

Fort Rouge School

Community Report

2014-2015

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Our Mission

At Fort Rouge School we are committed to providing a calm, inspiring learning environment where we will all be caring citizens, creative problem solvers and strong, positive leaders.

Our Guiding Principles

We believe that all children can learn.

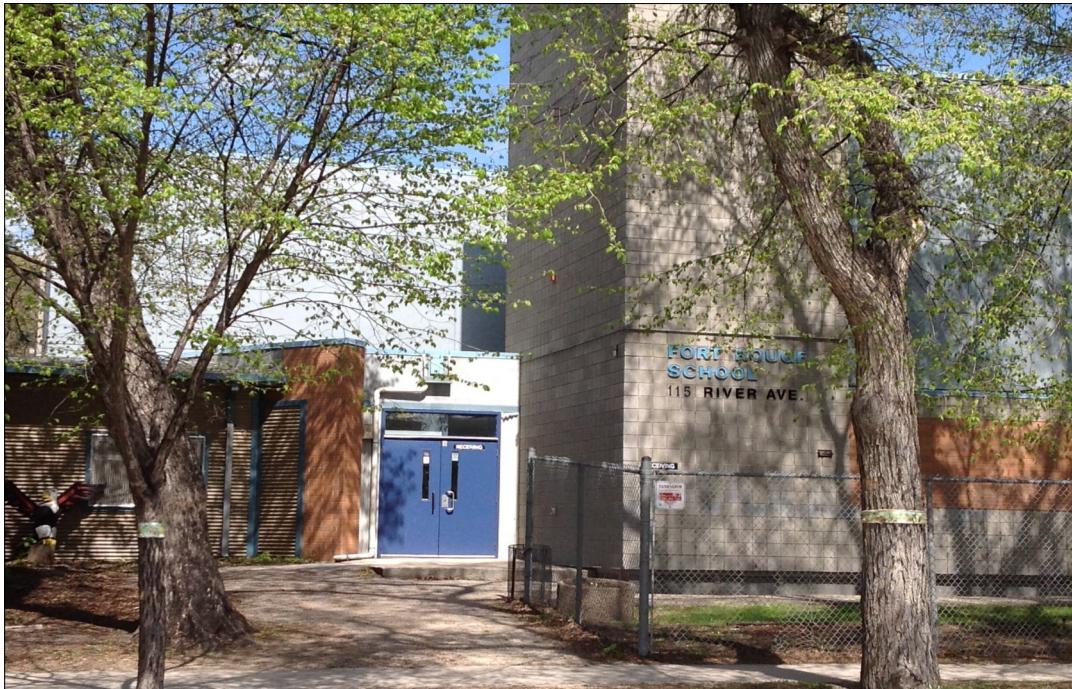
We believe that all children deserve beautiful, calm and respectful spaces to learn in.

We believe that we are partners with our families, working together to ensure the academic and social success of our students.

We believe that together with families and the community, we can inspire, identify and nurture the strengths of each student.

We believe that we must honour all individuals; learning from the experiences and talents that each brings to our school.

We believe that we must help to prepare our students to be problem solvers, critical thinkers and leaders in our community.



About Our School

Located in close proximity to the city's historic Forks area, Fort Rouge School is a Nursery - Grade 6 elementary school with a student body of about 130 students.

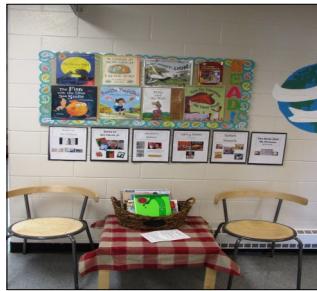
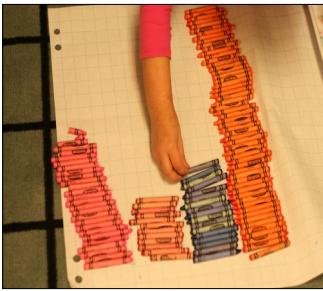
Given our small size, we are truly a family at Fort Rouge School. In keeping with the family philosophy, our classrooms are multi-age learning studios, where students learn together with peers who may be younger or older. This begins in Nursery with our Nursery/Kindergarten classroom and continues through the grades. In the 2015-2016 school year we are very excited to be opening our first grade 1,2,3 and grade 4,5,6 multi-age classrooms. We are also now a Full-Day Kindergarten site!

At Fort Rouge School our students receive Physical Education classes, Integrated Arts classes and also have access to the library and portable technology.

"Learners Today, Leaders Tomorrow!" is our motto and everyday students hear the message "We are learners, we are leaders and we are kind, everyday and everywhere."



WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION



Priorities for 2014-15

Strengthen instructional and assessment strategies for all students using all available resources including the integration of technology.

- This year, all teachers, from Nursery to Grade 6, used the CAFE program for reading instruction. This program focuses on teaching students strategies in the areas of comprehension, accuracy, fluency and expanded vocabulary. We saw a substantial increase in our comprehension scores with this consistent school-wide approach.
- Teachers met in Professional Learning Communities every week to discuss student data and to program effectively to meet student needs.

Improve academic and behavior support services for students with special needs.

- Throughout the year, students who were not at grade level received additional support. In the area of reading, small groups met on a daily basis. The average rate of growth for these students was over one year's growth in less than one year.
- Our Support Teachers and Clinicians provided additional support to teachers to assist with appropriate programming

as well as providing 1:1 support for students with special needs.

Strengthen and enhance Education for Sustainable Development initiatives that address environmental, social and economic issues world-wide.

- This year our students explored a year long theme answering the questions *Who am I? What are my gifts? Where is my voice? How do I sound my voice in a positive way?* We explored our similarities and differences. Students explored issues around human rights as well as poverty. Our *Change Makers Club* raised over \$245.00, which they donated to Siloam Mission.

Further improve school attendance and graduation rates through the exploration of additional programs and strategies.

- We have a daily call back program that calls homes every morning to enquire about children who are away.
- We added a Walking School Bus to help transport students who live on Stradbroke Ave and have to walk through the Rapid Transit area.
- Daily breakfast program.
- Our attendance rate averaged over 90% every month for the 2014/2015 school year.

Priorities for 2015-16

Strengthen instructional and assessment strategies for all students using all available resources including the integration of technology.

- Continue to use CAFE and other consistent programs to continue to raise student scores in reading, writing and numeracy.
- Create a mobile lab to allow students more efficient access to technology.

Improve academic and behavior support services for students with special needs.

- We will continue to use a three tiered approach for support. (Tier 1: Solid classroom instruction, Tier 2: additional small group instruction, Tier 3: 1:1 support.)
- Teachers will continue to meet regularly to look at data and to program effectively based on student strengths and needs.
- Professional Development in the area of differentiated instruction is a priority.

Strengthen and enhance Education for Sustainable Development initiatives that address environmental, social and economic issues world-wide.

- Through an inquiry based approach to learning, students will continue to explore ESD pillars focusing on concrete, action-based learning experiences, using the questions *Who are we? What are our gifts? How will I use my voice to make a positive difference in our community?* as our guide.

Further improve school attendance and graduation rates through the exploration of additional programs and strategies.

- Expand supports for students with chronic lates/absences.
- Maintain a monthly average of over 90%.

Parent and Community Involvement

We are very fortunate to have a Community Support Worker as well as a Home Learning Assistant on staff at Fort Rouge School. Our Home Learning Assistant is a member of our Early School Years Team, supporting the learning of our youngest learners through home visits, classroom support and special learning events. Our Community Support Worker, is housed in our Family Room. She works to strengthen the home-school connection through programs, adult learning and school support. This year we

- held a number of learning celebrations, including a Holiday Make and Take, a Story Time Café Literacy Night, a *Who Am I?* Spring Celebration of Learning, as well as our annual Aboriginal Day/Year End celebration.
- had an active Parent Advisory Council, who met monthly and who were responsible for the running of our Lunch Program.
- had a number of our parents graduate from different programs and take on positions as EAs and Crossing Guards.

We are very fortunate to be a part of a vibrant, diverse community. We recognize that there is much to learn from our community-its past, its present and its future. We try to access the gifts and talents of our families as much as we can!

We also know that our students need to be prepared to be active, contributing leaders in their community. Our teachers regularly take their students outside, focusing on important curricular and citizenship skills. Whether it is a nature or history study through the trails at the Forks or a Geometry lesson outside on the play structure, learning outside in our community is an important part of our day.

This past year some of our students recognized the need for giving back to their community and organized a fundraiser for Siloam Mission as well as a community clean up day.

We have also started community gardens in part of our field, with butterfly plants as well as vegetables. Our students, together with teachers and our food coordinator, use these vegetables to make delicious snacks for everyone to enjoy. We also use the vegetables in our meal for our September Meet the Teacher event. It is our vision that our community gardens continue to grow and are used year round by families and community members.



Highlights

- Nursery
- Full Day and 1/2 day Kindergarten
- Early School Years Program
- Multi-Age Classrooms
- Inquiry Based Learning
- Talk to Me Program (Speech and Language support at N/K level)
- Reading Recovery Support
- Literacy and Numeracy Support Teacher
- Integrated Arts Program
- Early Childhood Music Program
- Focus on developing leadership in students
- Patrols, Student Secretaries, Worker Bees
- Participation in Magic Camp, Career Trek, Mini-U camps
- Community Gardens
- Active Parent Advisory Council
- Family Room
- Community Support Worker and Home Learning Assistant
- Parent Advisory Council run lunch program
- Breakfast program
- Maybrook Daycare (housed in school)
 - before, lunch and after school care

