

report

to the community



Jameswood Alternative School

2019-2020

JAMESWOOD

ALTERNATIVE SCHOOL

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The Senior Years in the St. James- Assiniboia School Division provide a varied curriculum to meet the needs, interests, and abilities of students. The programs provide a sound basis for further education or immediate employment setting. Hands-on, active participation is encouraged in all subject areas and especially in courses such as: Technology, Fine Arts, physical education, career exploration and independent studies.

Jameswood Alternative School (JAS) is a very small public high school which services students in the St. James-Assiniboia School Division. Students come to our school for a variety of reasons and with a much storied academic and personal history.

Last Year's School Accomplishments (2018-2019)

Each learner demonstrated academic growth in literacy and numeracy as well as social and emotional growth.

- ✓ Student portfolios demonstrate growth in all of the JAS competencies (academic, social, personal).
- ✓ Data collected by provincial Tell Them From Me student survey indicates growth in emotional competencies.

Each learner continued to engage in healthy lifestyle choices and cultural learning opportunities throughout the year.

- ✓ Nutrition education, including hands-on experiences, provided to every student.
- ✓ Students participated in numerous cultural activities including dance, textile arts, astronomy and story telling.

Each learner engaged in programming to facilitate the transition from school to work.

- ✓ All students participated in presentations from the divisional Career Development Teacher regarding opportunities for volunteer work and paid employment opportunities

Our Mission Statement

JAS students will grow to be citizens who demonstrate respect, personal responsibility, and the knowledge and skills to contribute to a democratic and environmentally responsible society.

Culture for Learning: JAS students are partners in a "family culture" of collaboration, active involvement, with the belief that everyone matters.

JAS values: acceptance, achievement, opportunity and safety.

School Profile

Number of teachers: 4.5

Number of students: 100

Grade levels: 11-12

School Highlights

- High school programming that is self-directed, self-paced in an intimate learning environment,
- Breakfast program
- Daycare availability (limited)

Unique Features

JAS offers a unique alternative for students who have the desire to attend school but cannot attend a regular school setting. JAS offers classes with small student-teacher ratios and courses that are offered in a self-directed, self-paced manner.

A Quick Snapshot of the Classroom

Mathematics: Our math program offers both Essentials and Applied options for our Grade 11 and 12 students. A credit retrieval program is in place for those who need Grade 9 and 10 prerequisites.

English: Students are immersed in language exploration with their choice courses with Comprehensive, Literary, or Transactional focus. A credit retrieval program is in place for those who need Grade 9 and 10 prerequisites.

Science: Our science Department offers foundations courses for Grade 9 and 10 credit. At the Grade 11 and 12 level our students may choose to study current topics in science or from a selection of courses in biology, chemistry, and physics.

Electives: Our small school offers a range of elective courses for students. These include Foods & Nutrition, Industrial Arts, Visual Arts, Family Studies, Law and Psychology. Partnerships with other SJASD high schools may be arranged for specific vocational courses. Our Career Development teacher can also support students in obtaining a variety of credits related to community service projects, employment, and apprenticeship.

Planning & Goal Setting

School goals are created using the Divisional Strategic Plan as the guideline (www.sjasd.ca/Documents/stratplan_2016-21.pdf). The goal setting process begins in early Spring and includes input from students, teachers, parents and the community. Goals are developed around the needs and direction of the various departments with student progress and achievement and our mission and vision statement as our focus.

This Year's School Goals and Priorities (2019-2020)

1. Each learner will demonstrate engagement in school life:

- Each learner will be connected with a homeroom teacher, who will connect with the student and monitor engagement in school life.
- Homeroom teachers will develop a student profile which will highlight individual strengths, interests, attendance, academic progress, and participation in school activities.
- Homeroom teachers will meet regularly with their students to review course timelines to support students in working towards course completion.
- Attendance data will be monitored for improvement.

2. Each learner will demonstrate increased credit achievement from their last academic year, and will achieve one credit in either English or mathematics.

- Each learner will be connected with a homeroom teacher who will regularly review progress towards credit achievement.
- The student profile will be used to identify student strengths and challenges and to adapt coursework accordingly.
- Data reviewed regularly to monitor potential issues with credit achievement and to plan interventions

3. Each identified "Learning to Age 18" student will maintain regular contact and connection with a JAS staff member.

- Teachers will establish and maintain contact with the student and communicate and share information about upcoming school activities or events