

For Immediate Release:



Award Given Recognizing Border Valley Parent Advisory Council

(Winnipeg, May 05, 2017) – *Border Valley Parent Advisory Council (Garden Valley School Division)* was awarded the *Parent Council Recognition Award* by Manitoba Association of Parent Councils (MAPC) at its Annual Banquet on May 05, 2017 at the Victoria Inn Hotel and Convention Centre in Winnipeg.

Border Valley Parent Advisory Council was nominated by school Principal, Renae Hildebrand. Highlights of the group's achievements include:

- Encouraging their rural municipality to build a paved walking path linking the village to the school by encouraging local property owners to allow the path to cross their yards. This resulted in direct safety, as well as physical and mental health, benefits for students and citizens of the community
- Installing a water-bottle filling station in the school
- Building a new play structure
- Organizing annual cultural events
- Participating in working collaboratively with the school staff and administration to find solutions to addressing class size
- Operating an inclusive and dedicated parent council

"The PAC goes above and beyond their duties and are always willing to lend a hand even when it doesn't pertain to their mandate," states Hildebrand. "They are solution seekers and always believe the best of staff. They are part of our team!"

Recognition was also extended to *Killarney School Parent Council (Turtle Mountain School Division)*, *Ecole Van Belleghem Parent Advisory Council (Louis Riel School Division)*, and *Brant-Argyle Advisory Council for School Leadership (Interlake School Division)* for their hard work and support of the parent voice and involvement in their respective school communities.

The Manitoba Association of Parent Councils Recognition Award was established in 2009 as an opportunity to highlight the extraordinary efforts put forth by school based parent groups to support, promote, and enhance meaningful parental involvement in Manitoba's education system. Representatives from educational stakeholder groups are invited to serve on the judging panel and review each nomination to determine an annual recipient.

The Manitoba Association of Parent Councils is dedicated to supporting, promoting, and enhancing meaningful involvement of parents and caregivers within school communities, representing their voice to all educational stakeholders to improve the education and well-being of children in Manitoba.

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