# report to the community

### 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: Performing and Fine Arts, physical education, career exploration and independent studies.

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

# Literacy: Jameswood students demonstrated an understanding of critical thinking, character and citizenship.

- ✓ Students were provided with multiple opportunities to consider local and global issues founded in diverse values and worldviews.
- ✓ Students were able to reflect on and build upon their knowledge through a variety of reading and writing tasks across curricula.
- ✓ Students demonstrated an increased ability to critically evaluate information and arguments and engaged in opportunities to develop self-efficacy and self-advocacy skills through observations, conversations and the creation of products.

Mental Health and Wellbeing: Jameswood student well-being was improved through engagement in evidence-based, social emotional programing that promotes self-reflective learning while ensuring all students have their basic needs met.

- ✓ students demonstrated improved coping strategies/self regulation as evident in regular attendance, engagement in learning and positive problem solving.
- ✓ Students regularly and actively participated in 'Wellness Wednesday' Workshops with a focus on: the Circle of Courage teachings, positive mental health/Cognitive Behavioural Therapy, Sources of Strength and resiliency training, Indigenous cultural education, Black history education, LGBTQ2S+ and other diversity and equity programming.
- ✓ Student survey data indicated a 25% increase in students feeling connected to their school, a 27% increase in students' ability to accept and take responsibility for their mistakes and a 20% increase in students' perceptions that they have a good understanding of wellness. Additionally, 86% of responding students "sometimes", "usually" or "almost always" use coping strategies in their daily lives.



# 2022-2023

Our Vision 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.

#### **Our Mission Statement**

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: 4.25 Number of students: 85 Grade levels: 9-12

#### School Highlights

We offer high school programming that is self-directed and self-paced in an intimate learning environment.

Our students come together and enjoy our breakfast, lunch and snack program.

JAS offers a unique alternative for students who have the desire to attend school but cannot attend a regular school setting. JAS students work closely with their teachers and hold one-to-one conversations daily to help them achieve their goals while building responsibility and independence through their learning.

#### Planning & Goal Setting

School goals are created using the Divisional Strategic Plan as the guideline.

(<u>https://www.sjasd.ca/Governance/StrategicPlan/Pages/default.aspx#/=</u>) The goal setting process begins in early spring and includes input from students, teachers, parents and the community. Goals are developed to build upon student strengths and provide appropriate learning challenges that foster growth and achievement that is aligned with our vision and mission.

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

- 1. By June 2023, our students will demonstrate improvement with independence and mastery of cognitive, and social competence in the school setting. Students will use knowledge, skills and goal setting strategies for: building a curious, confident and communicative mindset with their learning, engaging in academic revision and improvement, and navigating and managing healthy relationships with self and others, including a vision for personal success.
- Evidence-based criteria for building communication will be identified and discussed with students in all subject areas.
- Students will be provided with multiple opportunities to practice a growth mindset and learn from their own
  experiences and one another, building upon mistakes with a vision toward increased knowledge of questioning
  techniques and problem-solving strategies that will help to build confidence for learning.
- Students will be provided with multiple opportunities to revise and edit their products using self, peer and teacher feedback to enhance the clarity and artistry of their communication.
- Staff and students will participate in semi-monthly activities designed to build positive school culture and provide daily opportunities for students to practice pro-social behaviours.
- 2. By June 2023, students will have demonstrated strong coping strategies and self-regulation as evident in prosocial behaviours (including, but not limited to: consistent attendance, problem solving, constructive peer relations, and engagement in learning).
- Students will regularly and actively participate in 'Wellness Wednesday' workshops to their comfort level: Circle of Courage, positive mental health promotion, CBT, SOS/resiliency, Indigenous Education, 2SLGBTQIA+, opportunities for demonstrating generosity in the school and community
- Apply newly learned skills as coping strategies in both crisis situations and in their daily lives.
- Understanding and appreciation for diversity and equity in the school, community and society.