



**SEVEN OAKS**  
SCHOOL DIVISION  
*community begins here*

2022/2023

# Seven Oaks **BY THE NUMBERS**

*Cultivating Student Growth and Wellbeing*



# Cultivating Student Growth and Wellbeing

From our academic accomplishments and participation in the arts to exciting opportunities to engage with our community, our pride in Seven Oaks School Division runs deep. As we continue to evolve and refine our approach, this report serves as both a showcase of our successes, and a testament to our unwavering commitment to progress. As part of the Seven Oaks community, you play a vital role in this narrative, where community and success intertwine, paving the way for our students to flourish academically, mentally, socially, and beyond.

# Early years

## Kindergarten to grade two literacy

All kindergarten to grade two teachers worked collaboratively in their schools this year to investigate, document, and share the growth and progress of their students' literacy learning. This focused collaboration has supported all teachers to better respond to students' learning needs and to support students' trajectories across kindergarten to grade two. As a result of their collective efforts, teachers have observed significant improvements in student outcomes.

In kindergarten, most students showed steady progress in literacy, with approximately 68% progressing well from Fall to Spring. Notably, students progressing with intensive supports decreased from 12.15% to 8.90%. Grade one literacy saw a significant rise in students progressing well, from 57% to 65%, and those needing lots of support decreased. Grade two literacy continued to improve, with students progressing well increasing from 65% to 73%, and those needing intensive support dropping to 10%.

Fall 2022/2023	Progressing Well	Progressing with Lots of Support	Progressing with Intensive Supports
Kindergarten	68.34%	18.94%	12.15%
Grade 1	57.23%	18.67%	22.01%
Grade 2	65.49%	21.09%	11.73%

Spring 2022/2023	Progressing Well	Progressing with Lots of Support	Progressing with Intensive Supports
Kindergarten	68.80%	15.68%	8.90%
Grade 1	65.10%	16.60%	17.1%
Grade 2	73.40%	16.54%	9.93%



*“At the beginning of the year, we noticed stick drawings, lack of colour, and mostly no letters on paper...In the third term, we noticed full body drawings, background details, many different colours, more risk taking when illustrating, and pictures are now telling a story...They are able to conference with peers and teachers, [add] more details to their writing, attach letters to their pictures, and show some understanding of print and sound connections. They are able to write left to right, top to bottom.”*

- Teachers Arusia Leskiw and Mary Constable,  
R.F. Morrison School – Reflection on Kindergarten students' growth and progress in writing



*“Reflecting on the year, there were things that went well and things that left us with more challenges and questions. We saw that when the students were writing with purpose, the writing becomes authentic, and the students are motivated and interested not only in writing but sharing as well. One student who produced very little work in the fall is now working on [a] second short story and is so excited to share it with [a] buddy and take it home to share with [the] family.”*

- Teachers Kaylah Chartrand and Debra Rarog,  
Colicutt School – Reflection on Grades 1-2 students' growth and progress in writing

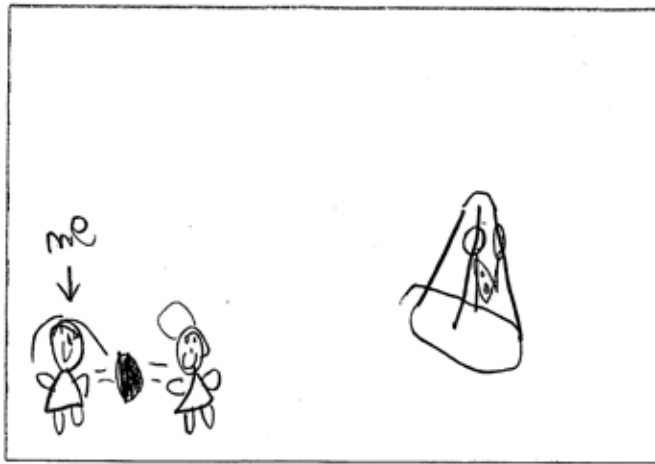
## Grade two writing samples

Teachers collaboratively analysed student writing samples in the fall and spring to notice change over time. These samples show the unpolished attempts that students make with writing so that teachers know how to support their growth.

These writing samples are from a grade two student - completed in the fall and in the spring.

Fall 2022

Tell us about a time when someone has been kind to you. Also, tell us about a time when someone has been unkind to you.



I was playin

with my mom.

~~I was~~ on the spin

but my fren would not let me  
on the spin.

Describe acts of kindness you do for others.



I am kind to mother  
teacher by picking up  
trash so mother teacher  
can live. I am kind when  
I help my grandma.

Grade 2 student's draft writing shows a large increase in their development of ideas, vocabulary, and mechanics of writing.

### unconditionally

Describe acts of kindness you do for others.

clean her house. I am kind  
when I help <sup>peyton</sup> put her  
shoes on. I am kind to animals  
because they are so cute  
and I take good care of  
my cat monkey. I am kind  
when someone's hands are call  
and I help hold some stuff  
I am kind to "ratty" by  
doing the dishes. I am kind  
when I see someone fall and  
I am playing outside I  
have the yard. I am kind  
when I find a lost cat  
and I see its <sup>name</sup> tag  
so I bring it to its  
owner.



## Grade three reading and numeracy

The data presented illustrates the progression of grade three students meeting reading and numeracy sub-competency expectations between 2018 and 2022. While a slight, short-term enhancement has emerged after the pandemic within Seven Oaks School Division, the commitment to equitable education for all students persists. Although the division's average falls below the provincial level, the division remains dedicated to reaching the average and achieving parity.

### Students who met expectations in all reading sub-competencies

Grade 3 Reading	2018	2019	*2020	2021	2022	Long-term	Short-term
Provincial	47.4%	49.3%	-	44.9%	45.7%	Down	Up
Seven Oaks School Division	42.1%	45.1%	-	38.8%	39.9%	Down	Up

\*The Fall 2020 assessment was suspended due to the COVID-19 Pandemic

### Students who met expectations in all numeracy sub-competencies

Grade 3 Numeracy	2018	2019	*2020	2021	2022	Long-term	Short-term
Provincial	35.9%	35.6%	-	32.6%	34.5%	Down	Up
Seven Oaks School Division	30.7%	35.4%	-	32.7%	33.9%	Up	Up

\*The Fall 2020 assessment was suspended due to the COVID-19 Pandemic

# Middle years

## Grade seven numeracy

Over the past three years, Seven Oaks has spent considerable time and energy improving mathematics instruction and learning. Through specific and targeted mathematics professional development, we have witnessed noticeable improvement across grades three to eight.

This year, Seven Oaks School Division achieved an impressive feat by surpassing the provincial average for grade seven numeracy for the fifth consecutive year.

Overall, the long-term data reflects consistent progress affirming the division's commitment to promoting numeracy excellence and ensuring every student has the opportunity to thrive academically.

### Students who met expectations in all English numeracy sub-competencies

Grade 7 Numeracy	2018	2019	2020	*2021	2022	2023	Long-term	Short-term
Provincial	34.8%	35.9%	35.6%	-	36.2%	38.1%	Up	Up
Seven Oaks School Division	37.7%	36.0%	40.8%	-	48.0%	50.7%	Up	Up

\*The Fall 2021 assessment was suspended due to the COVID-19 Pandemic

## Grade eight reading and writing

Over the past five years, Seven Oaks School Division has consistently surpassed the provincial average in grade eight reading scores, reflecting our commitment to academic excellence. Our ongoing dedication to supporting students' reading proficiency and academic achievements is evident, and we acknowledge the continuous effort required. In writing skills, our grade eight students have consistently exceeded the provincial average over the past four years. Seven Oaks is committed to enhancing our practices and supports for literacy to ensure that all students see themselves as competent and confident readers and writers.

### Students who met expectations in all English reading sub-competencies

Grade 8 Reading	2018	2019	2020	*2021	2022	2023	Long-term	Short-term
Provincial	51.3%	51.0%	52.5%	-	51.9%	52.3%	Up	Up
Seven Oaks School Division	55.6%	53.6%	60.3%	-	55.7%	58.0%	Up	Up

\*The Fall 2021 assessment was suspended due to the COVID-19 Pandemic

### Students who met expectations in all English writing sub-competencies

Grade 8 Writing	2018	2019	2020	*2021	2022	2023	Long-term	Short-term
Provincial	44.3%	44.7%	44.8%	-	45.0%	45.2%	Up	Up
Seven Oaks School Division	42.3%	46.7%	52.6%	-	49.6%	49.6%	Up	Equal

\*The Fall 2021 assessment was suspended due to the COVID-19 Pandemic

# Senior years

## Grade nine credit attainment

Grade nine credit attainment plays a crucial role in predicting grade 12 graduation rates, and Seven Oaks School Division has consistently demonstrated strength in this area. Compared to the provincial average, Seven Oaks students have consistently remained ahead and have shown commendable improvements over the years. The division's commitment to excellence is evident in the data, with an upward trend in credit attainment.

The division remains steadfast in its mission to provide a nurturing and inclusive learning environment where all students have equal opportunities to thrive and achieve their full potential in credit attainment. By leveraging collective efforts and improvement strategies, we aim to empower all students to succeed on their academic journey and propel them towards a successful grade 12 graduation.

### First-time grade nine math students who attained a math credit by year end

School Year	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Long-term	Short-term
Provincial	87.7%	86.9%	89.4%	86.6%	87.2%	Down	Up
Seven Oaks School Division	91.2%	91.2%	93.8%	90.2%	92.3%	Up	Up
Indigenous	71.0%	66.4%	74.3%	65.2%	70.9%	Down	Up
Students with EAL	98.3%	90.7%	92.5%	94.7%	86.5%	Down	Down
Students in the care of CFS	63.9%	63.3%	76.5%	78.9%	78.8%	Up	Down
French immersion	96.9%	96.6%	98.8%	97.5%	97.2%	Up	Down

Manitoba Education and Early Childhood Learning

### First-time grade nine students who attained an English language arts credit by year end

School Year	2017/18	2018/19	2019/20	2020/21	2021/22	Long-term	Short-term
Provincial	89.5%	88.8%	90.0%	88.4%	88.6%	Down	Up
Seven Oaks School Division	92.0%	91.5%	93.1%	91.2%	92.3%	Up	Up
Indigenous	74.8%	66.4%	72.0%	68.1%	66.7%	Down	Down
Students with EAL	98.3%	92.6%	94.3%	89.5%	89.2%	Down	Down
Students in the care of CFS	66.7%	60.0%	70.6%	73.7%	75.8%	Up	Up
French immersion	97.6%	98.0%	98.9%	97.9%	97.9%	Up	Equal

Manitoba Education and Early Childhood Learning



# Student engagement

Seven Oaks School Division has actively worked on student engagement, especially in the wake of the pandemic, where students have faced increased challenges with anxiety, depression, and maintaining their enthusiasm for learning. Even today, the lasting effects of the pandemic continue to influence how students engage with school.

As part of our research on student engagement, Seven Oaks teamed up with The Learning Bar to produce the “OurSCHOOL” survey, which was based on data from 3,483 students in both primary and secondary schools from the division. The survey was centered around key aspects, including how students perceive their school environment, the factors that contribute to their sense of engagement, the barriers they face in feeling engaged, and their valuable recommendations to improve engagement.

In addition to the two surveys created by The Learning Bar, Seven Oaks conducted interviews with student focus groups from each of the four middle years schools. We learned some valuable insights into the elements that positively impact student engagement within our middle years’ schools.



## We feel engaged when...

- “There are supportive adults that we can talk to.”*
- “We feel confident and safe in class.”*
- “We understand the purpose for what we are learning.”*
- “We have different and interesting learning experiences, projects, field trips, and larger events.”*
- “We work in groups and talk to people to get our ideas out, hear their ideas, and we learn to make decisions together.”*
- “The learning is connected to our interests.”*
- “We have options.”*
- “We get the help we need to learn new things.”*
- “We feel challenged.”*
- “Our teachers get to know us, they are there for us, and we can trust them.”*
- “Our teachers check in with us individually and give us helpful feedback.”*
- “We have a variety of clubs, sports, and other extracurricular activities.”*
- “We have access to breakfast and lunch programs.”*
- “We have movement breaks every day.”*
- “We do things that connect to our cultures.”*



# Engagement for senior years

As the world transitioned from the challenges posed by the pandemic, the 2022/2023 school year brought with it renewed efforts to advance student engagement at Seven Oaks schools. Building upon the pre-pandemic understanding of engagement, the division focused on addressing areas that required attention, using the OurSCHOOL survey to measure progress.

In general, students within Seven Oaks demonstrate a high level of engagement. Nevertheless, the pandemic, along with multiple phases of remote learning, exposed challenges that underscore the importance of our ongoing efforts as a school division. Our focus remains on cultivating the ideal conditions and learning opportunities essential for every student to truly integrate into our learning community.

## Attendance

Seven Oaks continues to show stronger attendance rates than the provincial average. We are, however, seeing a slight downward trend in attendance particularly in the wake of the pandemic. Schools are working diligently to support all students' attendance and engagement in school.

	2019	2020	2022	2023
Average attendance rate	94.4%	92.1%	91.0%	89.4%

## School connection

Students' sense of connection to their schools, engagement in extra-curricular activities, and their personal sense of motivation and aspirations were challenged during the pandemic. Waves of remote learning, schedules that saw secondary students return to in-school learning every second day, and the cancellation of most extra-curricular programs certainly had its effects. Fortunately, after the return to in-person schooling, we've witnessed an increase in students experiencing a positive sense of belonging, nearly reaching the levels observed before the pandemic.

	2018	2022	2023
Students who had a high sense of belonging	67%	57%	65%

## Motivation and aspirations

This area evaluates students' dedication to learning and achievement, alongside their ambitions for educational pursuits post-graduation. The pandemic's effects on personal and educational plans are evident in the data, showing the need for continued support to reignite students' motivation and aspirations.

	2018	2022	2023
Students who value school outcomes	76%	67%	65%
Students with positive homework behaviours	73%	66%	69%
Students who reported they tried hard to succeed in their learning	71%	64%	64%
Students who are interested and motivated in their learning	45%	36%	36%
Aspirations to finish high school	81%	75%	69%
Planning for post-secondary education	66%	55%	52%
Planning to pursue apprenticeship program	22%	12%	10%

## Mental health

The data collected below on social-emotional outcomes is centered around high-levels of depression, anxiety, and self-esteem. Anxiety is self-assessed by students and pertains to intense feelings of fear or worry regarding specific events or social situations. Depression is self-assessed and involves extended periods of sadness, discouragement, and feelings of inadequacy. Positive self-esteem is associated with students who experience self-liking, self-acceptance, and pride in their accomplishments.

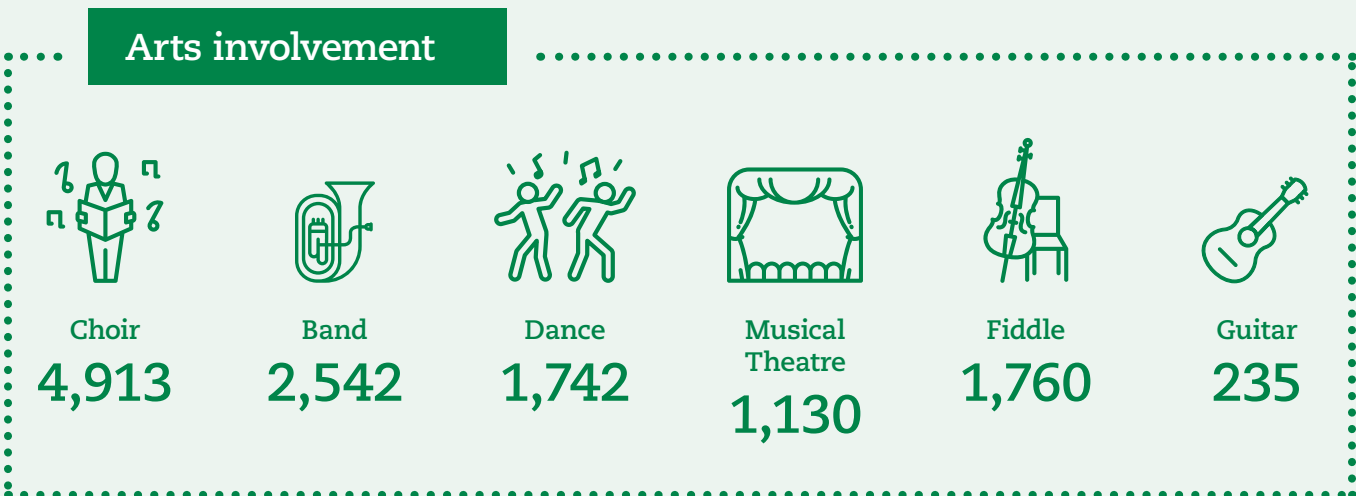
	2018	2022	2023
Students reporting moderate to high levels of anxiety	29%	40%	36%
Students reporting moderate to high levels of depression	29%	40%	37%
Students reporting high self-esteem	68%	58%	61%

# Participation in arts and sports

Seven Oaks takes pride in taking learning beyond the classroom, meaning that measuring success doesn't just mean looking at academics. We provide many opportunities that give students a way to explore their creativity, team-building skills and talents through arts and sports programming.

The arts programs at Seven Oaks School Division have seen significant participation and growth in recent years, showcasing the community's dedication to fostering a vibrant artistic environment. Here are some shared observations regarding the various arts activities:

- **Choir participation:** Choirs have struck a harmonious chord with the students across the division, as evidenced by the widespread participation of **4,913 students**. The allure of choral music continues to resonate, drawing in a large number of enthusiastic young voices.
- **Band engagement:** Within the division, the appeal of instrumental music is undeniable, drawing the active participation of **2,542 students** in various band activities. These band programs have created an amazing environment for young musicians, enabling them to display their talents and unwavering passion for music.
- **Dance and musical theatre:** Dance and musical theatre programs have evoked varied levels of interest, engaging **1,742** and **1,130 students**, respectively. These artistic expressions offer a platform for students to express themselves creatively through movement and dramatic performance.
- **Fiddle and guitar:** While fiddle and guitar participation is not as widespread, there is a dedicated group of **1,760** and **235 students**, respectively, who have found their musical niche in these unique activities. These programs offer a cultural and musical diversity that enriches the overall arts landscape.



## Noteworthy developments:

- **Promising recovery:** The data indicates a positive trend, as arts programming at Seven Oaks has almost fully recovered, closely aligning with the pre-2019 figures. This resurgence highlights the resilience and commitment of the division to restore and uphold its flourishing arts scene.
- **A decade of instrumental support:** Celebrating a remarkable milestone, the division proudly commemorates its 10-year anniversary of providing instruments at no cost to children. This generous initiative has opened doors for countless aspiring musicians, ensuring access to musical education and opportunities regardless of financial constraints.
- **SOPAC's musical presentations:** The Seven Oaks Performing Arts Centre (SOPAC) continues to be a central stage for artistic excellence. Annually, SOPAC showcases approximately 10 captivating musicals, offering a rich cultural experience for both performers and audiences. For the 2022-2023 school year, SOPAC was in use for 275 days.
- **Elwick Community School's debut:** A moment of pride for the division, Elwick Community School successfully hosted its first-ever musical production at SOPAC this year. Such achievements reflect the dedication and collaborative efforts of the school community.
- **Guitar's pandemic introduction:** The pandemic spurred innovative solutions, leading to the introduction of guitar programs at select schools. This adaptive approach allowed music education to persist even during challenging times when singing and wind instruments were paused. The continuity of guitar programs post-pandemic highlights their resounding success and popularity.
- **Rise of fiddling:** The participation in this traditional art form has seen an encouraging increase since 2019. This resurgence emphasizes the enduring value of preserving cultural heritage through music and the dedication of students and educators to this unique art.



- In our division, sports play a vital role in engaging students and promoting their athletic abilities. Seven Oaks offers a wide range of sports across schools, catering to various interests and age groups.
- In the past year, our dedication to cultivating a thriving sports culture across all educational levels has been remarkable. More than 10,000 students across the division participated in a wide array of competitive and spirited athletic activities. The dedication shown by our student-athletes exemplifies both their personal commitment and the school division's shared goal of nurturing individual growth and camaraderie in a vibrant sports culture.

## Student participation in sports



### CROSS COUNTRY

Early Years: 900  
Middle Years: 400  
Senior Years: 120



### TRACK & FIELD

Early Years: 400  
Middle Years: 1,200  
Senior Years: 150



### LACROSSE

Senior Years: 40



### GOLF

Senior Years: 20



### FLAG FOOTBALL

Early Years: 400



### VOLLEYBALL

Middle Years: 1,200  
Senior Years: 275



### INDOOR SOCCER

Senior Years: 65



### CIRCULATION VOLLEYBALL

Early Years: 400



### BASKETBALL

Middle Years: 1,200  
Senior Years: 275



### OUTDOOR SOCCER

Senior Years: 60



### 3 V 3 BASKETBALL

Early Years: 400



### HOCKEY

Senior Years: 70



### CURLING

Senior Years: 20



### TEAM HANDBALL

Early Years: 800



### FOOTBALL

Senior Years: 90



### BADMINTON

Early Years: 750  
Middle Years: 1,200



### RUGBY

Senior Years: 45

### TOTAL PARTICIPATION\*

Early Years: 4,050  
Middle Years: 5,520  
Senior Years: 1,230  
**TOTAL: 10,800**

\*Note: Several students will or have participated in more than one sport

## Learn to Swim, Skate and Bike



### Learn to Skate

All students in grade one and two participate

**1,729**



### Learn to Swim

All students in grade four participate

**916**



### Learn to Bike

All students in grade six, seven and eight participate

**1,044**



## Black excellence

Seven Oaks School Division made history on May 12, 2023, by hosting its very first Evening of Black Excellence, a momentous event celebrating the achievements and contributions of the community. The attendance at the event was remarkable, with 200 enthusiastic individuals participating.

Within the division, the Black Student Union (BSU) movement has been flourishing. Currently, there are five active BSUs already making a positive impact in the community. Additionally, the excitement doesn't end there, as another BSU is set to commence its journey in September.

# Pow wow clubs and cultural credit programs

The 2023 Pow wow clubs and Cultural credit programs at Seven Oaks School Division have experienced remarkable growth and resilience, reflecting the division's commitment to Indigenous education, and fostering a strong sense of cultural identity among students.

## Pow wow clubs

Over 800 students from early years and middle years schools are actively engaged in Pow wow clubs across the division. These clubs provide students with an immersive and hands-on experience in Indigenous culture and traditions.

The pandemic presented challenges, halting all Pow wow activities temporarily. However, once the community was able to come together again, the Pow wow clubs reemerged with newfound strength. Notably, the numbers of participants have been steadily growing every year since 2020, with the current year seeing the highest level of engagement.

## Cultural credit programs

The Cultural credit programs at Seven Oaks have similarly thrived, offering enriching experiences to 250-300 Indigenous youth from all three high schools and three MET schools.

Even during the pandemic, Cultural credit initiatives persevered, though in-person activities had to be limited to small groups of 15-20 students to ensure safety.

Over the last two years, the Cultural credit programs have regained momentum, witnessing an upswing in attendance for each event. The most recent year stands out significantly as student interest and engagement have reached a remarkable 100% recovery.





# Tech hub

Step into the realm of innovation with the Seven Oaks Tech Hub program, where creativity knows no bounds and possibilities are limitless. A vibrant platform tailored for creators, designers, coders, and builders, this program propels participants into a world of hands-on learning and skill development. Our strong collaborative ties with Industry partners enriches the experience, bringing opportunities that mold passions into skills. Throughout the 2022/2023 school year, an impressive cohort of 260 students participated in the tech hub program, eagerly immersing themselves in its dynamic offerings. From Interactive Digital Media exploration to Unreal Engine mastery, the Tech Hub program serves as a catalyst for growth and transformation, equipping students with the tools they need to excel in a rapidly evolving digital landscape.



# STEAMfest and Historical Thinking Jam

Students brought their energies, knowledge, and creativity to this year's STEAMfest at the Garden City Shopping Centre, where a remarkable turnout of 2,000 participants engaged in hands-on experiences in science, technology, arts, and math. Similarly, at the Manitoba Museum's Historical Thinking Jam, 400 enthusiastic students presented their research and projects, immersing themselves in the world of historical thinking.



# Allocation of funds

We firmly hold onto our steadfast belief in devoting the majority of resources to classrooms and programming for students.

## Direct support to students

Seven Oaks devotes more of its resources to the classroom than all but two school divisions.

	2020/2021	% of K-12 expense
Seven Oaks School Division	\$125,057,727	82.6%
Province	\$2,016,858,025	79.5%

## Operating cost per student

Seven Oaks spends less on operating costs than the provincial average.

	2020/2021
Seven Oaks School Division	\$13,565
Province	\$14,205

## Cost per student

We keep class sizes low for a reason. It enables us to provide individual support and rich programs for students, while keeping costs below the provincial average.

	2021
Seven Oaks cost per student	\$13,565
Provincial cost per student	\$14,205
Difference	\$640

## Savings to parents

\$35/month Lunch supervision

\$50/year Field trips & locker fees

\$22/month Band instruments

\$120/year School supplies

**Total: \$740 savings**  
Per year, per child







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