

# Community Report



[www.trsd32.mb.ca](http://www.trsd32.mb.ca)

*"Learning today for tomorrow"*

## Budget Highlights for 2017/2018

Besides maintaining all of our great existing programming and initiatives...We have been able to complement our programming in the modest way...

1. Junior Kindergarten Phase Two of Implementation – Expansion into Glenella School

## Division Profile

Superintendent of Schools: Bev Szymesko  
 Secretary Treasurer: Shannon Desjardins  
 Transportation/Maintenance: Dean Bluhm  
 Maintenance Assistant: Stephen Oversby  
 Accountant: Nicole Wareham  
 Resource Consultant: Jason Nadeau  
 ICT Director: Steven Hopfner  
 Computer Technician: Eric Rochon  
 Board of Trustees Chair: Karey Wilkinson  
 Vice Chair: Gwen McLean  
 Trustee: Pam Vandepoele  
 Trustee: Carol Senkowski  
 Trustee: Gordon Wilson  
 Phone: (204) 835-2067  
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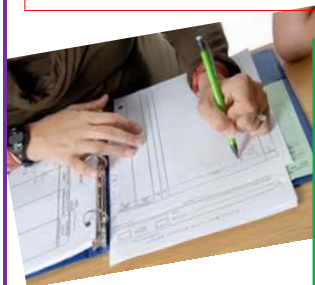
<b>Students:</b>	May 2017	–	731
<b>Staff:</b>	Teachers	–	65.5
	Support Staff	–	41.6

## Role and Mission

The Board of Trustees of Turtle River School Division is responsible for policy formulation which provides the structure and organization for the education of students within its boundaries. The implementation of these programs is guided by the major goals of assisting students to reach a high degree of self-actualization to become both self-sufficient and contributing members of society.

The Board will focus on the overall needs of its students. Notwithstanding this, the Board will pay due regard to its responsibilities to the community and encourage a high quality of education. The degree to which the Board attains its goals will be measured through the use of standard evaluation tools, internal and external testing and the performance of students in their chosen endeavours.

The Board, in implementing its programs, will draw upon the unique skills of staff and its use of progressive and varied methods of instruction. In doing so, the Board will maximize the use of specialized facilities to provide the greatest opportunity for student learning and social growth.



## Division Priorities

### 2015-2018

1. Literacy
2. Numeracy
3. School Climate
4. Student Engagement
5. Mental Health



**Division Trustees and Superintendent (Left to Right)**  
 Superintendent, Bev Szymesko, Vice-Chairman Trustee Gwen McLean, Trustee Gordon Wilson, Trustee Carol Senkowski, and Trustee Pam Vandepoele. Missing from the picture is Trustee Chair Karey Wilkinson.





## Message from the Superintendent



I would like to take this opportunity to officially congratulate **Turtle River School Division on its 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary**. I am proud to be given the privilege to represent this remarkable School Division. It is my honour to have the pleasure of educating and supporting students, families and the communities that encompass Turtle River School Division. While it is true, we are one of the smaller divisions in the province. It is this quality that gives us our strength. As we are a smaller division, we have a large capacity to do many things well and in a shorter time than many of the larger divisions. This is why we are often a role model for many in the province in what we are doing in our division. I truly believe it is you, the people in the communities, the schools, and the division that give us this capacity and make us special. Turtle River School Division's students are recognized for many amazing accomplishments and our division has an impeccable reputation for providing students with a strong education.



It pleases me that Turtle River School Division has such excellent staff members that work together as a team to provide students with a top-notch education unlike any other. It is not only the strong academic educational programming I am referring to, but also the other supports that we do not always speak about that help to support the development of a student overall. It is important that students are taught positive character education that allows them to develop empathy for others, kindness, and honour in everything that they do. It is character traits such as respect, caring, compassion, integrity, and manners that build students into strong successful citizens. Helping someone in need or supporting others in different ways and when they need your help the most critical skills that not all students have the opportunity to develop. I am confident that this is something that our Division's staff members promote and support students as they mature, complementing your own values that you instill into your children as parents and families. I am confident that Turtle River School Division students will do great things and climb many mountains but it is important that they always stay **Humble and Kind**.

This year, like many other years since our division's formation in 1967, has been very busy. Education is an area that is always busy because it is always evolving as we continue to learn new ways to help support learners. Evidence-based practice is what we call it in education where we use tried and true proven methods to guide our instruction, decisions, and ultimately our actions. I feel it is important to share with you some of the highlights of what we have been busy working on this year. We have been developing new policy that supports students and families with current and new educational initiatives. We have finished the development of a new Student Services Policy. We have also been actively participating in new numeracy research that utilizes strong instructional practices in order to support stronger numeracy programming for students. Educators have been busy doing training on a new grades 1-8 provincial ELA curriculum that begins in September 2017. The division has also developed a new special needs funding model that will support students and schools that is strength-based. If that wasn't enough to keep us busy for multiple years on its own, Division Trustees and Leaders have been working hard developing a Continuous Improvement Plan, a New Division Plan, and a New Strategic Plan. The Strategic Plan will help guide our focus for the next 3 to 5 years and in the New Division Plan we have created New Division Goals that will support our divisions overall student programming. The Continuous Improvement Plan allows us to set targets of where we want to see ourselves (student achievement). It utilizes the provincial assessment data and drives the division and schools programming decisions. If you have ever heard the term data-driven, this is exactly what is meant. It is the student achievement data that is used for planning on how to continue to change and improve what we are doing and where we need to go as a school and division.





## Message from the Superintendent -continued-



I regret that I do not have an update on our New Electrical Instructional Program. It has been and is still waiting approval for the last stage at a departmental level. We will share any news we hear on this program as we continue to plan for other programs that will continue to complement the programs we can offer our students. It is important to provide our communities and families with equitable access to programs that support all students. Trades and Career programming is important and access to such programs is being promoted. Our consortium with Pine Creek and Beautiful Plains in this area has promoted career guidance and support students in planning for apprenticeship programs. But this is not enough, we need programs that are local, accessible, and meet the needs of all of our students that will serve our communities.

This year our Français School, École Laurier changed its program designation to a French Immersion with great success. It has helped to support students, families, and school staff members. Being a French Immersion school, it is another option for you as a parent to enroll your child and provide them with instruction in the French Language.

Full-time Kindergarten has been one of our division's strong programs that supports student learning. We have had students do very well as evidenced by parents and teachers in their child's overall growth. We have had great success in our French Junior Kindergarten Pilot at École Laurier this year. Parents of students who are in the new program have had very positive feedback. We are happy to announce that we will continue with this program in that school for at least another year. In addition, we have decided to expand the program with an English Junior Kindergarten at Glenella School beginning in September 2017. It is 3 full days per week and will support student's growth, development, and learning. In our other schools, we will still continue to offer families access to our Kindergarten Here I Come program for 9 full days during the months of April, May, and June as we transition students into school. Provincial research indicates that the number of years a student is in a school program is what determines their development. In order to further support our early learners this year we teamed up with our local Health Authorities to do four Early Screening Sessions for 3 & 4 year old students. These were all very successful and will help support the families and students who participated.

In closing, our Division looks bright with strong educational programming and dedicated staff members that will work hard in ensuring that all students are successful. We will continue to plan, make, and implement changes. In schools we are making small but powerful changes that will provide students with more support as they continue to learn. I will continue to support schools in our division in order to support student learning so that all learners are successful in their own way. Our division looks bright in another 50 years of serving its communities.

Sincerely, *Beu Szymesko*



# Spring 2017-Report to the Community

## 2015-2017 Results -

*We are in the process of cumulating the final data from the most recent assessments being completed in all of our schools in order to do an accurate final evaluation on our division goals.*

*We are excited with the initial data coming in as it looks promising with students showing varying levels of achievement. The formal presentation of results will be released on our webpage on November 1<sup>st</sup>, 2017. Please watch for the release of this document on our division webpage to see our full results. In addition, the Division has developed a "New Strategic Plan" and "Continuous Improvement Plan" that will also be posted to our webpage. These plans outline the direction and long-term goals of the division. The Continuous Improvement Plan will provide you with insight on our students overall achievement on Provincial Assessments. The Early Years Assessment (Grades 3 & 4), Middle Years Assessment (Grades 7 & 8), and Grade 12 ELA and Math Assessment data from our division and the province is included in this document. It is a document that outlines our divisions plan to grow in the competencies where we need to focus our efforts in order to make intentional growth and improve overall achievement.*

*What I can tell you at this time regarding our goals is that they have been very successful in achieving results that are not always measurable in a traditional way.*

*For example, every school in our division has been focused in discussions and planning amongst all staff members in all goal areas. Educators have been very involved in all areas of the goals in regards to provincial curriculum, assessments and overall student achievement. The response has been overwhelming in the valuable discussions that have ensued as a result. We are seeing school programs continue to increase in strength.*

*Another example is the planning that we have seen in our division and schools with a focus on student growth and achievement in all related areas. These goals have provided both school and division teams with focus on what areas we need to support student learning. As a result, we have seen teachers use strategies and new programming that fosters student achievement in these specific areas. The intentional teaching towards student learning in these competencies is supporting the schools and division in achieving their overall success. Students are communicating that they feel they are better prepared academically as well as overall social and emotional well-being.*

*A final example is our use the provincial curriculum data in order to support student learning. Our New Continuous Improvement Plan and Strategic Plan extensively use this data in order to support a more detailed focus and assessment of student overall achievement and learning. As a result, student instruction and learning is expected to continue to strengthen and result in higher student achievement. We are even more focused on using evidence-based practice in providing students with the delivery of the best education. If anyone has any further questions, please free to contact me by email at [bevs@trsd32.mb.ca](mailto:bevs@trsd32.mb.ca)*

## 2015-2017 Division Goals

### School Climate -

By May 2017, there will be an increase in "Pro-Social" Activities in each school (e.g. Student Council, Spirit Week, etc....).

Using the TTFM Survey data, Students will identify a reduction of 5% of perceived bullying in grades 7-12 by May 2017.

### Student Engagement -

Using the TTFM Survey data, Students will identify an increased sense of engagement in their class lessons and instruction by 10% in grades 7-12 by May 2017.

By May 2017, students will participate in more pro-social activities outside of their regular classroom based learning.

### Literacy -

By June 2017, 80% of Kindergarten students will have a word bank (vocabulary) of 100 or more words.

By June 2017, 80% of Kindergarten students will be able to Identify their Letters (alphabet, either uppercase or lowercase) with 80% or greater accuracy.

By June 2017, 80% of Grade 4 students will be reading at grade level or better.

By June 2017, 80% of Grade 8 students will have achieved all of their Reading & Writing Continuum goals (checklist).

### Numeracy -

By June 2017, 80% of Grade 9 Math students will pass the divisional common exam.

By June 2017, 75% of Kindergarten Students will be able to count to 30.

By June 2017, 75% of Grade 4 students will be able to successfully multiply one-digit computations using an algorithm (e.g. 9x9).

By June 2017, 75% of Grade 8 students will be able to covert between fractions, ratios, and decimals.

### Mental Health -

By June 2017, the division will have formed a Mental Health Advisory Committee where each school will have representation.

By June 2017, 90% of All Students will feel safe enough to speak with a school staff member (using TTFM survey responses).

## TRSD School Board Office

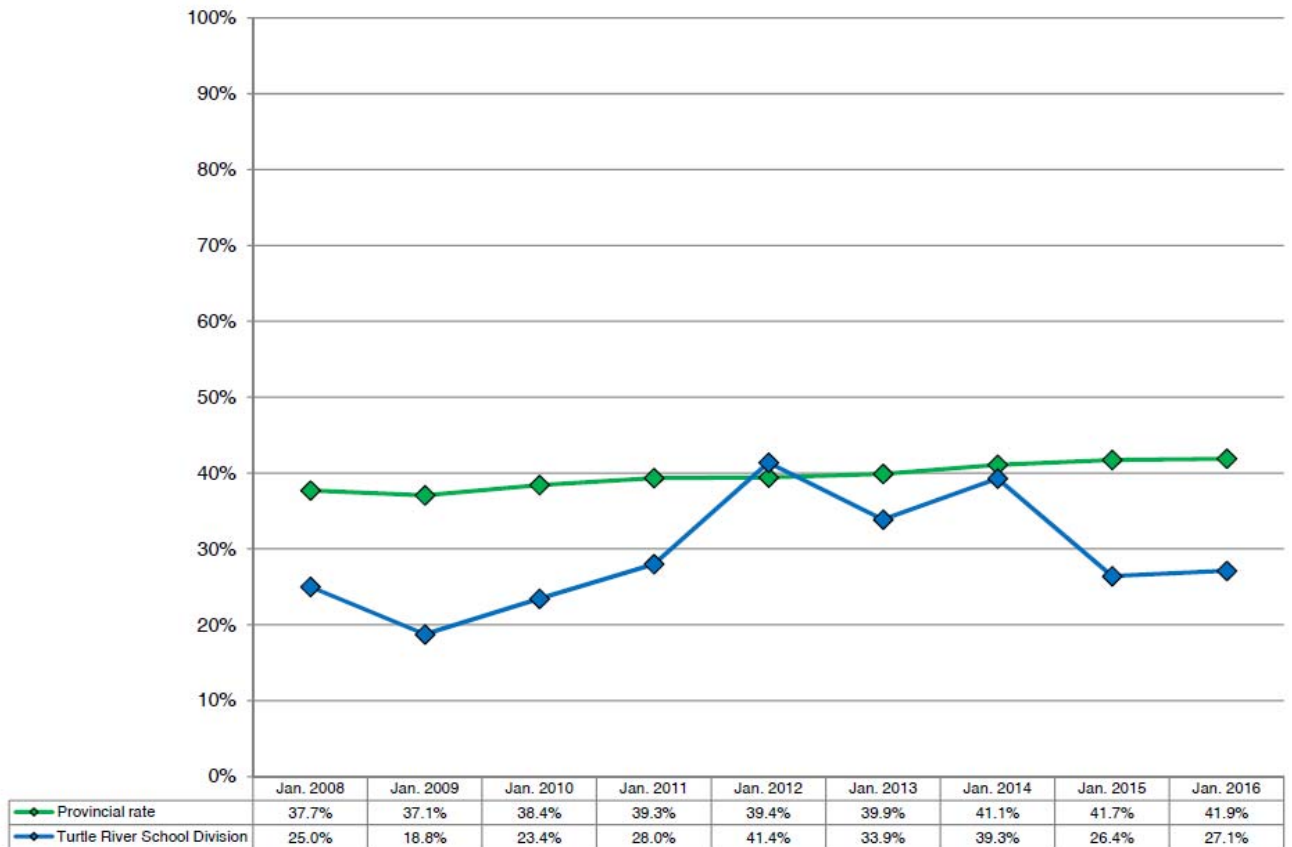


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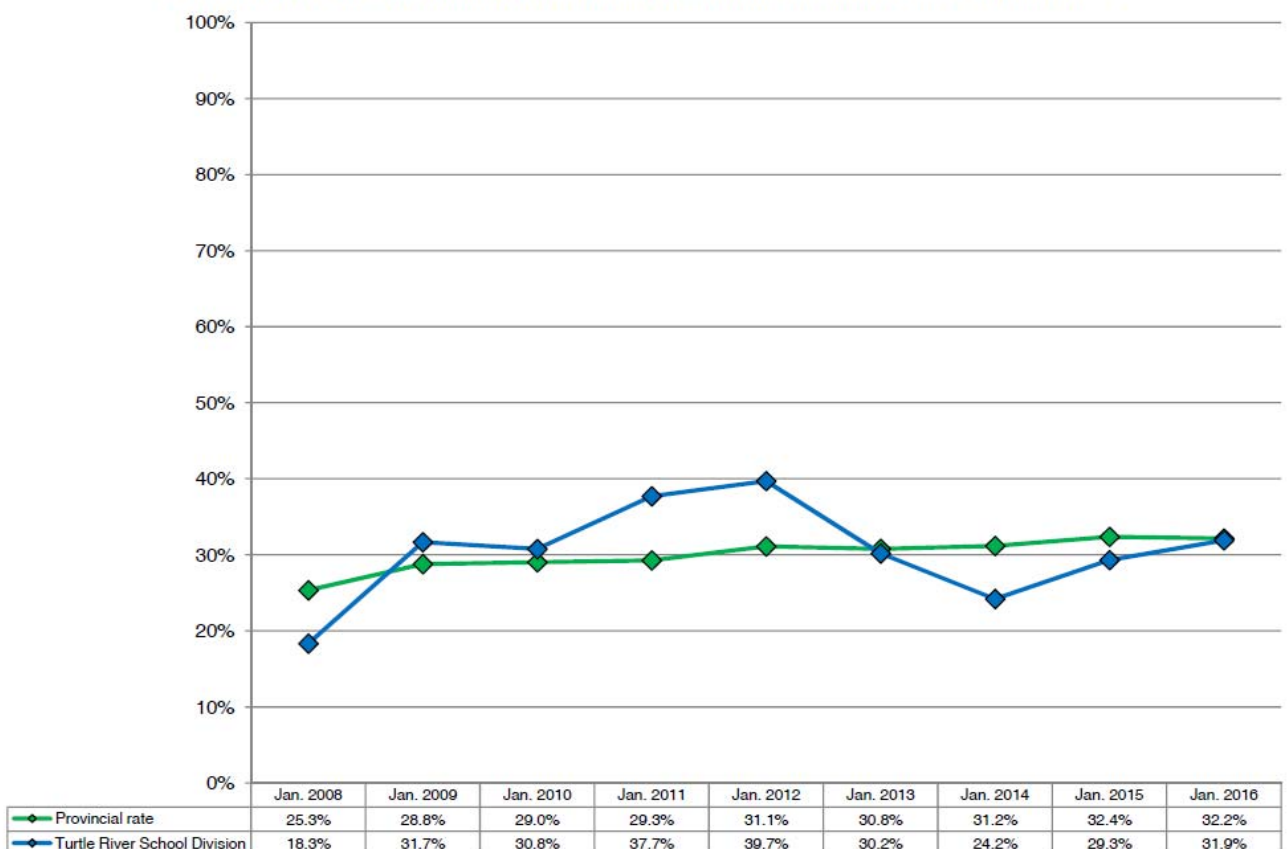
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# TRSD Provincial Assessment Data

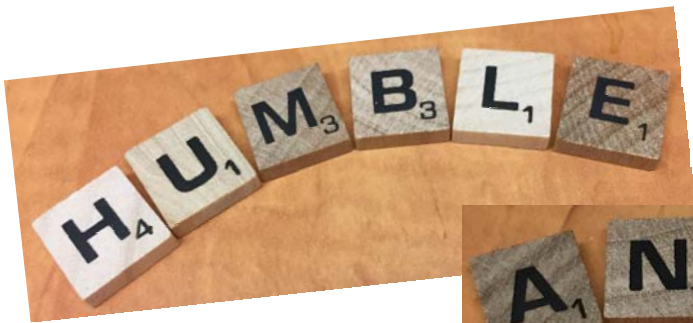
**Middle Years Assessment (mid-Grade 8)  
Expository Writing, English Program**  
Percentage of students meeting mid-grade performance in all three sub-competencies



**Middle Years Assessment (mid-Grade 7)  
Number Sense and Number Skills, English Program**  
Percentage of students meeting mid-grade performance in all five sub-competencies







## New 2017-2019 Division Goals

### Literacy –

By January 2019, 40% of ALL mid-grade 8 students will meet expectations in all three sub-competencies in expository writing (Jan 2016 at 27.1%).

### Numeracy –

By January 2019, 40% of ALL grade 7 students will meet mid-grade performance in all five sub-competencies in number sense and number skills (Jan 2016 at 31.9%).

### Mental Health –

By June 2019, 85% of Grade 7-12 students will report low levels of anxiety and depression.

### School Climate –

By June 2019, Students in Grades 7-12 will have a 2% improvement in the 6 identified positive school climate indicators. (participation in sports or clubs, school sense of belonging, reduction of moderate to severe bullying, feelings of safety when attending school, positive teacher-student relationships, and feelings of a positive learning climate).

### Student Engagement –

By June 2019, Students in Grades 7-12 will report a 2% improvement in the following 5 identified academic engagement indicators (academic engagement, valuing school outcomes, having positive relationships, aspirations on finishing high school, and students reporting high levels of interest and motivation).

### Results –

*We have decided to continue in these 5 Priority areas and narrow our focus in each area in order to achieve our goal. The division planning team has moved from 14 goals to just 5 specific goals. As you can see above, we are moving to one goal per priority area with smaller indicator goals that guide us in meeting the larger goal. We believe that by making gains in these five specific goals, it will have a relational result in all student achievement areas. For example, by making students stronger writers, they will automatically become better readers. If anyone has any further questions, please free to contact me by email at [bevs@trsd32.mb.ca](mailto:bevs@trsd32.mb.ca)*

## HIGHLIGHTS - PRESENT AND FUTURE

1. We have integrated training and resources to schools in order to support our Indigenous learners. Books with content that is contextual to their backgrounds will support their reading growth as well as support student's development of cultural proficiency. The integration of The Seven Teachings will also support classrooms and schools as we continue to support all learners.
2. The Division has developed a New Student Services Policy. This will support families, parents, students, and schools as they access resources and supports for their children's development and learning.
3. In September, our New Webpage will be unveiled. It will make finding information that much easier with a built in search engine as well as ease of access and accessibility to information. Access to email and a live calendar feed will support communication of day to day activities for what is happening in our schools.
4. This year, two schools in our division participated in a New Numeracy Research Project with other divisions across the province. It will continue into year two of three with our division intending to expand on that success by bringing in three other schools to begin participating in the 2017/2018 school year.
5. Beginning in 2017/2018, there will be a New Funding Model for formal Level 2 & 3 students that will be strength-focussed in supporting all students learning. It will build school capacity and support students, fittingly titled: "Success for ALL".
6. Beginning in September 2017, there is a New ELA curriculum for grades 1-8. Teachers will be planning to implement this new directive from Manitoba Education as they continue to build strong
7. This year the Division Planning Team has developed three new documents that will support the planning and direction in the Division. A New Strategic Plan, along with New Division Goals will help focus our efforts in overall student achievement. These goals are furthermore benchmarked into the next 4-5 years as laid out in our New Continuous Improvement Plan.
8. Lastly, we have been promoting our Division's 50<sup>th</sup> Anniversary with modest celebrations with students and staff members.

