to create an inviting and welcoming environment for every learner and every family, but we can't do it alone. This year we continued with a number of Morrison traditions, helped largely by our dedicated Parent Advisory Council, who organized our fall family barbecue in September and monthly hot lunches for students. We are fortunate to have the support of Manitoba Parents for Ukrainian Education (MPUE), who provide resources for families and opportunities for students in our bilingual program. We also greatly appreciate the annual support of Carpathia Credit Union, the St. Boniface Ukrainian Foundation Inc. and the Osvita Foundation.



Community gathered for the PAC Fall Family Barbecue.

We are also grateful for the support of parent and community volunteers. Due to the school closure and the COVID-19 pandemic, we were unable to host our volunteer reception in May. We would like to take this opportunity to specially thank all of our volunteers!

This year we started a new tradition of inviting families to monthly student-led assemblies. From September to March, classrooms teamed up and took turns planning assemblies based on themes they were exploring in class. Students presented assemblies on topics of social justice, environmental sustainability, career development as well as Remembrance Day and the Ukrainian Holodomor.



At the welcome back assembly in September, Mr. Volk read to students and staff introduced our Patrol and Green Team Programs.



At our Terry Fox assembly and walk/run, RFM raised \$614 for cancer research... and Mr. B got a shave!



At Student-led assemblies we learned about social justice, sustainability and career development.



Classrooms each create poppy wreaths for our Remembrance Day Assembly.



EUBP students performed "Grains of Wheat" at our Holodomor Assembly.

While the suspension of classes during COVID-19 prevented us from hosting assemblies, our staff quickly adapted and we were happy to see high attendance in virtual gatherings such as online story time, Phys. Ed. and classroom meetings. We were not able to host our traditional Grade 5/6 Farewell event, so teachers arranged alternate plans to celebrate our graduating students in a virtual format, including a video project with some of our favorite memories.

We continued our learning together as a staff. Through professional development opportunities and a book study for teaching and support staff, we deepened our understanding of inclusion and how to best support every child. We are committed to values of inclusion and equity through professional learning and offering opportunities to students through clubs, programs and classroom learning.



~ 2 ~

## Promoting Wellness, Sustainability & Citizenship

Please read our school plan to learn more about how Школа R.F. Morrison School is working to promote healthy lifestyles, sustainability and citizenship.

At Школа R.F. Morrison School, wellness, sustainability and citizenship are at the core of everything we do. From classroom learning to clubs, we don't see school as "practice" for real life, we see it as real life for every child. It is not good enough to just prepare students to be healthy, ecological citizens someday off in the future, we believe in giving kids real opportunities to be citizens every single day.

This begins in the classroom and through frequent opportunities to participate in community, arts and physical activity. Our students explore social justice, environmental awareness/activism, personal wellness and citizenship through classroom learning. Throughout the grades they also participate in programs such as Learn to Skate, Learn to Swim, B.E.S.T (bike riding), Arts in the Park and others. As part of their regular programming students also have frequent exposure to physical fitness, dance, outdoor learning, choir and a variety of musical instruments.

Social-emotional learning is a part of every classroom. In addition to Health class, our Learning Support Teachers (LSTs) frequently work with teachers to deliver lessons and learning experiences about safety, mental health, family life, feelings/emotions, personal management and other topics that support mental and emotional well being. We continue to use "Kimoichis" and "Project 11" as resources to support social-emotional learning. This year





during the suspension of classes, our LST team created a YouTube channel with many of these resources so that students could access them remotely.



Pani Klimenko, Pani Deneka, Ms. Harder and students continued a student-run “Green Team” where kids took on a leadership role in the school’s recycling program. Beyond just taking on responsibility for collecting recycling, this was an opportunity for students to develop teamwork skills, demonstrate caring for our environment and to physically see and understand the amount and types of materials that we recycle.

This year, Ms. Grant and students in Room 15 made a special point of exploring sustainability by integrating the United Nations Sustainable Development Goals into their classroom learning. Students also shared their learning with the rest of the school in a student-led assembly.



Early in the school year there was a Federal election. Pan Ilyniak and his class facilitated the CIVIX Student Vote program and students from every grade level took part. Classrooms learned about the political parties in Canada, platforms, candidates and the voting process. It was highly engaging and the student vote was published along with the actual Federal election results.





Ms. Dahl, Pana Suchy and students from Rooms 4 and 14 also ran a student-led assembly to promote “Socktober”, a project where students collected socks, mitts, hats, scarves and other warm clothing. The whole school participated in collecting clothing and it was donated to Siloam Mission to support those in need during the winter months.

One of the highlights of our year was our first R. F. Morrison Career Fair. This was an authentic opportunity for students to make connections between their learning at school, the career skills they are developing and their interest in future career paths. The project involved research, presenters from the community, hands-on learning and an exhibition style presentation where learning was shared with our younger students and the community.



Grade 3-6 EUBP and 4-5 English students presented their learning at our first R. F. Morrison Career Fair.





~ 3 ~

## Providing Rich Learning Experiences

Please read our school plan to learn more about how Школа R.F. Morrison School is working to provide students with rich learning experiences.

At R. F. Morrison, one of our top priorities is to provide rich learning experiences for all students. This means creating learning experiences that appeal to the individual interests and strengths of students, are engaging and relevant, and provide opportunities to think deeply while acquiring and applying valuable knowledge and skills. We're excited to share some examples of rich learning that took place this year!

We have already shared some of the social justice initiatives, sustainability learning, the CIVIX Student Vote and the career fair project/event in the previous section. Not only were these powerful opportunities to develop citizenship skills, they were opportunities to inquire, research, discuss, create, present, publish and learn deeply.

Rich learning begins with strong teachers and engaged students. This year, our staff worked together with Shelley Warkentin, Seven Oaks Divisional Principal and former ELA Consultant with Manitoba Education. These 2 days of professional development allowed teachers to collaboratively explore curriculum and lesson design with an emphasis on student-centred practices. We also spent a full PD day exploring strategies to engage students in a love of reading and to support struggling readers. Teachers were also able to meet regularly throughout the year in Teacher Talk meetings to discuss successes, challenges and practices that best support students.

We are always thinking about how to provide more engaging, rich learning opportunities for students. We reflect on data including our annual OurSCHOOL student survey, report card data, Provincial Grade 3 Assessment data, and classroom based data obtained through conferences, observations and artifacts of student work. As a staff we are committed to reflecting on our successes, challenges and opportunities to improve.



Throughout the year we strive to offer engaging presentations, events, activities and performances that promote curiosity and connect to classroom learning, the arts and athletics. The following pictures capture some of these rich learning moments:



Musicians Jurij Fedynskyj and Oleh perform and demonstrate traditional Ukrainian instruments.



Students check out the set of "Pier 21", a performance about the immigrant experience in Canada.



MTYP Performed "Spelling 255", a play that teaches us about inclusion.



Students from our EUBP were invited to perform “Grains of Wheat” at the Holodomor Commemoration at the Manitoba Legislature. A very powerful original performance choreographed by Pani Klimenko.





Sharon Halldorson and George Bednarczyk perform for students to kick off “I Love To Read Month”.



Our Library was transformed for our “Reading Around the World” theme during ILTR Month and Brady Oliveira from the Blue Bombers was among our guest readers.





Dancers from the Aboriginal School of Dance took everyone's breath away with their performance. Due to the school closure, our Pow Wow Club was not able to run this year but we are very excited to work with the talented teachers from this program in the future!



R. F. Morrison missed participating in this year's annual Seven Oaks Divisional Pow Wow graduation ceremony. We can't wait to be back next year!



This year, we just managed to fit in our annual Pysanky workshop. This is an R. F. Morrison tradition that goes back years.

Due to the suspension of classes during COVID-19, we had less participation than normal, but the students who were in school in the final days of March did an excellent job with these beautiful creations.



Grade 5 R. F. Morrison students attending a divisional handball tournament.



Look at that balance! Students doing partner yoga as part of Phys. Ed. class.



Students building coordination, strength and endurance. They just love to climb and swing!



Our English Program Christmas concert at the SOPAC was full of holiday cheer and memorable moments!





Our EUBP Christmas concert is always a show of talent, from our Kindergartners to our Grade 6 Band.





## Remote Learning: Responding to the COVID-19 Suspension of Classroom Learning



Not even a global COVID-19 pandemic could keep us apart! It wasn't easy for us and we know that it has not been easy for families. We saw many of you logging in to daily story times with Ms. Chillelli, virtual Phys. Ed. classes with Ms. Lasko and online meetings with your teachers. Even though it was a rainy day, seeing so many familiar smiling faces during our car parade was a highlight for all of us!





Remembering  
Alexa Rosolowich



Alexa Rosolowich was a deeply loved student and friend to all of us. She was also someone that we all learned from. Alexa was a student at R. F. Morrison from Kindergarten to Grade 4. In February, our hearts broke when Alexa passed away unexpectedly. The outpouring of love and support from the Seven Oaks School Division community was overwhelming. Alexa loved ladybugs and now we remember her with the ladybugs that are painted throughout our school. R. F. Morrison is not the same without Alexa's happy eyes and bright smile. We miss you and love you, Alexa.





2019-2020

Farewell Wishes: Ms. Anderson



Ms. Anderson joined R. F. Morrison as Vice-Principal in September 2018. She quickly became a beloved part of our staff. Ms. Anderson, we thank you for your patience, kindness and support! Ms. Anderson was an advocate for all students. Whether she was collaborating with teachers, planning a student club, playing outside at recess or having a tea party in her office with students, Ms. Anderson did it all with a huge smile and a hug that would make every kid feel like the most important person in the world. We miss you and wish you all the best at A. E. Wright School, Ms. Anderson!



2019-2020

## Farewell Wishes: Support Staff



Ms. Debets does breakfast right in Room 7!



Mr. Spence and a Halloween sidekick all dressed up!

We have an amazing team of Support Staff at R. F. Morrison. Whether it's in the classroom, outside at recess or through remote-learning, our Educational Assistants go above and beyond to build positive relationships and meet the needs of students. This year we were sad to say goodbye to our Term EAs, Ms. Debets and Ms. DeJuan. Your teamwork and support made a huge difference for kids and teachers this year.

Mr. Spence has been an EA at R. F. Morrison since 2016. His connection with students, his artistic talents and his love/knowledge of superheroes will be missed! We wish Mr. Spence the best as he continues to work on his Education Degree – There is a lucky school just waiting to meet you!



2019-2020

Farewell Wishes: Our Graduating Students (English Program)

**Grade 5 Dutka**

Ahamed Abukweik  
Arianna Mendoza  
Ava Brereton  
Bella Krechler  
Brooke McNarland

Emmarie Franz  
Satiada  
Jared De Juan  
Kashtin Michell  
Prabhroop Singh

Sakir Al-Jashaam  
Shayla De Guzman  
Yara Sadeq  
Zackary Carver-  
Prefontaine

**Grade 5 Harder**

Alexandra Baquiran  
Ashmeet Sidhu  
Denisse Blase  
Eloise Joy Cuarto

Hailie Aimola  
Henry Volk  
Jayden Gil  
Keanna Whiteway

Liam Smith  
Madeleine Ocharuk  
Ricca Mae Lagman  
Zennifer Ross

**Grade 5 Oakley**

Arthur Jacques  
Darlene Lin  
Felicity Villaver  
Jolena Gil

Josh Pollard  
Julianne Long  
Kaitlyn Bruce  
Kurdy Arreola

Leon Coutu  
Marion Saquisame  
Raymond Chartrand  
Gabriel Murillo



2019-2020

Farewell Wishes: Our Graduating Students (EUBP)

**Grade 5/6 Ilyniak**

Alina Karavan	Nicholas Kalinowich
Daniel Kurjewicz	Viktoriya Svyshch
Daniel Monita	Daniel Millar
David Popesku-Kenidra	Israel Marcelline
Mykola Sturrock	Quin Clarke

**Grade 6 Matwichyna**

Aunika Hill	Sofiia Razinkova
Kaden Oliver	Victoriya Huk
Karina Karavan	Alex Sirak
Maya Krawchuk	Daniel Sultan
Oleksander Kostelnyy	



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Thank you to our staff, students, families and the Seven Oaks School Division community for a year we'll never forget!