

École R. W. Bobby Bend School

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École R. W. Bobby Bend School

Community Report 2013 - 2014

This past year École R. W. Bobby Bend School had three (3) 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: Student Engagement through Technology, Assessment and Inclusion, as well as Sustainable Development (ESD). The following is a summary of what we have accomplished.

Student Engagement through Technology:

We are excited to report that we are making progress in our technology plan with the School Board approving the addition of \$25,000 worth of devices that will be distributed in our classrooms for the upcoming school year! In addition, we are expecting access to our division's fiber optic network near the middle of the next school year. Having access to this high speed network will be a game changer for us as we will no longer have the limitations of our current network. Early this school year, we had SMART Interactive Projectors installed in all of our classrooms, giving teachers a new way to interact with and share information with their students. We focused the use of the iPads that we had purchased the year before on our Grade 1 and Grade 2 classrooms. We look forward to expanding the use of these and other devices into all classrooms in September.

Assessment (New Provincial Report Card):

As the Interlake School Division moves forward with plans to collaborate assessment practices, we began two new initiatives at École R.W. Bobby Bend School. One was the implementation of a Spelling program for all classrooms in Grade 1 to Grade 4 called, "Words Their Way". This program looks at the stages through which children progress as they learn to spell and write. Classroom activities are based around these developmental word patterns, and each child works at his/her appropriate developmental stage. You may have seen a portion of this program if your child brought home "Word Sorts" at the beginning of the week. The second initiative, which is also in place at other schools, is Classroom Profile Meetings. Classroom teachers met individually with the school Student Services Team twice throughout the year (once in the fall and once in the spring). The meeting focused on various components of the class as a whole: strengths, weaknesses, interests, and needs. This allowed the school team to decide on how best to support classroom teachers, and what programs and services would best serve the students of our school. We look forward to continuing and improving these programs in the upcoming school year.

Education for Sustainable Development:

École R. W. Bobby Bend School continues to actively engage and educate students about Sustainable Development – locally, nationally, and internationally. Some of the highlights from the 2013-2014 year include:

School-Wide Bucket Filling:

This was the third year of our school-wide Bucket Filling Program promoting good citizenship through the student's recognition of each other's acts of kindness. Throughout the year we encourage "bucket filling" at school, in the community, and globally. On a daily basis we have many awesome "bucket fillers" here at École R.W. Bobby Bend School. We celebrate and recognize these students by displaying their names on our Virtue Tree throughout the school year. As well, it is wonderful to see so many students thinking of ways to make a difference and to help others outside our school. This year we had children initiate projects such as collecting soap and shampoo for Siloam Mission; collecting shoes for the Up Shoppe; holding lemonade and iced tea stands to donate the profits for our partner school; donating birthday party money to help our partner school; and several students had their hair cut off to donate to wigs for cancer patients. As a school, we held two fundraisers for G.S. Njema School, our partner school in Cameroon Africa, which allowed us to send a cheque for \$2000.00 to help them buy supplies and materials for the much needed repairs to their school buildings. We also wrote letters to our partner school and made over two hundred (200) loom friendship bracelets to send to the students at G.S. Njema School.



Charities:

Our school community supported several charities this year including the Terry Fox Run, Stonewall and District Cheer Board, South West District Palliative Care, Koats for Kids, The Dream Factory, and Canadian Mental Health Association, Manitoba Division.



Interlake School Division
'Preparing Today's Learner for Tomorrow'



Day of Pink:

On April 9th, École R.W Bobby Bend School joined together with more than 19 000 students, parents, and community members from over 365 schools and workplaces to participate in the annual province wide Red Cross Day of Pink. The students took part by wearing pink, a pink cupcake sale was held, and a school-wide friendship chain measuring twenty-eight (28) metres long was made with each student drawing or writing a message about friendship or a message

regarding anti-bullying. As well, special Day of Pink activities were carried out in many individual classrooms - such as making signs, banners, pink bracelets, and pink hats. As a result of our level of participation on Day of Pink, our school qualified to win a visit from an RBC Olympian. We were thrilled to have Olympian curler, Jill Officer, visit our school and spend the afternoon with us on Wednesday, June 11th.

Day of Pink is a great way for students to come together to show their support against bullying and to raise awareness of the impact of bullying. However, bullying prevention is not a one-time event. It is an ongoing process that needs to be integrated into all facets of learning. Bullying education is done at our school throughout the year by way of books, videos, discussions, and through our school-wide programs which include Bucket Filling, Safe School Ambassadors, Conflict Managers, WITS, Roots of Empathy, and Kelso's Choices. When we stand together for respect, we create a safe and caring school environment.

Environmental Awareness:

Environmental awareness continues to be one of our areas of focus. This year a Green Team was formed with the members taking part in several environmental projects throughout the school year. One of their first projects was the Plastic Bag Round Up. During the month of October, the Green Team counted and sorted bags with a grand total of 10 286 plastic bags from our school being sent off to be recycled. This year, our school also recycled batteries, eye glasses, tabs for wheelchairs, milk cartons, white paper, cell phones, and printer cartridges. As well, our school canteen began using plastic reusable dishes this year. On Earth Day, a Book Café was held and students brought in used books to exchange with each other. We continue to use two composting bins that were purchased last year. Recently, we obtained three (3) recycling bins for our playground through the Recycle Everywhere Program.



Healthy Living Initiatives:

Students at École R.W. Bobby Bend School continued to participate in a wide variety of healthy living initiatives this past year. Some of the highlights include: Healthy Eating Snacks available at our school canteen, the school Milk Program, Capital One Rocks and Rings Program, Running Club and participation in the Manitoba Marathon, School Walk-a-thon, Hike or Bike to School Tuesdays, Weekly Popsicle Run, Golf Manitoba's Golf in Schools Program, and Class Wellness presentation in conjunction with Clara's Big Ride.