



RED RIVER VALLEY SCHOOL DIVISION

Summer 2011

GRAD 2011!



This year saw 178 students graduate from RRVSD schools.

Albright School	2 graduates
Institut Collegial St. Pierre	23 graduates
Morris School	38 graduates
Peace Valley School	2 graduates
Rosenort School	21 graduates
Suncrest Colony School	1 graduate
Sanford Collegiate	91 graduates

Congratulations to all RRVSD 2011 graduates!

SUPERINTENDENT'S STUDENT ADVISORY COUNCIL

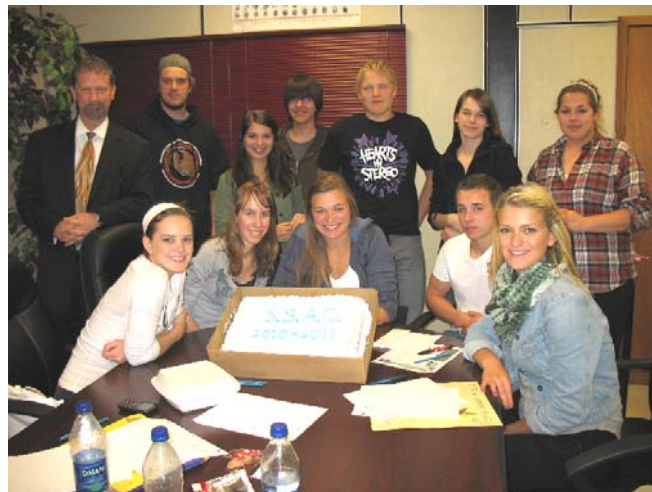
At the end of the 2009 – 2010 school year, a meeting was held between the Superintendent and students from four RRVSD high schools. At that meeting, the Superintendent's Student Advisory Council was formed. This council met six times during the 2010 – 2011 school year.

SSAC Mission Statement

The Superintendent's Student Advisory Council will represent and serve high school students of The Red River Valley School Division by acting as an advocacy voice for all students, with the superintendent's department, by understanding and voicing the concerns and issues facing students and acting as a collective voice to provide feasible solutions.

It is important that this group have enough students to provide diverse opinions, beliefs and values but not be so large as to be cumbersome. We have four high schools in the Division (excluding our colonies). Each school sends a student from Grade 10, Grade 11 and Grade 12, with the current school president representing his/her grade level. The hope is that each student would try to commit two years to the committee

(with the Grade 12 student being replaced by a Grade 10 student). It's understood that academic, extra-curricular, family and work demands may make it impossible for a student to commit to two years and there may be years when the entire group from one school is "replaced" with new faces.



Back row (l to r): Kelly Barkman, Curtis Nixon, Vanessa Hrychuk, Allan Main, Harley Siemens, Monica Friesen, Samantha Beaudry. Front row (l to r): Clara Catellier, Carly Gemmell, Melanie Edel, Tristan Keck, Madison Lashewicz. Missing: Jonathan Peters, Pauline Lafond-Bouchard

This year's SSAC was a success! At the last meeting, students were asked what this advisory council meant to them.

- "It meant a lot; I looked forward to showing up to meetings every time. It let us have our opinion."
- "SSAC gave me a voice! It allowed me to share my ideas and think outside the box. It also helped me to become a stronger leader. I was able to connect with other individuals with some of the same beliefs. I built connections with several new people!"
- "It gave me new ideas to bring to my school. I got to learn all about other high schools and learned what went well and what didn't. It encouraged me to do more for my school and community. It makes me feel like I'm making a difference. It means a lot that our voices and opinions are important to others."

RRVSD EDUCATION PLAN 2010-2011

Effective planning helps ensure that attention and effort are placed where they are most needed. The Red River Valley School Division has several components to its planning process. They include:

- Our vision statement: *That each of us will be lifelong learners;*
- Our mission statement: *The Red River Valley School Division, with the support of the parents and community, strives to provide a learning environment that will allow our youth an opportunity to achieve to their highest potential in a global environment;*
- Individual school plans based on local needs;
- Board Strategic plan;
- Goals established by the Early years, Middle years, Senior years committees;
- Proposals supported through the annual budget process;
- The Administration leadership retreat; and
- Superintendent's Student Advisory Council feedback.

Using a variety of combinations of these components, the following priorities have been established for the Red River Valley Education Plan:

PRIORITY # 1: To develop and provide appropriate programming to address the needs of all students and to support learning groups at critical stages of the educational process.

Outcome: *Enhance programming opportunities for the students of Red River Valley.*

Senior Years Initiatives:

- The Coordinator of the Red River Technical Vocational Area and an RRVSD administrator looked at the feasibility of expanding the internship program. It was decided that no further action will be taken with this initiative.

Welding/Autobody Shop – Morris School:

- In June, 2010, the division was informed by Manitoba Education that the request for a new welding shop was accepted.
- Architects were hired in November, 2010.
- Phase 1 was completed in March, 2011.

Outcome: *RRVSD student achievement will improve through assessment strategies and appropriate educational programming.*

Involvement and Learning:

- The Daily Five strategy was implemented in many classrooms around the Division. Resources and professional development was offered.
- Grade 11 and 12 math teachers participated in two full day sessions on the new math curriculum through a partnership with Border Land School Division.
- A PD session was arranged for the Grades 7 to 12 teachers on assessment with Damian Cooper. Unfortunately it was cancelled due to a severe winter storm. It has been rescheduled for the 2011–2012 school year.
- Differentiated Instruction was a focus for PD this year. The PD session on differentiated instruction with Cindy Strickland on October 1, 2010 was well received and staff felt the follow-up day was very beneficial. Rich conversations on Differentiated Instruction were held in all schools.
- Four school teams attended the conference on *Social Justice, Educating for ACTION*. Each team included the principal, a teacher and one student. Social justice is a topic that was discussed at the school level.
- Meetings with Manitoba Education and other divisions from central Manitoba have been continued in order to be aware of the future of TMO (teacher mediated options) courses. The school division entered into a partnership with other school divisions to hire teachers so these courses would be available for students at Suncrest Colony School.

- Graduation rates on the colony schools have been tracked. This year, all Grade 12 students at our colony schools graduated.
- The possibility of adding Kindergarten at Domain School was explored this year. The Board approved the addition of a Kindergarten program during their annual budget process in March, 2011. Kindergarten programming will begin at Domain School in September, 2011.

Assessment:

- The division worked on assessment policies that reflect Manitoba Education directives. The policy and protocols were approved by the Board in June, 2011. More work continues to be done on specific procedures.
- Manitoba Education announced that a K-12 Provincial report card will be implemented by 2012-2013. Three RRVSD schools volunteered to pilot the new report cards, however none were selected. RRVSD will remain in contact with Manitoba Education for further developments related to the Provincial report card.

Support Second Language Learners:

- Coup de "Pousse" is a pre-kindergarten program to help the children build their French language skills. Meetings to review the results of this program were held October, 2010 and January, 2011. Brochures were updated and ready for distribution at the spring kindergarten registration.
- Kits for teachers of EAL (English as an additional language) students were distributed to all schools in October, 2010.

Roots of Empathy:

- Two more schools have begun the Roots of Empathy program. At the heart of the program are classroom visits by an infant and parent. Through guided observations of this loving relationship, children learn to identify and reflect on their own thoughts and feelings and those of others.

Outcome: *To strengthen student engagement through student voice.*

Superintendent's Student Advisory Council (SSAC):

- 2010-2011 was the inaugural year of the SSAC. Three students from four high schools, (Rosenort School, Sanford Collegiate, Morris School and Institut Collegial de Saint-Pierre) met with the Superintendent & CEO and the Assistant Superintendent 5 times during the year. The goal is for these students to be the voice of all students in the division.
- Along with other students from RRVSD, students from SSAC also attended the conference on *Social Justice, Educating for ACTION* in November.

PRIORITY # 2: To maintain and strengthen expertise, continuity and motivation of staff.

Outcome: *The Red River Valley School Division will implement a leadership development program to increase staff leadership capacity.*

Leadership Program:

- The division completed year two of the leadership cohort. Our first Leadership Cohort group consisted of Ryan Ogilvie (Sanford Collegiate), Ingrid Loepf (J.A. Cuddy School), Angela Tascona (Morris School), Tony Lopez (Morris School), Julie Loyer-Gauthier (École St. Malo School) and Jayshree Pal (Morris School).
- New members will be selected for the 2011-2012 school year.

Professional Learning Communities:

- Rosenort School continued with year two of Professional Learning Communities.

Threat Assessment:

- An ad hoc committee met and finalized a Threat Assessment protocol for the division. Kits were developed for our schools and will be distributed in September, 2011.

Outcome: *Use technology to enhance student learning.*

ICT (Information/Communication Technology):

- Time was made available to K to 8 teachers to do self-directed PD sessions on using technology as a tool to deliver lessons.
- The division is implementing Maplewood software program. This is a student records program that will make record keeping consistent across the school division and make data collection easier.
 - Maplewood Training Sessions were held for all secretaries in 2010-2011.

Appropriate Use of Technology:

- Sanford Collegiate organized a PD session on appropriate internet use (from a teacher's perspective) through the Manitoba Teachers' Society.

Workplace Safety and Health:

- A Workplace Safety and Health Coordinator was hired in July, 2010 (in conjunction with Border Land School Division).
- Training has taken place for employees in areas such as:
 - WHMIS (Workplace Hazardous Material Information System)
 - New Employee Orientation
 - Confined Spaces
 - Ladder Safety
- A selection process was established to set up the Divisional Joint committee. The new committee held its first meeting on September 27, 2010.
- The committee met four times in the 2010-2011 school year. They have been in-serviced on their roles and responsibilities. New site inspection schedules were set up. Training requirements are being reviewed. Safe work procedures are being developed.

We Are Still Here

The Administration Office in Morris is open during the summer. Our hours are Monday to Friday, 8:00 a.m. to 4:00 p.m. with the exception of the following Fridays (closed July 22, 29, August 5, 12 and 19).

Important Dates

September 7	Classes Begin
September 22 & 23	Strong Beginnings
October 11	Inservice (no classes)
October 21	SAG (no classes)
