

École R. W. Bobby Bend School

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École R. W. Bobby Bend School Community Report 2014 - 2015

This past year École R. W. Bobby Bend School had two (2) main goals that we worked on as part of our school plan. These goals mirror the ones established in the Interlake School Division's Strategic Plan: 1) Literacy, and 2) Positive, Respectful Learning Environment. As well, we continued on with our Sustainable Development and Environmental Awareness goals from last year (ESD). The following is a summary of what we have accomplished.

LITERACY: "It is Written on the Wall"



The staff at École R.W. Bobby Bend School was LITERALLY 'Looking at Literacy Daily!' To promote a Team Approach towards our literacy goals at our school, we created in our staffroom a colourful Data Wall of our student's Reading Levels in both the English program and in the French Immersion Program. The data wall is a visual aid to monitor and track student progress and instructional effectiveness over a period of time. It is an excellent planning tool that allows ALL staff at École R. W. Bobby Bend School to make literacy a priority for our team.

Debbie Richards (Reading Recovery Teacher Leader) presented two days of Professional Development sessions on Running Records and Miscue Analysis. The sessions provided us with information on how to properly take Running Records, which is how we assess to find students reading levels and is used for our data wall. The Miscue Analysis showed us how to use the Running Records to guide our instruction. This year our teachers committed to a book study on "The Daily 5 – 2nd Edition". Every two weeks we read a chapter and met to discuss and share our thoughts and experiences.

"The Daily 5 provides a way for any teacher to structure literacy (and now math) time to increase student independence and allow for individualized attention in small groups and one-on-one."

-Gail Boushey & Joan Moser

POSITIVE, RESPECTFUL LEARNING ENVIRONMENT: Day of Pink

On Wednesday, April 8th/2015, École R.W. Bobby Bend School joined together with more than 15 500 students, parents, and community members from over 335 schools and workplaces to participate in the annual province-wide Red Cross Day of Pink. This initiative started in 2007 when two high school students in Nova Scotia took a stand against bullying when a male classmate was bullied for wearing a pink shirt to school.

We were very fortunate to have Dr. Mary Hall, the director of Safe School Manitoba, visit our school on March 23rd and March 26th to speak to each Grade 3 and 4 class on the different forms of bullying, the dynamics of bullying, the causes of bullying, and the consequences of bullying.

On April 8th, students were encouraged to take part and to support Day of Pink by wearing something pink, which allowed them to enter their name in a draw. There was certainly a “sea of pink” in the gym at our Day of Pink assembly. The day included a variety of special activities- a friendship song learned in music classes and sang by the entire school at the Day of Pink Assembly, a pink cupcake sale with cupcakes made by D and D Cakes, and pink Kool-aide served by Lynn Kjartanson, Cristina DeBin, and Lori Siwak from the Stonewall RBC. All students took part in writing or drawing a friendship/anti-bullying message on a pink hand, which was put together in a school-wide display, “Hand in Hand Together We Stand”. As well, special Day of Pink activities were carried out in many classrooms.

Day of Pink is a great way for students to come together to show their support against bullying and to raise awareness about the impact of bullying. When we stand together for respect, we create a safe and caring school environment.



EDUCATION FOR SUSTAINABLE DEVELOPMENT:

École R. W. Bobby Bend School continues to actively engage and educate our students regarding Sustainable Development – right here at school, in our community, as well as on a more global level.

At École R.W. Bobby Bend School we continue to implement programs throughout the year that teach kindness, that teach respect for others, and that teach peaceful conflict resolution through school-wide programs, which include Bucket Filling, WITS, Kelso's Choices, Roots of Empathy, Komichis, and Conflict Managers.

Participation in various special events allows our young students to make a difference in the lives of others.

At school, we held two successful fundraisers this year (Coins for Cameroon and Skate for Cameroon) for G.S. Njema School, our partner school in Cameroon, Africa, which allowed us to send a total of \$4000.00. Individual students continue to donate money from birthday parties and initiate their own fundraisers, such as lemonade stands. The funds raised this year will be used for the building of a new schoolhouse to replace an old crumbling building that is no longer safe. Students from two Grade 3 classrooms wrote letters to the students at G.S. Njema School and will anxiously await replies in the fall.

Our school community supported several charities this year including the Terry Fox Run, Stonewall and District Cheer Board, The Dream Factory, and Tabs for Wheelchairs.



Environmental Awareness:

Environmental awareness continues to be one of our areas of focus. Our Green Team Members took part in several environmental projects throughout the school year. This group helps with recycling at our school and gave up many recesses to sort and count plastic bags during our annual fall Plastic Bag Round Up. This year we collected 20 100 plastic bags to be recycled. The Green Team also emptied our school's blue bins on a weekly basis. This year, our school recycled batteries, eye glasses, drink tabs for wheelchairs, milk cartons, white paper, cellphones, and printer cartridges. On Earth Day, a book exchange was held and students brought in used books to exchange with each other. We continue to use two composting bins and blue bin collection containers in each classroom.

