



Stonybrook Middle School Planning Priorities 2016 2017



READY TO LEARN

Be Responsible Be Respectful Be Safe

Eldon Dueck
Rita Rebizant
Anders Rempel

Principal
Interim Principal
Interim VP

77 Lumber Avenue, Steinbach, MB R5G 0R3
(ph)326-6481 (f)326-3014 (w) <http://sms.hsd.ca> @StonybrookHSD

As Stonybrook Middle School evolves as a distinct middle years community, the teachers and administrative staff have adopted the philosophy of "This We Believe", a foundational document that identifies the essential characteristics of middle grades schools for today's students. As such, these guidelines will be followed "in selecting educational goals, curriculum content, and instructional and assessment processes which grow out of an awareness and respect for the nature of these distinctive young adolescents. Understanding these students and the culture in which they grow to maturity will make informed decisions about the kind of school and learning experiences our students need".

This We Believe: Keys to Educating Young Adolescents
Association of Middle Level Educators

Priority Area #1—Curriculum is challenging, exploratory, integrative and relevant

Incorporation of Deeper Learning using inquiry learning that provokes, explores and reflects

- ❖ Continued growth and development of Makerspace (hands on, activity-based learning) to include grade 5s and 6s
- ❖ Continued growth and development of the Industrial Arts program for grades 7 and 8 to incorporate graphic design, 3D printing and 'Computer Numerically Controlled' equipment.
- ❖ Continued integration of Vertical Learning to enhance numeracy skills across grades
- ❖ Continued integration of Apps such as See Saw to provide exploratory and reflective learning opportunities that can be shared with parents.
- ❖ Using data collected from Strong Connections to create benchmarks for learning in Numeracy and Literacy

Priority Area #2—A shared vision developed by all stakeholders guides every decision

Providing opportunities for staff to discover the four design elements of Deeper Learning focusing specifically on Pedagogical Practices and Leveraging Digital

- ❖ Deeper Learning School based team that focuses on the professional development of teachers' skills to design learning tasks that engage and scaffold students' thinking
- ❖ Create and implement a school wide plan for the implementation of Chromebooks which allows students to connect and collaborate locally and globally
- ❖ Focus on developing the skills, knowledge, values and dispositions for students to become globally literate and critical thinkers

Priority #3—The school actively involves families in the education of their children.

Partnering with our communities to enable all students to learn.

Engaging the wider community through a variety of ways to support student learning.

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| ❖ Tell Them From Me | Concerts & Performances | Parent Advisory Council |
| ❖ Thought Exchange | Assemblies | Parent Volunteers in Class |
| ❖ Career Speakers | Orientation Evenings | Fundraising and awareness-raising activities |

About Us

Winner of the MRA Crocus Award for Literacy:Administrators

SMS is a Grade 5 – 8 middle school with 362 students and a teaching staff of 24. SMS offers five core academic courses and specialty programs including Gr. 7 and 8 Band, Choirs, Industrial Arts and Home Economics, Art, Digital Art, and Drama. Grade 5 and 6 students receive Art, Music with French instruction provided in all grades. SMS provides student support through resource teachers, guidance counsellors, and 12 educational assistants as well as partnering with HSD Student Services to provide a wide range of clinician services.

SMS offers a full intramural sports program for grades 5-8 before school and during lunch, as well as inter-school sports programs for grades 7 and 8, featuring school teams in volleyball, basketball, badminton, track and field, cross country and soccer. Opportunities have also been established for grade 5 and 6 students to learn skills for interscholastic sports. Students also have opportunity to participate in Special Olympics. The SMS band program has a strong history of being nationally recognized and participates in numerous festivals throughout the season.

Our school has created a culture of kindness that is celebrated every year during our Week of Kindness. This year we welcomed Robb Nash during our "This Knight Stands up for Kindness" Pink Day.