



Mary Montgomery School 'Community Report'

2007—2008



2007-2008

FLBSD SUPERINTENDENT'S GREETINGS



Welcome to our annual Community Report. Once again each school has collaborated to build a report that gives you a snapshot of the accomplishments and challenges which have faced us in the 2007-2008 school year.

One of our greatest challenges continues to be meeting the needs of a changing economic and demographic profile of S.W. Manitoba. Our greatest accomplishment, however, is the manner in which we work together to overcome our challenges. We are one community of eleven schools. We solve problems by addressing them in a strategic manner, and collaborating in order to be efficient.

We invest in the social fabric of our region. This year, we have been rewarded with medals, awards, recognition, and acclamations for such investments. The celebrations which accompany these successes also upheld us in the face of difficulties and loss.

Most importantly, though, we invest in the future of our region. Last month, we had 1440 students enrolled in our community schools. We recognize our responsibility to care for and educate every child within our community's schools so they may explore their own potential for success. We support them with every resource, financial and personnel, to which we have access. We lobby on their behalf, and we advocate along side them for the rights and opportunities to which they are entitled.

Jaclyn Evaschesen,
Superintendent of Schools
Fort La Bosse School Division

Mary Montgomery School

445 Lyons Street West
Virden, Manitoba
Rg M₂ Co
Tel: 204 - 748 - 2575
Fax: 204 - 748 - 3122
Brad Hayward, Principal

2007—2008 Mary Montgomery School Personnel

School Administration Staff

School Administrator.....Brad Hayward
Administrator AssistantLeslie Cantelo

Teaching Staff

Kindergarten Program.....Tammy Pidborchynski
Grade 1 Program.....Linda Christianson
Multi Age Program.....Kathy Welsh
Grade 2 Program.....Sheri Lee Robinson
Grade 3 Program.....Audrey Harvey
Grade 3/4 Program.....Colleen Lewis & Alana George Whittle
Grade 4 Program.....Lori Garcia & Brad Hayward
Music Program.....Michelle Chyzyk & Alana George Whittle &
Karen Morrow Penner
Resource Program.....Donna George and Lori Garcia
Early Literacy Program....Donna George and Leanne Kalynuk

Support Staff

Librarian.....Shelly Davies
Education AssistantsJudy Russell, Lydia Anderson, Leanne Kalynuk,
.....Lisa Cranston
Speech and Language Prgm. Assistant ...Donna Murphy

Custodial Staff

Head Custodian.....John Ripmeester
Cleaner.....Shelly Davies



School Administrator's Message

As the 2007—2008 school year comes to a close it always allows for a moment of reflection. In this moment of reflection it always brings a smile when I think of how much all the individuals in our school family have grown. Not only physically, but academically, socially and emotionally. It is an exciting time as we bid farewell to those students and family who have spent the past five years at Mary Montgomery and welcome a new group of individuals to their first year in school. Thank you to all of the staff and students and families for making 2007—2008 a successful and hopefully memorable year for all the members of our school family.
Have a great summer!

Mr. Hayward

Childhood . . . a journey, not a race.

Mary Montgomery School Priorities for 2007 & 2008 school year

- ☆ Improve Opportunities for ALL Students to achieve academic growth ...
- ☆ Review, evaluate and update....
 - ✓ School Code of Conduct
 - ✓ School Student Handbook
 - ✓ Staff Handbook
- ☆ Promote a healthy, active, moral lifestyle.

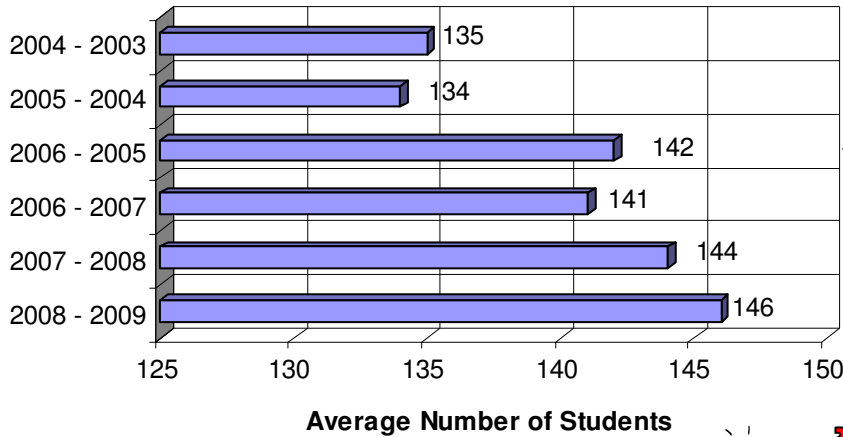
**The above priorities were developed by the Mary Montgomery School family .
They were our “guiding principles” for the 2007 — 2008 school year.**

A short summary of how the Mary Montgomery School Family achieved our priorities

- ◆ **Daily Physical Activity Program** — *At Mary Montgomery School we have continued to provide opportunities for students and staff to participate in a physical activity each day. We continued to partner with the Wonder Bread Company in taking the Wonder™ Fresh Fitness Challenge. This year one of our classrooms completed the Go Active Fitness Challenge sponsored by McDonald’s Canada and Canadian Olympic Committee and were rewarded with a \$200 gift certificate.*
- ◆ **Healthy Snack Day** — *Each month Mary Montgomery School provided each student with a healthy snack alternative. Students had an opportunity to try muffins, cheese and crackers, and an assortment of fresh vegetables and fruits. Thanks to the partnership of Mary Montgomery School, Mary Montgomery School Parent Advisory Council, the Fort La Bosse School Division and the government of Manitoba for providing funds to support this project. A special acknowledgement to the MMS Staff who organized and prepared the snacks.*
- ◆ **Specific Opportunities for Students to Improve Specific Academic Needs.**— *Our staff continues to develop, refine and use our Evaluating, Reporting & Tracking Student Progress Model. This model has allowed our school to increase the number of specific opportunities for students to develop their specific academic needs. The majority of the Staff at Mary Montgomery School have used the Fort La Bosse School Division Early Numeracy Diagnostic tool to identify the strengths and needs of students related to numeracy skills and knowledge during this school year. The plan is to use this data to help drive specific instruction.*
- ◆ **Early Literacy Program.**— *During the past school year our school has continued to enhance and deliver a specific early literacy program to students who are 5,6 & 7 years of age. The program pulled together learning strategies and theories from Dawn Reithaug “Orchestrating Success in Reading”, the PM Bench Mark Levelled Readers, National Geographic Levelled Readers, A-Z Reading Series, & Dolch Sight Word Early Reading Series. This program was delivered by using 30% of our resource program by accessing the Early Literacy Grant provided by the provincial government, focusing on students who are at risk of not achieving the desired reading level during their grade one year. Our school has continued to focus on literacy across all grade levels within our school by identifying specific literacy skills students need, to acquire and developing a specific program for those students to achieve growth. This program is developed and supported by our resource team working with the classroom teachers.*
- ◆ **Social Skills Program.**— *Each year Mary Montgomery School delivers a program to our students focusing on learning and practicing social emotional skills. This year our focus was helping students develop and practice their social skills when interacting with others who are not of the same age. Multi – age groups of students from grade 2 – to grade 4 were organized. Each of these groups had ten sessions. During the sessions, delivered by Wendy Bancescu of Foster Counselling Services students interacted with each other completing activities such as role- playing, discussion groups and art activities.*

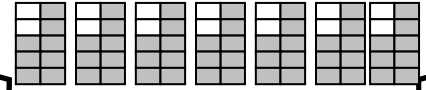


Mary Montgomery School Enrollement 2002 - 2008



"A HELPFUL HINT LEARNING MULTIPLY BY 7 TIMES TABLE"

A EASY WAY TO THINK OF THE 7 IS
TO THINK OF A 2 AND A 5
 7×8 IS THE SAME AS $(5 \times 8) + (2 \times 8)$
WHICH EQUALS 56



Special Events 2007 – 08

- * Annual Christmas Concert
- * Year End BBQ sponsored and organized by Parent Advisory Council
- * Bike Rodeo
- * Visit from the Winnipeg Symphony Orchestra
- * Performance St. James Youth Choir
- * Year End Field Trips
- * Healthy Snack Days
- * June Swimming Program
- * Activity Day
- * I Love to Read Month
- * Virden's Festival of Arts Performances

Summary of Mary Montgomery School Enrollement by Grade Level

	Kindergarten	Grade 1	Grade 2	Grade 3	Grade 4	Total
2007 - 2008	39	25	25	29	28	146

If you have any questions, comments, or ideas in regards to this Community Report, or any aspect of your community school, please do not hesitate to call the school at any time.
We are here for the children!

How to decide if the book my child is reading is the right book for their ability!

Taken from Orchestrating Success in Reading by Dawn Reithaug (2002) and tips from Mary Montgomery School Administrator

- ✓ Have your child find books that interest them—non fiction books make for excellent reading and learning opportunities.
- ✓ Levels of Reading
 - Independent—identifies 95% or more of the words correctly
 - Instructional—identifies 90% to 94% of the words correctly
 - Frustrational—identifies less than 90% of the words correctly
- ✓ Students achieve growth when they have a balance of books to read that are at an independent level and instructional level.
- ✓ It is important, if a student is at a frustrational level to stop and read the book for the child—having the child help you with certain words—and discussing what the book is about—good opportunity to do partner reading.
- ✓ 10 minutes a day over the summer goes a long way in maintaining reading skills.

Mary Montgomery School Advisory Council

Chair person— Teresa Makarchuk
Secretary—Laura Chapman
Treasure—Rita Eslinger

Activities & Successes

- ☆ Purchase of the entire set of Checker Board Children's Book Set for school library.
- ☆ Celebrating Teacher Appreciation Week
- ☆ Purchase of resources for our Parent Section in our Library
- ☆ Hot Meals Program
- ☆ Communication/Liaison between parents, community and school
- ☆ Year-end celebration BBQ
- ☆ Numerous volunteer activities

Mission Statement

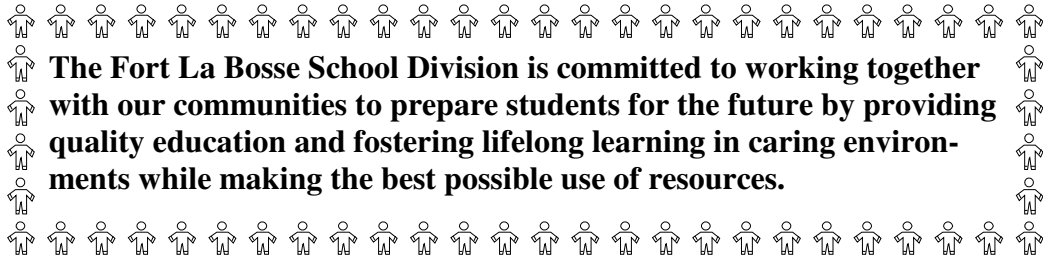
The council is a community organization, dedicated to the education and well-being of the child. The Council's primary mandate is to promote effective communication between home and community members and the school. The Council shall encourage parents to participate in meaningful, educational activities and decision making, to strengthen the roll of families in education and schooling and to foster meaningful parent and community participation

Parental endorsement of schooling enhances children's self-discipline, mental health, and long term-term aspirations. (pg 5 Renewing Education: New Directions Parents and School: Partners in Education Manitoba Education and



Fort La Bosse School Division

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Fort la Bosse School Division is committed to *preparing students for the future*, knowing it is a future we cannot imagine. Thus, we engage ourselves in careful planning that balances our response to various influences, and anticipates the requirements of that future.

Our three divisional priorities are to:

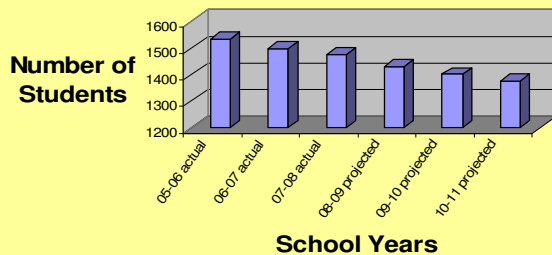
- Provide for student and staff wellness and respond to common concerns across the division
- Provide quality learning opportunities for students at each grade level and all ability levels
- Enhance current curricular experiences through LwICT (K-12), Differentiated Instruction, Assessment As, For and Of learning, Multi-level classroom structures, best practice Numeracy and Literacy strategies

This year we have initiated several actions that both respond to current realities and anticipate future needs of our students, staff, and communities. Though the following list is far from complete, we have:

- Won the Premier Award for Innovation with the Land Management Water Conservation class
- Expanded the Dakota Language program at the Reston Schools and Virden Collegiate
- Enhanced accessibility at Elkhorn School
- Celebrated the first year of “X-alt” program, and secured support for year 2
- Increased attention to safety and security of our students and staffs
- Partnered with Southwest Horizon S.D. to bring Dr. Martin Brokenleg to our school staffs
- Supported learning communities as they research numeracy and differentiation
- Prepared well for the implementation of mandatory Grade 11 & 12 Phys Ed and Health curricula
- Continued implementing Literacy with Information Communications Technology
- Celebrated partnerships such as the 7 C’s project between Oak Lake and Elkhorn math students, connecting through Numeracy and Technology
- Further increased support for transportation associated with off site activities in the 08-09 budget.

We look forward to the 2008-2009 school year and building upon these successes, and creating more.

Division Enrollment Patterns



Congratulations to the Graduates of 2008!

Senior Administration

Jaclyn Evaschesen, Superintendent (until July 15th)
 Barry Pitts, Superintendent (after July 15th)
 Kent Reid – Secretary Treasurer
 Vaughn Wilson – Supervisor of Operations

Fort La Bosse Board of Trustees 2007—2008

Chair – Garry Draper
 Carl Johnas
 Margaret Walker

Vice Chair – Craig Russell
 Dawna Jamieson
 Lisa Irwin
 Nicole Chaske

Yvonne Sheanne
 Bob Cochrane
 Kerri Vinck