

# report

## to the community



Buchanan School

2022-23



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*The Early Years (K-5) provides a nurturing environment where children are encouraged to investigate, create, and discover. Children develop their competencies in language and literacy skills, thinking and problem-solving skills, social and emotional development, independence, creativity, and knowledge in preparation for becoming responsible citizens. Instruction in the following curricula: Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies, Physical Education/Health, and the Arts is focused on meeting the unique needs of Early Years students. Instruction focuses on the integration of subject matter and hands-on activity-based approaches to learning.*

### Last Year's School Accomplishments (2021-2022)

**Literacy** – Through our focus on writing instruction during the 2021-22 school year, our students demonstrated an improvement in both the mechanics of writing, as well as the ability to communicate their thinking.

**Numeracy** – Students demonstrated growth in their mathematical thinking, based on the continuum of mathematical reasoning and thinking.

**Positive Mental Health/Wellness** – Students were able to re-establish a sense of community within the school and were able to make positive contributions within the school.

### Celebrating Our Priorities

**Literacy:** Teachers at all grade levels, K-5, modeled and taught specific writing traits (ideas, organization, word choice voice, sentence fluency, conventions, and presentation) during whole class instruction and small group activities. Through high-quality instructional practices, and the use of mentor texts and provocations, students were supported in developing a deeper understanding of 'good writing' and 'what

#### Our Vision Statement

To provide students with the tools they require to become responsible, capable, creative, life-long learners and good global citizens.

#### Our Mission Statement

The Buchanan Team is dedicated to student success, respect for individual rights and differences, and the development of students' potential so they can take their place in society as responsible citizens.

#### School Profile

Number of teachers: 19  
Number of students: 259  
Grade levels: K-5

#### School Highlights

These include:

- A full day Kindergarten program
- A Reading Recovery program to support struggling readers
- Math Intervention for Kindergarten students
- Enrichment activities and Resource programming to meet the needs of individual learners
- Student Leadership opportunities
- A wide variety of field trip opportunities supported by our Parent Council
- Indigenous Education Programming
- An extensive Physical Education program, including extra-curricular opportunities for all students.
- The Winnipeg Jets Hockey Academy
- Child Nutrition Grant

good writers do' and applying it to their own writing. Teachers utilized the divisional common literacy assessments to gauge student performance and to strengthen literacy instruction by developing targeted interventions to support individual learning needs. In addition, students had the opportunity to develop their skills through numerous authentic writing tasks woven into all subject areas.

**Numeracy:** Teachers at all grade levels, K-5 used the continuum of mathematical reasoning and thinking (counting, additive, multiplicative, proportional, functional) to guide programming applicable to their grade level and student developmental level. Student understanding of operational sense, mental math, number sense, and problem solving were strengthened through daily routines (number talks, rich tasks, CGI word problems, open-ended questions, 3 act tasks, etc.). Classroom based assessments and divisional common assessment tasks were utilized to support/guide instruction with a focus on developing deeper understanding. Teachers collaborated in grade level teams to create monthly plans for instruction using problem solving as the main mode of instruction.

**Mental Health and Wellbeing:** Students had the opportunity to re-establish a sense of a community within their classrooms and the school at large. The concept of 'Mindfulness' was emphasized throughout all classrooms and health instruction was used to support these practices. Through targeted instruction, students were able to develop/demonstrate increased resilience and coping strategies to self-regulate through times of conflict. Buchanan News was used on a daily basis to promote kindness, positive thinking, and connection to the school. Whole school assemblies were able to be held at the end of the year to recognize student achievement (socially and academically).

### **Planning & Goal Setting**

School goals are created using the Divisional Strategic Plan as the guideline ([www.sjasd.ca/Governance/StrategicPlan](http://www.sjasd.ca/Governance/StrategicPlan)). The goal setting process begins in early Spring and includes input from students, teachers, parents, and the community. Goals are developed around student data and learning needs. Our mission and vision statements remain as our primary focus.

### **This Year's School Goals and Priorities (2022-2023)**

**By June 2023, all students will communicate and represent their thinking in problem-solving situations (including rich tasks, CGI story problems, counting collections, etc.).**

**By June 2023, all students will show continued growth in their ability to communicate information through writing.**

**By June 2023, all students will have participated in a variety of learning experiences that support their ability to self-regulate and engage in mindfulness activities appropriate to their level of development.**