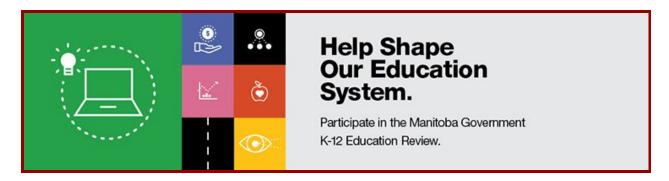
École Morden Middle School NEWSLETTER

April, 2019



Education Review Begins



The Government has started their promised review of the education system in Manitoba.

From the Office

The Government of Manitoba has started their extensive review of the education system, as promised. The process will be short for the size and importance of the topic, and will offer some opportunities for parents and the public to share their perspectives. Visiting the department website at https://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/educationreview/ will allow you to discover all of the opportunities to share that exist. It is imperative that all stakeholders in education make an effort to be heard so that the resulting report and recommendations are reflective of our communities' needs. The following is an excerpt from a letter to parents from WSD Board Chair Brian Frandson, outlining WSD's concerns about the review,

"In January 2019, the provincial government launched a review of Manitoba's K-12 education system. Two matters which may be under consideration in this review are the large-scale amalgamation of the current 37 elected school boards in our province and a possible move to appointed, rather than elected, school boards. These changes would severely undermine Western School Division's ability to shape and influence our local schools. The first would create overly-large administrative units (possibly not in our current division) and the second would eliminate the right of our community to choose its own trustees to govern our school system. Having a local board determine

the mission and core values of WSD schools and having the ability to set a budget that reflects our community's priorities is a privilege we should not take for granted. WSD elects people from our community, people we know and trust, to guide and shape the values and directions of our local schools."

One of the major concerns expressed by most school divisions is that the review has a predetermined set of recommendations and that the review process is inauthentic. However, democracy has demonstrated through history that governments and politicians will adjust to the needs and voices of the public. Whatever your position is, please share it and make your voice heard.

Interactive Public Workshop Schedule (Registration Required)

Date	Time	Location
May 6, 2019	6:00 pm to 8:30 pm	Wescana Inn 439 Fischer Avenue, The Pas
May 9, 2019	6:00 pm to 8:30 pm	Clarion Hotel & Suites 3130 Victoria Avenue, Brandon Bilingual (Language interpretation available)
May 11, 2019	9:00 am to 11:30 am	Aspen Lodge 200 1st Street SE, Dauphin
May 13, 2019	6:00 pm to 8:30 pm	Carman Collegiate 121 4th Avenue SE, Carman
May 14, 2019	6:00 pm to 8:30 pm	Pat Porter Active Living Centre 10 Chrysler Gate, Steinbach
May 15, 2019	6:00 pm to 8:30 pm	Caboto Centre 1055 Wilkes Avenue, Winnipeg



Our School Survey

Thank you to all parents who took the time to complete the survey. This survey is provided by Manitoba Education and provides valuable feedback to school and divisional leaders. Your time and care on the survey are greatly appreciated. The results will be reviewed at an upcoming PAC meeting.

Development Basketball Wrap-Up

The grade 7 boys basketball team, coached by Mr. Elias and Ms. Jaska, started this season. Most of the boys had never really played any basketball before, beyond on their driveway or in gym class. WOW - have they come far! Whether at practices or Tuesday lunchtime cardio training in the gym, these boys have given it their all. We really wish we had videotaped the boys at their first practice or cardio training so they could see for themselves just how far they have come. Even though our season wasn't filled with games, these boys have worked very hard and should be just as proud of themselves as we are of them. These boys deserve a huge



shout out (along with Ms. Zylstra who gave her time to help with cardio training) for all of their dedication and skills improvement over the last two months.



Canadian Parents for French (CPF) - Morden Chapter

CPFMorden@outlook.com Find us on Facebook, Twitter, and Instagram!

Camp Soleil-French Summer Camp

We are excited to announce that we will be hosting 2 separate weeks of Camp Soleil in Morden this year. The



first week will be from August 6-9 (4 day) and the second week is August 12-16. This French camp is for French Immersion students who are currently in Grades 1-4. Each camp is limited to 20 participants and will be on a first come, first served basis. Registration forms were emailed out by the school, but if you missed the email, contact CPFMorden@outlook.com and we will send one to you. Cheques should be made payable to: CPF-Morden. Registration forms are also available at the office at Maple Leaf School.

AGM

Our AGM will be on Wednesday June 12 at 7pm in the staffroom of Maple Leaf School. This meeting will be an opportunity to reflect on the year as well as discuss our plans for the future. All current board members have 1 more year of their term to complete; however, we would be happy to have a couple "members at large" join our executive. If you are interested in this please contact CPFMorden@outlook.com.

Concours d'art oratoire

This year all French Immersion students from Grade 5-8 participated in Concours d'art oratoire, which is a French public speaking competition. Congratulations to Ian Fehrmoore, and Sarah Kagan & Kristen Smart who will be representing Western School Division at the Provincial Concours competition at Université de Saint-Boniface on May 4, 2019. The public is welcome to attend, so we encourage you to go and cheer our participants on!

Festival of the Arts

Bravo to all the students who participated in the Morden Festival of the Arts! A noon hour practice of French solo, duet, and group poems took place for the Grades K-4 and 5-8 French Immersion students. CPF-Morden was happy to provide cookies to all the students who attended this practice.

(CPF report cont. next page)

Movie Night (CPF cont.)

Despite the beautiful weather and a Jets game, we had a nice turn out of families who came to watch the French movie "La guerre des tuques" on April 18. We hope you enjoyed the show!

Parent Advisory Council

Our next meeting will be on Tuesday May 21st at 7:00 pm in the Library. We will review survey Data and make plans for the upcoming Drug Awareness night on May 22nd. We invite everyone to attend.

Indoor Intramurals Nearing Conclusion for the Year

Intramurals in the gym will wrap up in May. The transition to beautiful weather will mean a shift to outdoor fun and playground games. We wish to extend a huge thank you to our staff who volunteered to organize and supervise the noon hour intramurals. We would also like to thank the kids for coming out and having a great time.

Grade 5 "Taco in a Bag"

Grade 5 W will be hosting what has become an annual "Taco in a Bag" Fundraiser as part of their pay it forward acts of kindness where kids help kids. The sale will be held on May 29. Each class will be given the opportunity to pre-order and pre-pay the cost of \$5.00 per bag. All proceeds will go to Katie Cares Cottage. Our local Co-op and Giant Tiger have generously donated the food items so please help to make this fundraiser a great success.

Grade 6 Earth Day

Grade 6 students celebrated Earth Day on the 22nd of April by going out to pick up garbage in our community. They filled 4 extra-large garbage bags with trash. It was a beautiful day and the students took pride in their community and showed care for the Earth. We as a school are



always very pleased when our students show a positive attitude in respecting and caring for our environment.