École Constable Edward Finney School

# Report to the Community 2023-2024

25 ANGLIA AVENUE, WINNIPEG, MB R2P 2RI



Our current enrollment is 395 students, Kindergarten to grade 5. We are a dual track school with English programming as well as French Immersion programming.

Our school community is *rich* in culture and diversity!

Our staff strives to impact, influence and inspire young children in their lifelong journey of learning. "The Circle of Courage is a model of positive youth development first described in the book *Reclaiming Youth at Risk*, co-authored by Larry Brendtro, Martin Brokenleg, and Steve Van Bockern. The model integrates Indigenous philosophies of child-rearing, the heritage of early pioneers in education and youth work, and contemporary resilience research. The Circle of Courage is based in four universal growth needs of all children: belonging, mastery, independence, and generosity."

#### https://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/cur/cardev/gr9\_found/docs/courage\_poster.pdf

At École Constable Edward Finney School, we believe the model supports the diversity of our community of learners and provides a template for a balanced approach towards addressing students', families', and staff's physical, emotional, mental, and spiritual growth and development. We will use this model to share all the wonderful learning highlights at our school this past year.



https://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/cur/cardev/gr9\_found/docs/courage\_poster.pdf



### The Spirit of Belonging:

At Constable Finney, YOU BELONG HERE! The universal longing for human bonds is cultivated by relationships of trust so that the child can say, "I am loved."





All classes participated in drumming workshops with our Artist in the School, Coffieman. The students learned to play various rhythms on the Djembe drums. At the end of the week, classes showcased their learning through a performance for their peers and families.



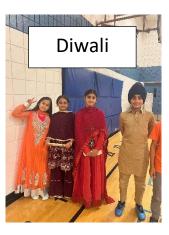
The 15th Annual Traditional Seven Oaks School Division Graduation Pow Wow. We had over 60 dancers from Finney who learned from our instructor, Bella, from the Aboriginal School of Dance.





Ukrainian dance







Rooms 12 and 8 invited guest speakers from the Manitoba Inuit Association to support our learning about Canada's North.



We welcomed families to join us for our Finney Community BBQ in September. A beautiful evening of celebration and connection.



Books and Bannockinviting grandparents in to celebrate literacy for I love to read month!

### The Spirit of Mastery:

The inborn thirst for learning is cultivated; by learning to cope with the world, the child can say, "I can succeed."



All classes participated in the Whole School Write on the topic of community and memories at Finney.

Grade 5 French Immersion students participated in Winter Camp at Camp Assiniboia. Students experiences two days of outdoor winter activities and community building in a French milieu setting.



The Kindergarten to Grade 2 Literacy Team explored strategies to continue to support children's phonological awareness development. Students engaged in daily routines, games, songs and poems, and small group activities to develop their understanding of rhyming, syllable segmentation, and letter sound awareness. The evidence of children's growth in these skills is evident in their reading and writing!



Grade 4/5 students participated in a variety of learning opportunities through exploratory groups, led by Grade 4/5 teachers. Student groups explored topics such as meditation, nutrition, carpentry, art skills and mediums, Escape Boxes, story boarding, human rights, and sustainability.





Grade 4 and 5 students participated and went through the creating, writing and editing process of the Pandora Poetry Contest. By using mentor texts and personal experiences, students have created original works and entered them into the Manitoba Association of Teachers of English Pandora Poetry Contest as well as the Seven Oaks Poetry Contest.

#### Zebras

The first time I curved my fingers onto the keys I was eight years old

I heard the keys stunningly playing like my fingers were getting chased by the musical notes While my fingers were on the move I thought of zebras running from predators

As I looked at the notes I felt like I was walking through the music I was shining like a work of art

"I wrote this poem because I love playing the piano, I really like listening to classical music and my grandpa really liked music. It made me think of doing pottery and making a sculpture of a person playing piano and my grandpa playing piano with me".

- Amber

\*\*1st place winner in Pandora and 7oaks Poetry Contest, grade 4\*\*





Students in Room 17 wrote and illustrated a picture book about Climate Action, in partnership with ToyBox Manitoba and U of W's Prairie Climate Centre. Students took a leadership role in publishing the book and organizing a community event to share their learning around adapting to and taking action around climate change.

# The Spirit of Generosity:

Character is cultivated by concern for others so that the child can say, "I have a purpose for my life."



Room 17 collaboration with Garden City TAA students.







National Day of Truth and Reconciliation. Family members shared a traditional drum song and teachings.





Family and community volunteers were a tremendous support in preparing a nutritious breakfast snack for all kids twice a week!





Room 12 participated through Little Green Thumbs Program in agriculture in the classroom. We learned what it takes to grow our fruits and vegetables in the classroom...Patience! We celebrated by eating the fruits of our labour.



## The Spirit of Independence:

Free will is cultivated by responsibility so that the child can say, "I have the power to make decisions."

Grade 4/5 taking place in the civic vote, sharing their ideas and opinions.











Thanks to the generosity of staff and a community volunteer, a group of students designed and learned to sew their own ribbon skirts.

Our Finney Human Rights Group focused on accessibility in public spaces. These Grade 4/5 students examined the features of accessible play areas, including communication boards, wheelchair-accessible pathways, and ground level play equipment. We look forward to seeing some of their proposed designs overlap with the new Finney playground, which will begin construction shortly.



We look forward to the 2024-2025 school year and all the possibilities for learning.

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