



# Mitchell Elementary School

## School Community Report for 2020-2021

To provide a safe, caring, and stimulating environment  
in which to learn and grow.

### About Us

#### 375 Students

#### 27 Teaching Positions:

Literacy Support  
Numeracy Support  
EAL  
Resource  
Counsellor  
Music  
Physical Education

#### Support Staff Includes:

School Admin Secretary  
School Secretary  
16 Educational Assistants  
Library Support Specialist  
Head Custodian & 2 Assistants

MES has a strong connection to our community & families. This connection and trust is highlighted in the support we receive in our fundraisers & learning partnerships. Together we support local, national and international agencies, providing students with unique experiences and opportunities to contribute to society.

#### Principal: Joe Thiessen

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#### Vice-Principal: John Terrick

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#### Priority #1: Social/Emotional Learning

- School wide connections and assemblies were virtual this year.
- The cohort system required fewer students on the playground at recess allowing for increased supervision and fewer recess conflicts.
- Following the 4 B's and earning blue slips has continued to be important at MES. Weekly prize draws and announcements recognized students' successes.
- MES teachers used 4 B's plus one other SEL program in their classes. Programs include: Second Step, Zones of Regulation, Be Cool, Mind Up, Project 11, Classroom Economy, and Thrival Kits

#### Priority #2: Literacy & Numeracy

- MES continued its work with our Numeracy and Literacy support specialists supporting entire classes with large group, small group, and individual instruction at their just right level.
- Support included professional development for teaching staff as well as collaboration around best practice math and literacy instruction.
- Our MES Learning Forward days allowed us to explore baseline math and reading assessment across the grade levels for future learning.
- As part of our covid planning MES increased and enhanced our current use of math toolkits.
- Remote learning gave MES an opportunity to provide online reading and math instruction.
- MES continued to direct materials and staff resources as needed to enhance ELA and Math supports. MES celebrates the learning gains in reading and math. Our data suggests extremely effective literacy and math programming.

#### Priority #3: Learning Partnerships

- MES continued its international Liberian learning partnership with Provision of Hope. COVID conditions forced us to change our approach which actually allowed for more personal connection; the impact was profound on many levels. The Zoom conversation with one of our sponsored students and tour of her home opened our eyes and our hearts to life outside of Mitchell. Increased empathy was nurtured in the lives of students and reverberated to our greater school community. We are once again grateful for unwavering community support.
- MES running club thrived in these unusual times, culminating in a COVID friendly run through the Manitoba Marathon arch.
- Modified Fall and Winter Fun Days, Southeast Helping Hands, and Terry Fox, and Jump Rope for Heart continued.
- Unfortunately our local connection with the Mitchell Sr. Centre was put on hold, but we can't wait to get up and running again soon.
- Our Outdoor Learning Centre was an even more valuable space this year, allowing for mask breaks and a variety of outdoor learning activities.
- The completion of our new addition of classrooms, MPR, and library offered significant relief to our school space, entrances, and exits. We are extremely excited to start working on our playground plan next year.