

**For Immediate Release:**



## **Award Given Recognizing John de Graff School Parent Advisory Council**

**(Winnipeg, May 13, 2019)** – *John de Graff School Parent Advisory Council (River East Transcona School Division)* was awarded the *Parent Council Recognition Award* by Manitoba Association of Parent Councils (MAPC) at its Annual Conference on May 04, 2019 at the Niakwa Country Club in Winnipeg.

*John de Graff Parent Advisory Council* was nominated by school Principal, Margaret Fair. Some of the highlights of the group's achievements include:

- A PAC run lunch program that includes hiring of staff, developing lunch policies, purchasing supplies and more.
- Supporting the schools work on Education for Sustainable Development by fundraising for a new outdoor play area, flower areas, a creation of an outdoor classroom, planting trees, purchasing student cameras for observing nature, etc.
- They've started the process of adding an additional play structure, with a focus on accessibility and sensory items in response to our students with exceptionalities
- Supporting the Arts programming every year by providing funds to pay for an artist to work with students, providing a rich artistic experience with a variety of mediums.

"The staff at John de Graff School are so happy to have such a supportive, hardworking group of parents that comprise our Parent Advisory Council", states School Principal Margaret Fair. "Our school is definitely enriched by the PAC".

Recognition was also extended to *Centennial School Parent Advisory Council (Sunrise)*, *Oak Lake Community School Parent Advisory Council (Fort la Bosse School Division)*, and *École Stanley Knowles School Parent Council (Winnipeg School Division)*. *Each of these groups demonstrated excellence and commitment to the parent voice in their respective school divisions.*

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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