

2018-2019 ANNUAL REPORT



Gray Academy Mission and Vision

Gray Academy of Jewish Education brings together nearly 500 students and families to experience educational excellence in a warm, community environment rooted in Jewish values. Our Board of Directors, the Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education (WBJE), is the trustee of the mission and vision of Gray Academy and the primary policy-making body for the school.

Mission

Gray Academy prepares students to reach their full potential as empowered global citizens by providing educational excellence framed by Jewish identity, community and values.

Vision

To provide an education environment of academic excellence, strong Jewish values, spiritual and physical wellness, and proud global citizenship.

Our Beliefs and Values

- | | |
|------------------------|-----------|
| • Respect | כבוד הדדי |
| • Tolerance/Compassion | סובלנות |
| • Diversity | רבגוניות |
| • Leadership | מנהיגות |
| • Community | קהילה |

Our Commitments

- | | |
|-----------------------|-----------------|
| • Academic Excellence | הצטיינות אקדמית |
| • A Community School | בית ספר קהילתי |
| • Jewish Identity | זהות יהודית |
| • Future Leadership | מנהיגות עתידית |
| • Healthy Living | אורח חיים בריא |
| • Israel | ישראל |



Message from Your Head of School and President

In 2015, the Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education (WBJE) launched a bold new four-year Strategic Plan for Gray Academy of Jewish Education. The Plan created a framework for decision making, goal setting, evaluation and ongoing evolution based on four key goals. Its development was informed by significant input



from our school community, including our students, parents, board members and staff.

We are pleased to share our 2018-2019 annual report with you. In it you will find concrete examples of actions, milestones and achievements in teaching,

learning, administration and community relations.

The following highlights summarize work completed and accomplishments during the 2018-2019 school year in fulfilment of our strategic goals:

GOAL 1: STRENGTHENING COMMUNITY PERCEPTION

Measuring strengths, identifying improvement opportunities. Effective goals must be realistic and measurable. In 2018, the WBJE initiated an annual self-assessment survey designed to strengthen governance and overall board effectiveness. In March 2019, our first Parent Survey since 2014 gave a voice to newer families and examined progress over five years. An ensuing Student Survey (Grades 7-12) gathered student insights, while our first formal Employee Survey assessed workplace strengths and opportunities for all staff.

A magazine that celebrates our *Legacies*. With a grant from the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba, the first issue of *Legacies* magazine was published in Fall 2018. The name builds on the longstanding history of our yearbook, *Legacy*, and the thousands of graduates who continue to shape Jewish communities worldwide. Distributed throughout the community in print and online, the magazine showcases school news and alumni

Celebration of Learning: Elementary's New Showcase



Gray Academy piloted the Celebration of Learning, a new program for 2018-2019. Parents were invited into classrooms to experience the general studies program firsthand. Every grade from 1-6 prepared special activities for their parents and spent the time learning together. Parents and students both enjoyed the Celebrations of Learning which are continuing in the 2019-2020 school year.

triumphs, demonstrating the impact of the Gray Academy experience on current students, graduates and the greater community.

GOAL 2: ATTRACTING AND RETAINING FAMILIES

Retention on the rise. Creating a strong culture of student retention remained an essential focus of Gray Academy's Admissions Department. The 2018-19 school year saw our retention rate grow to 93 per cent, an important indicator of the strength of our academic program and the appeal of our warm community environment. We are proud to report this percentage has risen to 96 per cent for the 2019-2020 school year.

The move to online enrollment. Last year Gray Academy went digital with enrollment/re-enrollment, making the process easier for families and more operationally efficient. Coupled with the implementation of a brand-new Student Information System, the transition resulted in expedited re-enrollment, improved data collection and significant operational streamlining.

GOAL 3: SECURING SUSTAINABILITY AND COMMUNITY SUPPORT

Making Jewish education accessible. The 2018-19 school year saw a rise in the percentage of families applying for bursary assistance at Gray Academy, part of an ongoing upward trend over the past eight years. With essential support from community members through the Jewish Federation of Winnipeg, we were able to provide bursary assistance to 62 per cent of our families. As trustees of the community dollars we received, we also enhanced our application process to ensure bursaries are allocated carefully and fairly to those with the greatest need. We continue to evaluate our model to secure appropriate parent contributions while ensuring Jewish education remains accessible to all.

Evaluating our auditor. The WBJE's Finance Committee undertook an RFP process to ensure we continue to receive optimal value and service from our auditor. After reviewing submissions from four firms, all experienced with not-for-profit organizations and independent schools, the board was pleased to re-appoint Boone and Partners as our auditor.



GOAL 4: AN ENHANCED CULTURE OF INNOVATION

A holistic approach to curriculum mapping. Last year we proudly launched a new digital curriculum mapping tool that outlines the school's educational framework from Junior Kindergarten through Grade 12. This tool enables teachers to look at learning goals and

opportunities across the curriculum, across all grade levels to ensure continuity and to optimize each student's lifetime experience at Gray Academy.



Enhanced development through Professional Learning Communities (PLCs). PLCs are designed to promote and sustain professional learning through collaborative inquiry. Gray Academy's newly implemented PLC paradigm has brought together small groups of four to five teachers across grade levels and specialty areas to focus on strengthening student learning and ongoing whole-school improvement.

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SUPPORT

As we reflect on our achievements throughout the lifespan of our Strategic Plan, we recognize we could not have achieved success without the vital support of our community.

We thank our faculty and staff for their dedication and commitment to our students. We thank the many volunteers, including our Board and committees, who gave their time and energy to enrich our students' experience. We thank the Government of Manitoba and the many generous donors who

help keep Jewish education accessible to all members of our community. Most important, we thank our families for entrusting their children's academic and Jewish development to Gray Academy.

Looking ahead, we have extended the 2015-2019 Strategic Plan. *WBJE Focus to 2020* will guide our work over the next two years. We look forward to your support as we continue our journey.

Sean Shore
President

Lori Binder
Head of School and CEO

Gray Academy is grateful to the Jewish Federation of Winnipeg for their continued support of Jewish day school education in Winnipeg. With this substantial support, the WBJE is able to offer a needs-based bursary assistance program. This ensures that a Gray Academy education is accessible to all.

Beneficiary Agency of the
Jewish Federation
OF WINNIPEG

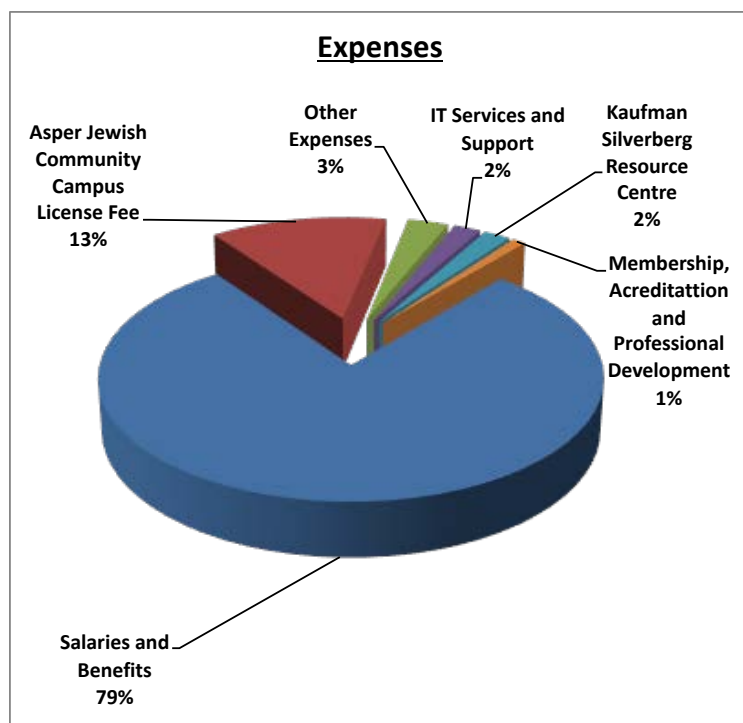
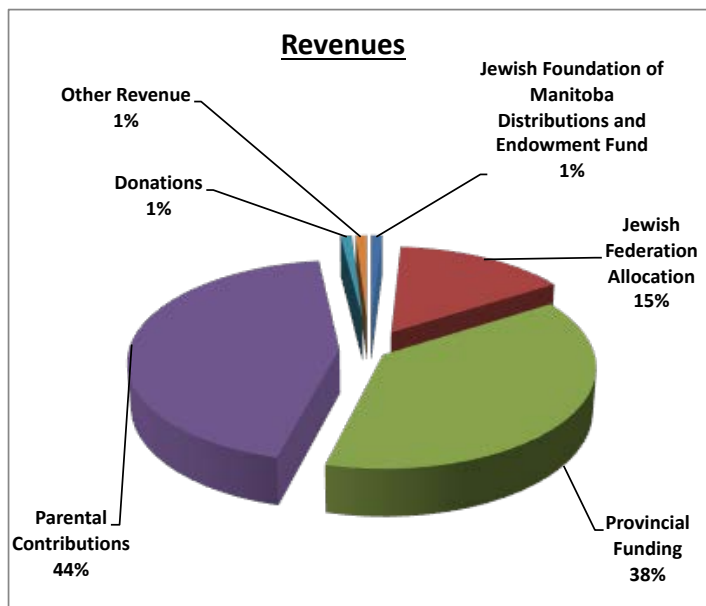


WBJE Finance Committee Report

Submitted by Diane Shindleman, Treasurer

As Treasurer for the WBJE, I am pleased to provide a report on activities of the Finance and Audit Committees. During the 2018-2019 school year, the Finance Committee continued to support the Board in its focus on long-term financial sustainability for Gray Academy. We also welcomed new members to our Audit Committee, Jonathan Strauss and Kovi Smolack. We thank all committee members for their time and critical strategic guidance. See page 14 for a list of all committee members.

The school's revenue for the period was up slightly from 2017-2018. The main sources of this revenue were parental contributions, provincial grants and the Jewish Federation of Winnipeg allocation. Net assets for the year were \$20,695, representing the balance in the equipment fund and a small deficit in the operating fund.



We are pleased with our student retention from the past year, the highest in five years, which represents an important step toward financial sustainability. We continue to operate with a lean budget, focusing our spending in areas that make Gray Academy a great school and supporting the needs of our families. We expect to be in position to increase the reserve fund by the end of the 2019-2020 school year.

To ensure that all families have access to bursary assistance as needed, we have strengthened our bursary application reporting requirements. We are comfortable that the new requirements provide us with the information necessary to ensure the needs of our families are met fairly and effectively.

This past year, we put out an RFP for our audit work, something we had not done in some time. Undertaking this process from time to time is prudent to ensure that the fees and work of our auditors is in line with current standards. We are pleased to report that Booke and Partners was selected to continue as our auditors.

Throughout the year, we were able to continue delivering fantastic programs and essential support to our families, thanks to the incredible commitment and generosity of our donors. See a complete list on page 21.

Our very fortunate Grade 9 students, including my daughter, once again enjoyed an unforgettable experience on their Washington trip, thanks to generous support from the Asper Foundation. The Asper Foundation also continues to sponsor our Public Speaking and Debating program and the Asper Cup Debating Tournament, a national qualifier competition that attracts senior students from several independent Manitoba schools.

As always, we are incredibly grateful for the substantial support we received last year from our community via the Jewish Federation of Winnipeg allocation and several grants from the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba. This invaluable support is an important reminder of the value our community places on high quality Jewish education for today and future generations.



JEWISH FOUNDATION OF MANITOBA

Gray Academy received a number of grants from the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba (JFM) in 2018-19. These grants have enormous impact on the school and our students. We are grateful for the support for our initiatives and needs.

Acquisitions for the Kaufman-Silverberg Library
 Drumline equipment upgrades
 Outdoor athletic equipment
 Chromebook upgrades
 New kiln and pottery wheel
 STEAM room furniture
 Kindergarten classroom enhancement



**JEWISH
 FOUNDATION**
 — OF MANITOBA —



500 - Five Donald Street
Winnipeg, Manitoba R3L 2T4
Tel: (204) 284-7060
Fax: (204) 284-7105
www.bookeandpartners.ca

Report of the Independent Auditors on the Summarized Financial Statements

To the Directors of
Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education Inc.

Opinion

The accompanying summarized financial statements, which comprise the statement of financial position as at June 30, 2019, and the statements of financial activities and changes in fund balances for the year then ended, and related note, are derived from the audited financial statements of Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education Inc. for the year ended June 30, 2019. We expressed an unqualified audit opinion on those financial statements in our report dated October 10, 2019.

In our opinion, the summarized financial statements are a fair summary of the audited financial statements, on the basis described in Note 1.

Summarized Financial Statements

The summarized financial statements do not contain all the disclosures required by Canadian accounting standards for not-for-profit organizations. Reading the summarized financial statements and the auditor's report thereon, therefore, is not a substitute for reading the audited financial statements and the auditor's report thereon.

Management's Responsibility for the Summarized Financial Statements

Management is responsible for the preparation of the summary financial statements on the basis described in Note 1.

Auditor's Responsibility

Our responsibility is to express an opinion on whether the summarized financial statements are a fair summary of the audited financial statements based on our procedures, which were conducted in accordance with Canadian Auditing Standard (CAS) 810, "Engagements to Report on Summary of Financial Statements".

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Booke & Partners". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Winnipeg, Canada
October 10, 2019

Chartered Professional Accountants

Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education Inc.
Statement of Financial Activities
Year Ended June 30

	<u>Secular</u>	<u>Religious</u>	2019 <u>Combined</u>	2018 <u>Combined</u>
Revenues				
Parental contributions	\$ -	\$ 2,767,781	\$ 2,767,781	\$ 2,664,017
Junior Kindergarten program	177,665	-	177,665	262,790
Grants				
Province of Manitoba				
- instruction	2,440,781	-	2,440,781	2,347,276
- special education	97,891	-	97,891	99,180
- curricular materials	24,990	-	24,990	24,420
Jewish Federation of Winnipeg				
- regular	964,000	-	964,000	951,000
- administrative	90,000	-	90,000	90,000
- resource centre	58,500	-	58,500	58,500
Jewish Foundation of Manitoba	93,202	-	93,202	76,926
Donations	86,452	-	86,452	180,903
International student program - net	21,379	-	21,379	38,597
Interest & miscellaneous	24,931	-	24,931	23,662
Program and other fees	<u>131,001</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>131,001</u>	<u>118,657</u>
	<u>4,210,792</u>	<u>2,767,781</u>	<u>6,978,573</u>	<u>6,935,928</u>
Expenses				
Education	2,981,743	2,245,215	5,226,958	5,261,458
Office	973,527	628,112	1,601,639	1,589,340
Program and other	<u>60,828</u>	<u>84,001</u>	<u>144,829</u>	<u>118,402</u>
	<u>4,016,098</u>	<u>2,957,328</u>	<u>6,973,426</u>	<u>6,969,200</u>
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses	<u>\$ 194,694</u>	<u>\$ (189,547)</u>	<u>\$ 5,147</u>	<u>\$ (33,272)</u>

The complete financial statements, including notes to the financial statements and the independent auditors' report, are available upon request by contacting the organization's office.

Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education Inc.
Statement of Changes in Fund Balances
Year Ended June 30

	Equipment Fund	Operating Fund	Reserve Fund	2019 Total	2018 Total
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 52,502	\$ (36,954)	\$ -	\$ 15,548	\$ 48,820
Excess (deficiency) of revenues over expenses	(52,509)	57,656	-	5,147	(33,272)
Interfund transfers	<u>23,623</u>	<u>(23,623)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Balance, end of year	<u>\$ 23,616</u>	<u>\$ (2,921)</u>	<u>\$ -</u>	<u>\$ 20,695</u>	<u>\$ 15,548</u>

The complete financial statements, including notes to the financial statements and the independent auditors' report, are available upon request by contacting the organization's office.

**Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education Inc.
Statement of Financial Position**

June 30 2019 2018

Assets**Current**

Receivables (Note 4) \$ 691,827 \$ 607,398

Long-term investment (Note 5) 25,836 24,112

Property and equipment (Note 6) 109,943 52,502

\$ 827,606 \$ 684,012

Liabilities**Current**

Bank indebtedness (Note 7) \$ 87,813 \$ 45,556

Payables and accruals 354,040 360,439

Deferred revenue (Note 8) 278,731 259,359

Deferred contributions (Note 9) - 3,110

720,584 668,464

Deferred contributions for capital assets (Note 10) 86,327 -

806,911 668,464

Fund Balances

Equipment 23,616 52,502

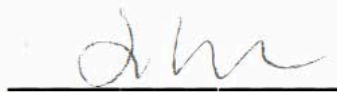
Operating (2,921) (36,954)

20,695 15,548

\$ 827,606 \$ 684,012

Approved by the Board

 Director

 Director

Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education Inc.
Notes to the Financial Statements
June 30, 2019

1. Basis of preparation

The summarized financial statements have been prepared from the audited financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2019 on the following basis:

- a) The summarized financial statements include the major totals and subtotals from the related complete financial statements dealing with matters having a pervasive or otherwise significant effect on the summarized financial statements.

The complete financial statements, including notes to the financial statements and the independent auditors' report, are available upon request by contacting the entity's office.

Our Invaluable Volunteers

Our 2018-2019 WBJE Board of Directors

(Attendance at board meetings in parentheses)

Executive Committee

Sean Shore, President (10/10)

Evan Roitenberg ('84), Vice President

(6/10) Bruce Caplan, Secretary (8/10)

Diane Shindleman, Treasurer (8/10)

Board Members

Bryan Borzykowski ('98) (5/10)

Jen Dimerman, Gray Academy Parent
Association Representative (10/10)

Evgeny Gotfrid ('13) (5/10)

Richard Hechter (8/10)

Tara Kozlowich ('94) (7/10)

Laura Kravetsky-Chisick ('99) (10/10)

Cindy Lazar ('87) (9/10)

Rabbi Matthew Leibl ('03), COR Representative (5/10)

Marla Levene ('93) (8/10)

Josh Weinstein ('89) (9/10)

Ex-Officio Members

Tracy Kasner ('94), Past President

Lori Binder ('91), Head of School and CEO

Carlos Benesdra, CPA, CMA, Chief Financial Officer

Ron van der Hooft, WJSTA President

Thank You

Thank you to **Evan Roitenberg ('84)** for his nine years of dedication to the WBJE. In his time on the Board, Evan served as vice president and chair of the finance committee.



WBJE Committees**Governance**

Tracy Kasner, Chair

Laura Kravetsky-Chisick, Board Member

Marla Levene, Board Member

Finance

Diane Shindleman, Chair

Carlos Benesdra, Administration

Lori Binder, Administration

Janice Brigden, Staff

Bruce Caplan, Board Member

David Gurvey, Committee Member (until March 2019)

Sean Shore, Board Member

Audit

Diane Shindleman, Chair

Carlos Benesdra, Administration

David Gurvey, Committee Member (until March 2019)

Negotiations

Evan Roitenberg, Chair

Carlos Benesdra, Administration

Lori Binder, Administration

Cindy Lazar, Board Member

Advisory

Lori Binder, Chair

Rob Dalgliesh, Administration

Richard Hecthter, Board Member

Tara Kozlowich, Board Member

Avi Posen, Teacher Representative

Ron van der Hooft, WJSTA Representative

Sherry Wolfe-Elazar, Teacher Representative

Affordability Committee (with the Jewish Federation of Winnipeg)

Evan Roitenberg, Vice Chair

Harvey Selter, Member-at-Large

Tracy Kasner Greaves, WBJE Representative

Moving Forward: WBJE Focus to 2020

The WBJE has made significant progress in the implementation of its strategic plan. The accomplishments of the plan resulted in new leadership, strengthening of operations and management, and, perhaps most importantly, advancements in educational goals as a Canadian Accredited Independent School (CAIS) accredited independent Jewish day school. **WBJE Focus to 2020** is the two-year extension of this strategic plan and articulates the key objectives for the next year, including development of a new Strategic Plan following the 2002 Gray Academy CAIS accreditation review.

WBJE Focus to 2020

Create a Culture of Innovation and Enhanced 21st Century Learning

Advancing educational innovation on the strong foundation of Gray Academy's mission and vision ensures that every student can excel in a rapidly changing global society.

Ensure the consistency of educational outcomes throughout the curriculum and the consistency of assessment and evaluation of students.

Explore innovative approaches to Jewish learning that insures relevancy, inspiration and engagement for all students within the context of the Judaic studies program.

Strengthening Community Perception

Encouraging students, parents and community members to engage with the school, to recognize fully the far-reaching impact of a Gray Academy education on individuals and our community.

Maximize the effect of our marketing and communication strategies to highlight the positive impact of Gray Academy on individual students and alumni. Ensure that Gray Academy highlights the academic program in both general and Judaic studies.

Admission and Retention

Gray Academy is an inclusive community and values the opportunity to educate children from JK through Grade 12. A comprehensive Admissions program that focuses on recruitment and retention ensures the continued growth of a vibrant and diverse school

Create an outreach program that engages families representing a diversity of backgrounds in the Jewish community to highlight Gray Academy as a positive school option.

Financial Sustainability and Community Support

Securing the financial stability of Gray Academy safeguards its perpetual longevity as a bedrock institution founded on over a century of community supported Jewish education in Winnipeg.

Evaluate all aspects of the current parental contribution model including the assessment process.

Seek out alternative revenue streams.

Create a four-to-five-year financial strategic plan that includes the growth of a healthy reserve fund and the strengthening of the Gray Academy endowment fund.

By the Numbers

Fuelled by the strategic plan, Gray Academy has undertaken specific actions in recent years to increase both enrollment and retention of students. We are very pleased to report that our enrollment numbers continue to grow steadily. Perhaps more important, our retention has increased. These numbers convey the strength of the Gray Academy community and the effectiveness of our commitment to continuous school improvement.

Retention and Enrollment			
	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
Elementary (JK-Grade 6)	291	282	283
High School (Grade 7-12)	174	188	211
Total Enrollment	465	470	494
Student Retention	92%	93%	96%

Returning and New Students			
	2017-2018	2018-2019	2019-2020
Re-enrolled Students	383	387	406
New Students	82	83	88
Total Enrollment	465	470	494

"Give Them Community" Ad Campaign

For the 2018-19 ad campaign, Gray Academy targeted potential parents of high school students. The goal was to increase the number of inquiries about high school. The content of the ad spoke directly to parents and emphasized Gray's unique value proposition of strong community. This campaign had a strong digital element and was also featured on a billboard on Grant Ave for the month of January. The campaign received positive feedback and contributed to the increased awareness of our strong high school program.

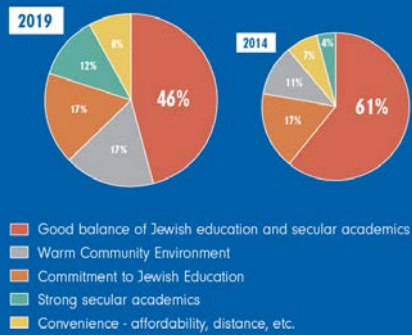


Listening To Our Community: 2019 Surveys



In 2018-19, Gray Academy surveyed parents, students, and staff to gain a better understanding of the stakeholder experience and to identify areas of strength and opportunities for enhancements to our school and community. Response to the Parent Survey hit 70 per cent, slightly higher than our 2014 iteration. Just as the 2014 results informed our current strategic plan, so too will the recent data be leveraged for our post-2020 strategy. We are very pleased to share the following highlights of our Parent Survey, including comparisons to 2014 results.

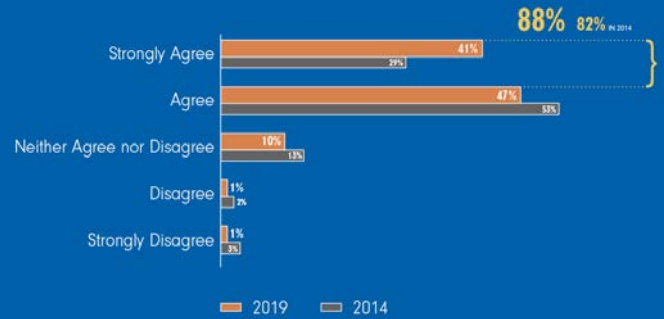
Most influential factor in selecting Gray Academy for your child(ren).



Measuring Success 2019 Parent Survey



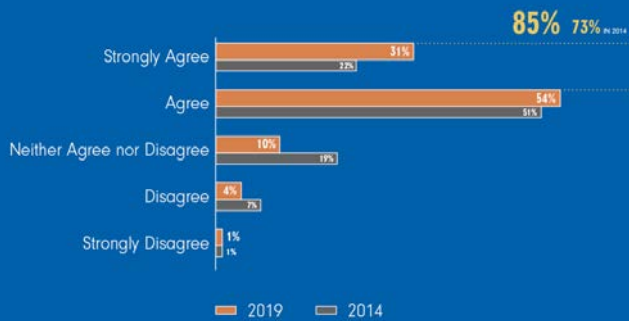
If asked, I would recommend Gray Academy to other families I know.



Measuring Success 2019 Parent Survey



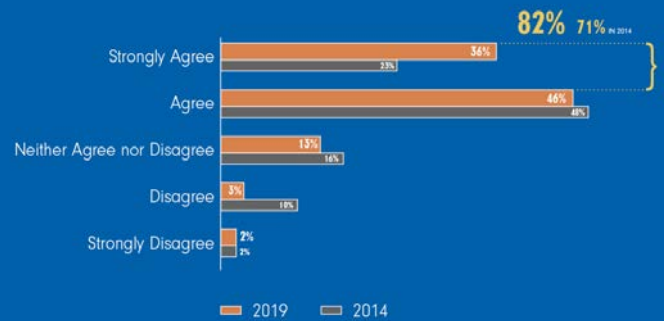
Gray Academy develops my child's critical thinking skills.



Measuring Success 2019 Parent Survey



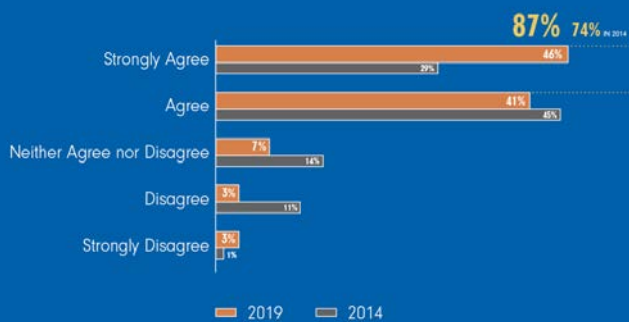
Gray Academy nurtures my child's self-esteem.



Measuring Success 2019 Parent Survey



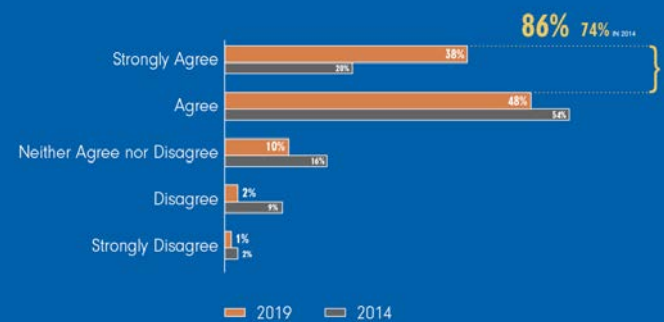
Faculty, students and parents at Gray Academy display caring, respect and trust toward and among one another.



Measuring Success 2019 Parent Survey



Gray Academy fosters positive and healthy social groups for my child.



Measuring Success 2019 Parent Survey



Engaging With Alumni

This year saw three alumni-led reunions: the Gray Academy class of 2009, the Joseph Wolinsky Collegiate class of 1998, and I.L. Peretz Folk School class of 1972. Each reunion featured a weekend of social and community connection. Grads from far and wide joined together for a great time of

sharing stories, reliving school experiences and reconnecting with beloved teachers. For all three reunions, Gray Academy opened its doors to give the alumni a window into the school today, an important way to foster lifetime connections and ongoing support for Gray Academy. The reunions also prompted the creation of two new funds at JFM in support of the school.



I.L. Peretz Folk School class of '72



Gray Academy class of '09



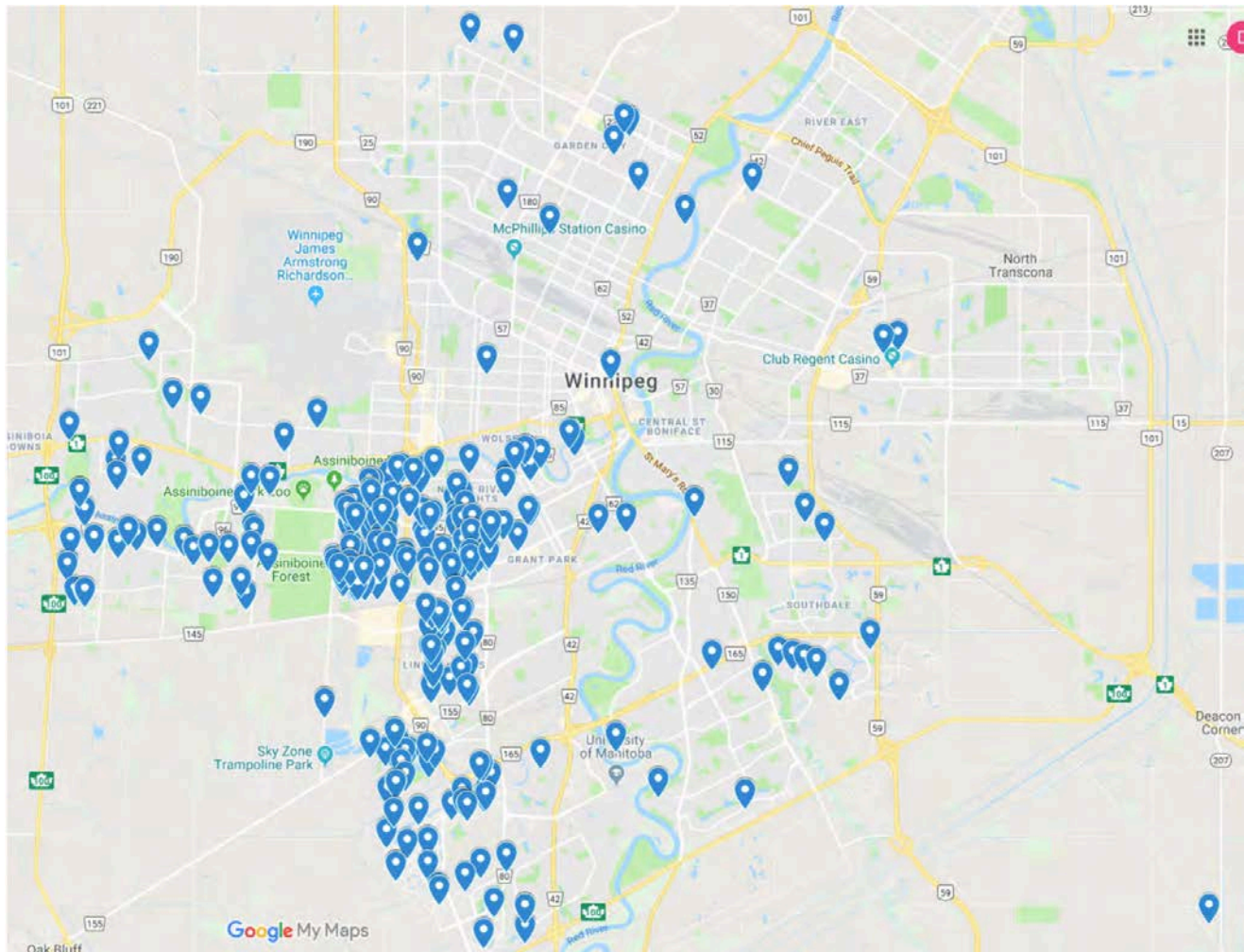
Andrea Schaffer, Andrew Kaplan, and Lioz Rafaeli from the class of '98

New funds created at the JFM

Peretz School Class of '72 Fund in Memory of David Polsky z"l and Marshall Shuster z"l
Joseph Wolinsky Collegiate Class of '98 Fund in Memory of Adam Potash z"l

Growing our Footprint: Gray Academy Families Across the City

While the largest concentration of Gray Academy families can be found in neighbourhoods surrounding the school, we are proud to attract families from across the city, including Transcona, St Vital, the North End, Bridgewater, and other areas. The following map provides a snapshot of where our families live.



Thank You to Our Generous Donors

Thank you to the many individuals and organizations who helped support Gray Academy throughout the 2018-19 school year. We are especially grateful to the Jewish Federation of Winnipeg's annual allocation as well as grants and funds from the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba.

New Grad Scholarship 2019

The Class of '87 Award in Memory of Elana Dil – awarded to a Grade 12 students who demonstrates a love for Israel and has high academic achievement in Hebrew.

Asper Foundation

Funds to support Gray Academy's Asper Cup Debating Tournament and the Debating and Public Speaking Program.

Funds to support the 2019 Grade 9 Washington trip

Combined Jewish Appeal Designated Gifts

Richard Morantz and Sheree Walder Morantz in support of EAL programming

Gail Asper and Michael Paterson

W.P.G., The Wealth Planning Group

Gray Academy Parent Association

Funds to support co-curricular and holiday programming.

Jewish Foundation of Manitoba

Immediate needs funding to support families requiring additional bursary support:

The Israel & Babs Asper Charitable Fund

Other Donations:

Benji Leibl Fund in support of special education resources

Funds to support the Youth in Philanthropy Program

Grosberg Family Fund in support of the Edith and Samuel Grosberg Award

New funds created within the Gray Academy of Jewish Education endowment

Gray Academy Class of 2019

I.L. Peretz Folk School Class of '72 – In Memory of David Polsky z"l and Marshall Shuster z"l

Joseph Wolinsky Collegiate Class of '98 – In Memory of Adam Potash z"l

Thank you to all of the individuals from the community for contributions to the **Gray Academy Endowment Fund**, housed at the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba, during the 2018-2019 school year.

Gifts to Gray Academy

\$25,000-\$50,000

Frank Lavitt and Ahava Halpern

\$5000-\$9,999

RBC Dominion

Switzer Family Fund: funds towards Gray Academy's Yiddish program and Yiddish contest

Rochelle & Ian Laing in honour of Annette and Harvey Klasser

\$1,000-\$4,999

HUB Insurance

Top Marks

\$500-\$999

Sid Halpern

Kerry Auriat

\$250-\$500

Sean Shore

Evgeny Gotfrid

Thank you also to everyone who donated through the Kaufman Silverberg Resource Centre and Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education's tribute card programs.

Celebrating Milestone: Creating Memories

Thank you to the following families for supporting the *Celebrating Milestones: Creating Memories* program in support of grade-level milestone programs.

Grade 1 Chaggigat Ha-Siddur: Contributions Towards Student Siddurim

Cheryl and Alon Altman

Carly and Shane Kozlowich

Grade 2 Chaggigat Ha-Torah: Contributions Towards Student Torot and Reception

Lainie Filkow and Bryan Borzykowski

Tara Kozlowich and Paul Shur

Candice and Marshall Tenenbein

Grade 3 Imaginary Trip to Israel: Contributions Towards the Program

Allison and Jonathan Strauss

Grade 4 Torah Siyyum: Contributions Towards the Program

Lynne Kohm and Michael Salman

Candice and Marshall Tenenbein

Grade 6 Shabbaton and Celebration: Contributions Towards Student Tzedakah Boxes and Reception

Sabrina and Javier Bokser

Analia and Julian Dinenzon

Elena and Alexey Markhasin

Brenlee and Josh Weinstein

School Highlights



Banner Year for the Raiders

It was another incredible year for Gray Academy's sports teams. The varsity boys basketball team won the provincial championship for the first time since 1995 and the for the first time in the AAA division.

The varsity ultimate team also took another step forward making it to the

finals of the provincial tournament. This second place finish is the highest the team has ever ranked. The team was also invited to Ottawa for the national championship tournament for the first time. At that tournament, the team finished third in Canada.

While it's all about the team, a number of individual student athletes were singled out for their strong play in the 2018-2019 season.

Sarah Jacobsohn ('19) was named the best female junior ultimate player in Canada by Ultimate Canada and Jewish athlete of the year at the RadyJCC's 47th Ken Kronson Sports Dinner. Also at the Sports Dinner, **Dylan Kagan** was one of the recipients of the Bert Knazen Award for exhibiting excellence in athletic performance and sportsmanship. After leading the Raiders to the provincial championship, **Aaron Thomas** was named MVP of the tournament and the AAA male athlete of the year.



Go, Go, Go, Joseph!

Joseph and the Amazing Technicolour Dreamcoat was this year's high school musical. Starring **Noah Slayen ('19)** as Joseph, the production was a huge hit. Once again, **David Vamos** directed a fantastic musical that had families and students alike singing the songs all year long.



Al Fresco Band and Drumline

For the second straight year, the spring band concert was held outside on the hardtop. Under the sun and stars, the band and drumline played hit tunes and compositions. The concert coincided with our year-end BBQ. We can't wait to do it all again next year!

Can't Reach Much Higher

For the third time in the last ten years, the Gray Academy intermediate Reach for the Top team won the provincial tournament. Made up of **Sam Segal, Sam Rosenstock, Isaac Gall, and Ron Ulitsky**, the team practiced three times a week all year. The hard work definitely paid off!



Speak Out: Keshet's Day of Education

Gray Academy's Keshet club (gender sexuality alliance) organized Speak Out, a student-led day dedicated to LGBT2SQ+ issues. Students heard from speakers and alumni about the issues they faced in their lives and learned how to be better advocates for the LGBT2SQ+ community.

Jewish Community Internship: Holocaust Speaker Series

Evelyn Melekh enrolled in the Jewish community internship program to gain experience working with a non-profit organization. What she received was so much more. Evelyn took on the task of organizing a Holocaust education program for students from various high schools around Winnipeg. Working with the Jewish Federation of Winnipeg, she invited **Carol Matas** to speak about her experience writing extensively about the Nazi Germany. Then, Holocaust survivor, **Isaac Gotfried**, spoke about his experience during the war to the captivated audience.



Mazel tovs to our Faculty!

At the end of the 2018-2019 school year, we said farewell to **Michal Lavy** and **Barbara Buffie** who both retired after illustrious careers at Joseph Wolinsky Collegiate and Gray Academy.

We also said goodbye to **Dr. Louise Edwards** who moved to Calgary and celebrated **Lawrence Goldstine's** 25 years of teaching at Gray Academy.

Mazel Tov to **Nancy Margolis**, a 2019 recipient of the Grinspoon Award for Excellence in Jewish Education.

46th Annual Yom Ha'atzmaut Song Festival

The song festival is a long-standing tradition that dates back to the days of Joseph Wolinsky Collegiate. The tradition sees students write original songs and perform them with a band made up of some of Winnipeg's best musicians. The winner of the novice category (Grade 5) was **Dia Kosmin-Rose** and second place went to **Aaron Greaves** and **Aaron Feuer**. In the junior category (Grade 6-8), **Yale Rayburn-Vander Hout** came in second place and **Sophie Braunstein** won her fourth consecutive competition. In the senior category (Grade 9-12), the **Buchwald siblings, Jenna and Matthew**, won first place and **Nina Eilberg** and **Nichole Arenzon** came in second.





Gray Crushes the Competition in the Math Contest

In the 2019 Math Contest, Gray placed 1st in Canada in Grade 7 with **Ronen Arenzon, David Ben, Matti Josebachvili, and David Slobidker** all finishing in 2nd in Manitoba. **Seth Broder, Maayan Nudel-Tonknogi, and Hayden Segall** finishing in 3rd in Manitoba.

In Grade 8 the school placed 1st in Canada with **Yuval Gonen** placing 5th in Canada and 1st in Manitoba,

Sigal Wayngarten placing 14th in Canada and 2nd in Manitoba, **Itay Frenkel** placing 24th in Canada and 3rd in Manitoba, **Sydney Kay** placing 24th in Canada and 3rd in Manitoba, and **Ethan Levene** placing 5th in Manitoba. Way to go, everyone!

Debate and Public Speaking

In 2018-19 Gray Academy competed all over Canada and even travelled to Bermuda for a competition. The team continues to be one of the best in the country routinely winning competitions.



WISE Visits Gray

Women in Science Education (WISE) visited Gray to lead elementary workshops. Grade 5 students dissected pigs' hearts as part of their lessons on the circulatory system.