



SEVEN OAKS  
EDUCATION FOUNDATION INC.

# Foundation

NEWS

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## Seven Oaks School Division stalwart retires

**By Derek Dabee**

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After 38 years as a senior official in the Manitoba public school system, Wayne Shimizu, secretary-treasurer of the Seven Oaks School Division, retired at the end of March 2022.

The secretary-treasurer is the chief financial and communication officer of the school division, along with a series of additional responsibilities.

Wayne's stellar career began in 1984. Fresh out of the University of Manitoba and armed with an honours bachelor of commerce degree, he was hired by Seven Oaks as its payroll officer.

Wanting to further his career, after two years of additional studies Wayne received his Chartered Management Accountant (now CPA), designation.

Shortly afterwards, Glen Hanson retired from his position as assistant secretary treasurer and Wayne was appointed to the job, working side by side with secretary-treasurer Ed Johns until 2000, when the always affable and professional Wayne was recruited by the St. Vital School Division to be secretary-treasurer.

School division amalgamations meant Wayne then became assistant secretary-treasurer of the new Louis Riel School Division. When Johns announced his retirement from Seven Oaks, Wayne returned to assume the position.

During his career with Seven Oaks, Wayne has been responsible for audits, budgets, collective bargaining, payroll, legal matters, enrolment projections, capital projects such as new schools and major additions, school site acquisition and disposition, accounts payable and receivable, overseeing construction of the division's fibre optic network, implementation of the division-wide composting program, and working with the members of the school board.

He also volunteered his time as a member of the boards of the Kildonan Youth Activity Centre, Maples Youth Activity Centre and he continually supported the Seven Oaks Education Foundation, which awards over 100 scholarships annually to graduating SOSD high school students.

'We have been very fortunate to have Wayne Shimizu as our secretary-treasurer. He's helped plan and respond to the challenges of expanding enrolment and been integral to everything we've done,' said Brian O'Leary, SOSD superintendent of Seven Oaks Division.

In retirement, Wayne will continue to volunteer with the Seven Oaks Education Foundation, have more time to play old timers' hockey, tennis, golf and spend more time with his parents and family.

**To find out more about the Seven Oaks Education Foundation, what we do and how you can make a donation, visit [7oaks.org](http://7oaks.org) and look for Seven Oaks Education Foundation under 'Resources.'**

# In Honour of Jacob “Jack” Winters, Ph.D



The family of Jack Winters is privileged to announce the establishment of a Memorial Scholarship in his name through the Seven Oaks School Division.

After a youth spent growing up in a farming community in Southern Manitoba, Jack was driven to become a teacher and resolute about improving his abilities as an educator. He studied at the MCI in Gretna, proceeded to Manitoba Teachers' College, and then also graduated from The Faculty of Education at the University of Manitoba. He began his teaching career in the small community of Melba, MB. Eventually moving back to the city in 1959, Jack accepted a teaching position in the Seven Oaks School Division where he taught Physical Education and Mathematics at what was then known as Jefferson Junior High School.

Interestingly, Garden City Collegiate Institute was just under construction at that time. Due to space constraints and logistics, students were forced to shuttle back to Jefferson for some classes, which in turn saw Jefferson students have various classes at Victory School, so Jack and others on staff were involved in teaching at all three.

In 1961/62, the concept of the community use of schools was introduced into the division as Superintendent John Leaman brought in Ben Martin from Flint MI to consult. Jack was extremely motivated by the concept, and became a proponent and pioneer for Community Schools in the Division. Initially this meant coordinating the program at Jefferson, Edmund Partridge, and West St. Paul Schools. Later, he was called upon to be a catalyst for Community Schools throughout the city and province. It was during this period he received a sabbatical leave from the Division to pursue and complete doctoral studies through a Mott Foundation Scholarship at Michigan State University. Jack completed his Ph.D in 1972, with 'The Community Use of Schools' as his dissertation.

Upon his return to Seven Oaks, Jack entered the administrative path first as Principal of Centennial School, followed by the principalship of the soon-to-be-constructed James Nisbet Elementary School. Included in that role was working closely with the architect to develop a comprehensive plan for the form and the function of the school, and the result was an open area pod learning environment, a progressive innovation of the time. He later undertook a similar role in the construction and development of Ken Seaford Jr. High in conjunction with the Maples Collegiate. It was at the Maples Complex as Principal of both schools, that he retired in 1995.

The family wishes to extend gratitude to all of those who selflessly contributed to this award, as well as thank all involved who have created and continue to govern the structure that has made the process of honouring a loved one in such a positive way so accessible. A special thank you to Wayne Shimizu for the time and professional expertise he has so generously provided throughout.

