

Gray Academy
OF JEWISH EDUCATION

legacy

2002-2003

here everybody knows your name



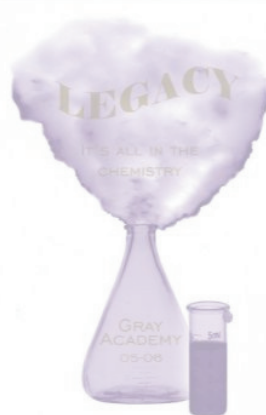
LEGACY

JW
GRAY ACADEMY
2003-2004

Take a picture... it lasts longer.

Gray Academy of
Jewish Education
Joseph Wolinsky
Shore Elementary

LEGACY

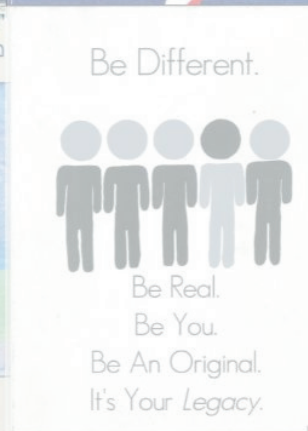
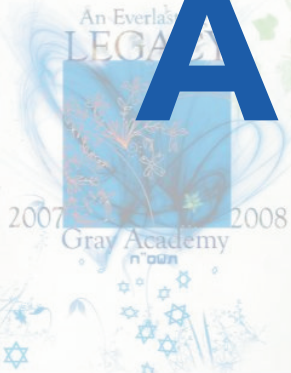


LEGACY

2006
2007

Gray Academy

Annual Report



2022-2023

Our Mission, Vision and Values

Gray Academy of Jewish Education brings together nearly 500 students and their families to learn, grow and excel in a warm community environment rooted in Jewish values. 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
Patience	סובלנות
Diversity	רבגוניות
Leadership	מנהיגות
Community	קהילה

OUR COMMITMENTS

Academic Excellence	הצטיינות אקדמית
A Community School	בית ספר קהילתי
Future Leadership	זהות יהודית
Healthy Living	חיים בריא
Israel	ישראל

A Message

From Our President & Head of School and CEO



Reflecting on our 2022-2023 school year, we can't help but marvel at how amazing it was to experience a full school year free of the burdens of a pandemic. Perfect timing for celebrating a very special milestone, Gray Academy's 25th anniversary.

The year was filled with many special moments for our students and school community. We returned to travel, marked milestones and celebrated chagim. Chanukah, Purim and Israel's 75th birthday; Shabbatot, chaggigot and year-end celebrations all brought so much joy to our entire Gray Academy family. Grade 12 Grad was a special highlight, as we celebrated one of the largest graduating classes in our history.

Outside the classroom, High School students wowed families and friends at Mamma Mia!, while our Band and Drumline students performed not one but two live concerts. Athletics programming drew fans to the stands and students to the court, field and rink. Travel, field trips, Shabbatons and camp overnights gave students new experiences and lifelong memories with peers and teachers.

Together we wished HaMorah Joyce farewell, as she returned to her hometown of Calgary after over 30 years at Gray Academy and Ramah Hebrew School. She is missed and will forever have a home at Gray.

We also experienced sadness, as we mourned the loss of Grade 12 student Ben Ben Chimol (zl") following his courageous battle with cancer. One of the most important lessons we learned from Ben was his love of life - his simchat chayim. Ben lived his life with joy, positivity, creativity and love. We will continue to honour his memory by following his example.

This year, we asked our school community to share their feelings about Gray Academy through student, parent and staff surveys and focus groups. So many spoke of the sense of family they feel at school, that Gray Academy feels like a second home.

We are incredibly grateful to our teachers, educational assistants, support staff and the leadership team for caring for, challenging and inspiring our students every day. We also thank our Student Council and Gray Academy Parent Association for adding so much to our year - fun events, warm lunches, tzedakah projects and more. Thank you to all Gray Academy families - we are privileged to partner with you in your children's educational journey.

Thank you to the Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education for their dedication and support during this special year. A special thank you to Diane Shindleman for her service to the WBJE and for her leadership as treasurer. As she completes her 10 years of service to our Board, we are thankful she will continue on our Finance committee. A special thank you also to Dr. Laura Chisick, who is completing her term on the board. We are grateful for her contributions, especially the medical expertise and advice she shared, as we navigated the COVID-19 pandemic.

For over 25 years, Gray Academy has helped thousands of students learn, grow and strengthen their sense of Jewish identity and community. Continuing that legacy during the 2022-2023 school was our honour and privilege. We look forward to celebrating many more special milestones together – for our school and for each and every student.

Sincerely,

A blue ink handwritten signature, appearing to read 'Josh Weinstein', with a stylized, sweeping underline.

Josh Weinstein ('89)
President,
Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education

A blue ink handwritten signature, appearing to read 'L. Binder', in a cursive script.

Lori Binder ('91)
Head of School, Gray Academy
CEO, Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education

Our Accreditation and Affiliations

As an independent school, Gray Academy is committed to maintaining rigorous academic standards, fostering a warm and inclusive community and pursuing continuous whole-school improvement. Our accreditation and network affiliations are vital tools that help us meet these important commitments, as we focus on the learning, growth and development of every child.

GRAY ACADEMY IS:

- a beneficiary agency of the Jewish Federation of Winnipeg;
- approved by the Government of Manitoba; we follow the provincial curriculum set by the Department of Education for Kindergarten through Grade 12 and all Judaic studies courses are approved for high school credit towards graduation;
- accredited by Canadian Accredited Independent Schools (CAIS), a community of independent schools that meet and exceed rigorous national standards;
- a member of the Manitoba Federation of Independent Schools (MFIS), the umbrella organization for funded, non-profit independent schools across the province;
- a member of Prizmah: Center for Jewish Day Schools, a network that provides professional development, research data and resources for Jewish day schools across North America.



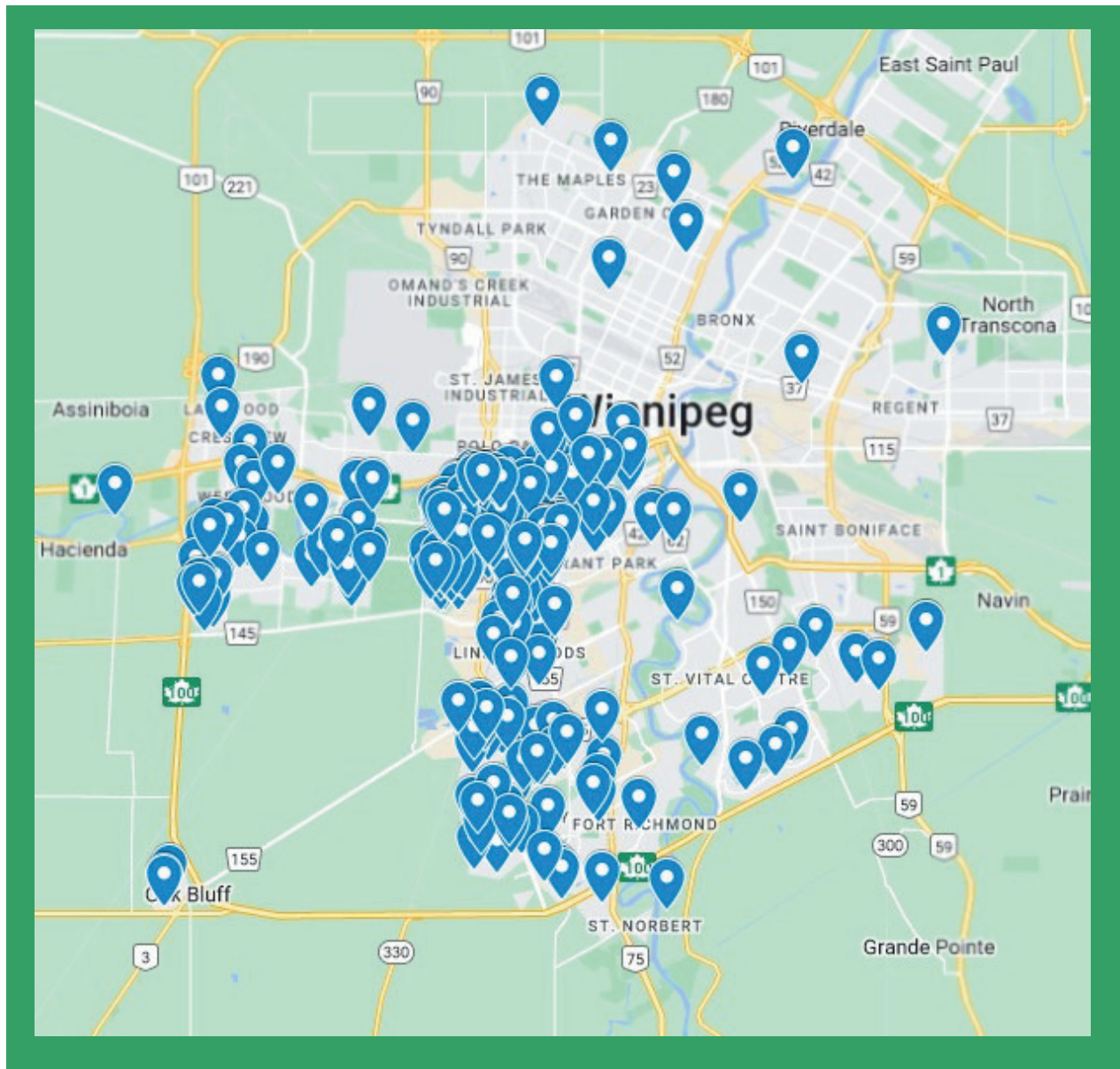
Our Enrolment

Over the last few years, our total enrolment numbers have remained very consistent. The most important story is our strong retention, which is well above the typical independent school standard of 90%. We have seen a consistent long-term trend of reduced student attrition (students departing Gray Academy to other schools in Winnipeg), along with growth in High School enrolment. Overall, these figures tell us that families who choose Gray Academy are committed to a long-term, significant investment in Jewish day school education for their children.

A SNAPSHOT OF ENROLMENT AND STUDENT RETENTION

School Year	Total Students	Retention	New Students
2021-2022	458	93%	76
2022-2023	468	96%	68
2023-2024	474	98%	78

A SNAPSHOT OF WHERE OUR FAMILIES RESIDE



Our Board

WBJE DIRECTORS 2022-2023

Executive

Josh Weinstein ('89), President
Jonathan Strauss, Vice President
Diane Shindleman, Treasurer

Directors

Jen Dimerman
Zach Donen ('14)
Richard Hechter
Ayli Klein
Dr. Laura Kravetsky-Chisick ('99)
Cindy Lazar ('87)
Rabbi Matthew Leibl ('03)
Daniel Matzkin

Ex-Officio

Bryan Borzykowski ('98), Past President
Lori Binder ('91), Head of School and CEO

Chief Financial Officer

Carlos Benesdra, CPA, CMA

WBJE COMMITTEES 2022-2023

Audit

Diane Shindleman, Chair

Zach Donen, Jacob Smolack, Jonathan Strauss, Carlos Benesdra, Lori Binder

Finance

Diane Shindleman, Chair

Zach Donen, Jacob Smolack, Josh Weinstein, Carlos Benesdra, Lori Binder, Janice Brigden

Governance

Bryan Borzykowski, Chair

Jen Dimerman, Laura Kravetsky-Chisick, Jonathan Strauss, Lori Binder

Negotiations

Cindy Lazar, Chair

Richard Hecter, Jonathan Strauss, Lori Binder, Carlos Benesdra

WBJE Representative to the Jewish Federation of Winnipeg

Bryan Borzykowski

WBJE Representative to the Asper Jewish Community Campus Board

Jonathan Strauss

THANK YOU FOR YOUR SERVICE

We are grateful to Dr. Laura Kravetsky-Chisick and Diane Shindleman, who are completing their terms on the WBJE. We thank Diane for her many years of service as our Treasurer and appreciate her continued service as a member of our Finance Committee. We are very grateful to Laura for her service to the board, especially her medical expertise and guidance, as we navigated the global COVID-19 pandemic.

SHEM TOV AWARDS

Gray Academy volunteers, parents and alumni were among the honourees at the Jewish Federation of Winnipeg's 2023 Kavod Evening.



Mazel Tov, Diane

Longtime Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education volunteer and treasurer Diane Shindleman (top left, with WBJE past president Bryan Borzykowski, CEO Lori Binder and current president, Josh Weinstein) was among the honourees. Throughout her 14 years as a Gray Academy parent, Diane devoted countless hours to the WBJE finance committee, as well as Gray Academy lunch and challah programs. We were thrilled to see her recognized with this special award.

Also Honoured:

Emma Zentner (Class of 2020; top right)
Yael Borovich (Class of 2014; bottom left)
Lauren Katz (Class of 1998)
Gray Academy parent Alexandra Blinder (centre right)
Gray Academy parent Adam Levene (bottom right)
Gray Academy parent Gina Shaposhnik

Our Finances

PREPARED BY DIANE SHINDLEMAN, TREASURER

The Finance Committee continued its focus on financial stability and sustainability for our first full post-pandemic school year. We are pleased to share that the deficiency of \$25,160 in our 2022-2023 financial statements represents a positive improvement over our budgeted deficiency of \$47,015. It was a year of renewal with school trips and extra curricular activities returning to enhance our students' experiences.

We continued to work on our financial sustainability goal and our requirements under the Canadian Accredited Independent Schools (CAIS) Financial Standard. To that end, we celebrated Gray Academy's 25th anniversary with a modest fundraising campaign. We are grateful to those who acknowledged this milestone with a donation.

AJCC License Agreement

We continue to operate under an Asper Jewish Community Campus licence agreement that expired in 2017. Further steps to finalize a new agreement continued during the year.

Our New "Old" CFO

We were thrilled to confirm that Carlos Benesdra has joined the Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education (WBJE) as our Chief Financial Officer. For the last several years, Carlos has divided his CFO role between the Jewish Federation of Winnipeg (JFW) and the WBJE. This continuity is very important to the school's financial operations, and we are pleased to have Carlos focusing entirely on the school's requirements.

New Treasurer

We are pleased to announce the appointment of Zach Donen as our next WBJE Treasurer and Chair of the Finance and Audit Committees. Zach is a CPA and a graduate of Gray Academy (Class of 2014).

Community Support

We acknowledge with gratitude the support we received in 2022-2023 from the JFW. These vital funds are used specifically for our needs-based bursary program, which enables more families to access Jewish education for their children.

We are also grateful for the endowments and grants we received from the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba and the Province of Manitoba. We have been able to continue with some fantastic programs and support for our families thanks to donations received during the year. We thank all our donors for their generosity and support.

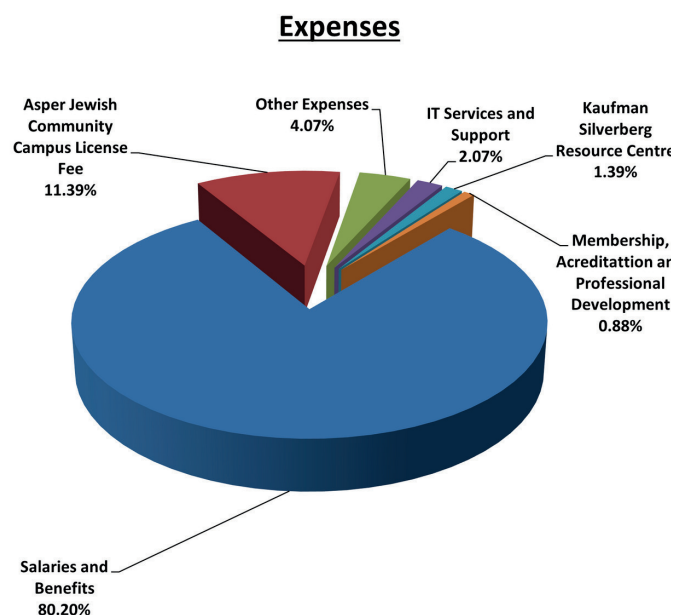
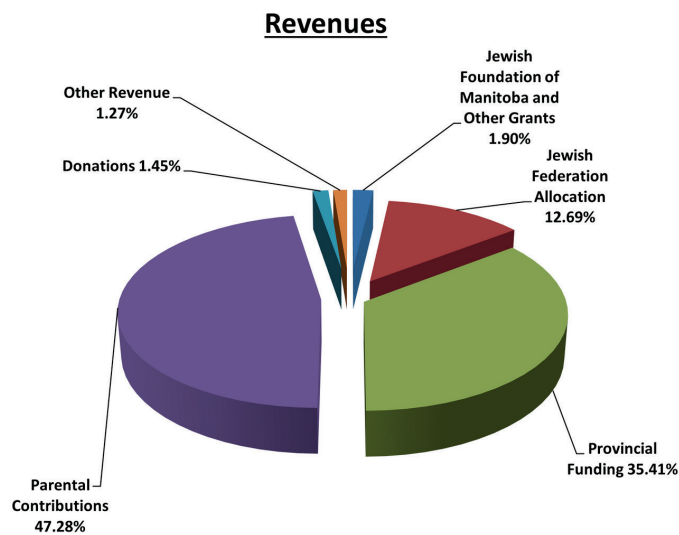
We thank everyone on both the Finance and Audit Committees for volunteering their time and expertise.

Audit

The WBJE financial statements included in this report are audited by Booke and Partners.

Statement of Financial Activities

The school's main sources of revenue are parental contributions, provincial grants and the JFW allocation. Balance Sheet Net assets for the year were \$464,510 representing the balance in the equipment, operating and reserve funds.



Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education Inc.
Summarized Financial Statements
June 30, 2023

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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, 2023, 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, 2023.

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.

The Audited Financial Statements and Our Report Thereon

We expressed an unmodified audit opinion on the audited financial statements in our report dated October 24, 2023.

Management's Responsibility for the Summarized Financial Statements

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

Auditors' 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 Financial Statements".

A handwritten signature in cursive script that reads "Booke & Partners".

Winnipeg, Canada
October 24, 2023

Chartered Professional Accountants

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

	<u>Secular</u>	<u>Religious</u>	<u>2023 Combined</u>	<u>2022 Combined</u>
Revenues				
Parental contributions	\$ -	\$ 3,609,768	\$ 3,609,768	\$ 3,333,557
Junior Kindergarten program	156,033	-	156,033	136,790
Grants				
Province of Manitoba				
- instruction	2,658,690	-	2,658,690	2,562,476
- Safe Schools and Restart	-	-	-	144,857
- special education	144,715	-	144,715	140,489
- curricular materials	25,800	-	25,800	25,110
Jewish Federation of Winnipeg				
- regular	974,000	-	974,000	1,000,000
- administrative	90,000	-	90,000	75,000
- resource centre	40,000	-	40,000	40,000
Jewish Foundation of Manitoba	151,461	-	151,461	95,326
Donations	115,881	-	115,881	98,516
International student program - net	12,056	-	12,056	-
Interest & miscellaneous	68,143	-	68,143	18,101
Student fees	205,762	-	205,762	126,409
	<u>4,642,541</u>	<u>3,609,768</u>	<u>8,252,309</u>	<u>7,796,631</u>
Expenses				
Education	3,528,830	2,710,844	6,239,674	6,087,199
Office	1,005,105	826,928	1,832,033	1,682,272
Student programs	123,457	82,305	205,762	126,409
	<u>4,657,392</u>	<u>3,620,077</u>	<u>8,277,469</u>	<u>7,895,880</u>
Deficiency of revenues over expenses	<u>\$ (14,851)</u>	<u>\$ (10,309)</u>	<u>\$ (25,160)</u>	<u>\$ (99,249)</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 <u>Fund</u>	Operating <u>Fund</u>	Reserve <u>Fund</u>	2023 <u>Total</u>	2022 <u>Total</u>
Balance, beginning of year	\$ 38,813	\$ 181,447	\$ 269,410	\$ 489,670	\$ 588,919
(Deficiency) excess of revenues over expenses	(63,670)	38,510	-	(25,160)	(99,249)
Interfund transfers	<u>87,430</u>	<u>(87,430)</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>	<u>-</u>
Balance, end of year	<u>\$ 62,573</u>	<u>\$ 132,527</u>	<u>\$ 269,410</u>	<u>\$ 464,510</u>	<u>\$ 489,670</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

2023

2022

Assets

Current

Cash	\$ 1,668,533	\$ 1,406,272
Receivables	640,667	652,909
Prepays	<u>26,343</u>	<u>437</u>
	2,335,543	2,059,618

Long-term investment
Property and equipment

20,393	20,135
<u>97,249</u>	<u>161,574</u>
<u>\$ 2,453,185</u>	<u>\$ 2,241,327</u>

Liabilities

Current

Payables and accruals	\$ 1,258,002	\$ 1,075,781
Deferred revenue	466,870	352,881
Deferred contributions	<u>136,127</u>	<u>200,234</u>
	1,860,999	1,628,896

Deferred contributions for capital assets


<u>127,676</u>	<u>122,761</u>
<u>1,988,675</u>	<u>1,751,657</u>

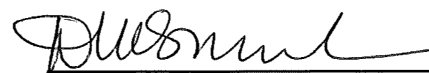
Fund Balances

Equipment	62,573	38,813
Operating	132,527	181,447
Reserve	<u>269,410</u>	<u>269,410</u>
	464,510	489,670

<u>\$ 2,453,185</u>	<u>\$ 2,241,327</u>
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Approved by the Board

 Director

 Director

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.
Note to the Summarized Financial Statements
June 30, 2023

1. Basis of preparation

The summarized financial statements have been prepared from the audited financial statements for the year ended June 30, 2023 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 organization's office.

Our Strategy

Developing a new Strategic Plan was a top priority in 2022–2023, and much of the work took place during that time. Our year-long consultative process included input from the WBJE, senior leadership, faculty, staff, parents and students.

DEVELOPING OUR PLAN

MARCH - JUNE 2022

Board & Faculty Kick Off/Data Review

Future Design School, our partner in this process, worked with our board, faculty and staff to kick off the process with workshops and community focus groups to understand the essence and ethos of our school. Existing data from all areas of the school were reviewed, including recommendations from our most recent CAIS accreditation.

SEPTEMBER - DECEMBER 2022

Community Consultation

Extensive community consultations, including one-on-one interviews, anonymous surveys, and discussions with a dedicated committee generated substantial feedback from students, parents, teachers, faculty and staff.

JANUARY - FEBRUARY 2023

Insight Review & Analysis

Together with the Strategic Planning Committee, the WBJE reviewed the insights provided by the broader school community and worked on actioning feedback.

MARCH 2023

Aspirations & Goal Setting

Internal stakeholders at the school were invited to provide feedback on an initial draft developed by Future Design School and our Strategic Planning Committee.

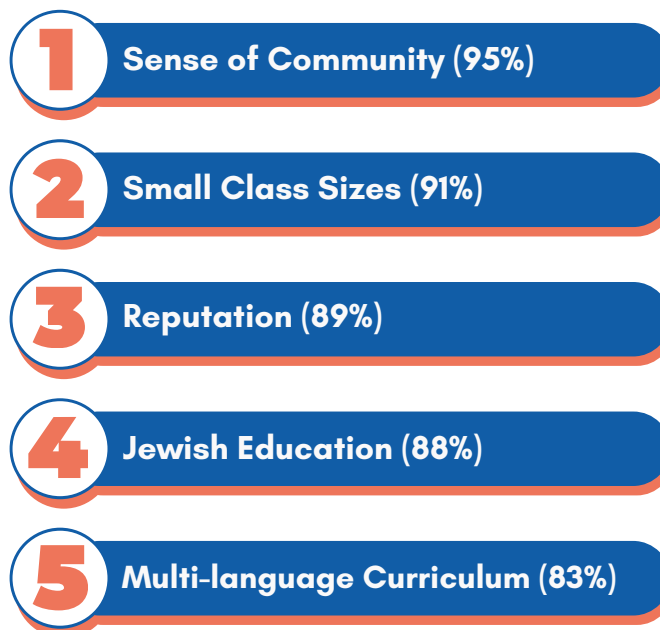
APRIL - JUNE 2023

Plan Development

The strategic plan was drafted by the Strategic Planning Committee. The WBJE provided feedback and approved the external-facing strategic plan, to be launched in the 2023–2024 school year.

VITAL INPUT FROM STUDENTS, STAFF AND PARENTS

Top 5 reasons parents choose Gray Academy for their children



"As I walk through the Gray Academy doors I feel welcome, and in some way, I feel like we are more of a community than a school."
- **Grade 8 student**



When I walk through the doors of Gray Academy I feel proud and excited that my kids have the privilege to be a part of this school, have more opportunities and be able to experience not only a huge variety of activities that are not offered in public schools, but also a Jewish community atmosphere.

- **Gray Academy Parent**

**Parents and
students feel
safe, welcome
and "at home"
when they walk
through the doors**



DID YOU KNOW?

Close to 25% of staff members are alumni of the school, and over 20% of students have at least one parent who graduated from Gray Academy or JWC

Our Faculty & Staff

At Gray Academy, caring for children is at the centre of everything we do. This commitment begins with our team of dedicated teachers and educational staff. We are incredibly grateful for their hard work, professionalism, dedication and passion in and out of the classroom.

LEADERSHIP 2022-2023

Lori Binder ('91), Head of School and CEO
Tracy White, High School Principal
Joyce Kerr, Elementary Principal
Ronit Amihude ('93), Dir, Learning and Innovation

Rob Dalgliesh, Dir, Teaching and Learning
Skye Kneller ('09), Dir, Advancement and Alumni Relations
Judi Price-Rosen, Dir, Admissions
Andrea Ritter, Dir, Marketing and Communications

A NEW LEADERSHIP ROLE

Director of Advancement and Alumni Relations



Thanks to a grant from the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba, Skye Kneller ('09) joined the Gray Academy leadership team in a new role - Director of Advancement and Alumni Relations.

Since coming "back" to Gray Academy, Skye has been leading our efforts in key areas, such as alumni engagement, family engagements and donor stewardship.

OUR 2022-2023 FACULTY AND STAFF

Kevin Abrahams
Shlomo Arava
Isaac Bellan
Carlos Benesdra
Liz Bilyk
Michal Berenshteyn
Gil Binnun ('12)
Nicole Boch
Lisa Boroditsky
Amy Brawerman ('10)
Janice Brigden
Alexandra Broitman
Rachel Brown ('96)
Noah Chochinov
Rachel Collins
Sheppy Coodin ('82)
Anna Corne
Heidi Crowley
Dale Diamond-Burchuk
Judy Doctoroff
Micah Doerksen
Erica Dorfman
Joanna Ebner
Ana Esterin
Lainie Filkow ('95)

Chris Garroni
Tim Gereta
Natalie Geva
Patricia Hamelin
Kevin Hammell
Madison Hanson
Scott Hartnell
David Hasselfield
Ardith Henoch ('91)
Margaret Hulley
Debbie Jackson
Jamie Kagan
Andrew Kaplan ('98)
Ronit Kantarzi
Sharona Kravitz
Aleksandra Kroitor ('11)
Lindsey Leipsic
Nadine Linder ('80)
Nick Maier
Nancy Margolis
Heather Micflikier
Danielle Miller ('02)
Na'ama Miller ('85)
Erin Mitchell Katz
Marcelo Mohadeb

Silvina Mohadeb
Ben Morry
Graham Neyedley
Angela Northam
Shelley Oman ('80)
Candace Podaima
Hayley Rewald
Sari Ripstein ('11)
Marina Risman
Rose Rosyati
Naama Samphir ('94)
Simone Shalev
Alexa Shapiro
Tatyana Smolyaninov
Nata Spigelman
Kyra Swartz
Lauren Tennenhouse ('06)
Michelle Tessler
Sharon Tzidon
David Vamos
Ron van der Hoof
Ira Verkhlin
Gabi Winestock ('07)
Samantha Zimberg
Tracy Zimmerman

See the beautiful staff
appreciation card from
Gray Academy families:



MAZEL TOV!

At the end of the school year, faculty and staff gathered to celebrate and bid all the best to retirees Rob Dalglish and Scott Hartnell, as well as our long-serving Elementary Principal, Joyce Kerr, who returned to her hometown to take on a new role as Head of School and Principal for Calgary Jewish Academy.



Pictured left to right:

Scott Hartnell, Elementary French
Rob Dalglish, Director of Teaching and Learning
Joyce Kerr Elementary Principal

L'Hitraot, Joyce

For nearly 35 years, HaMorah Joyce Kerr was an integral part of our school community and played a significant role in the lives of countless our students and families. With mixed emotions, we said *l'hitraot* to Joyce at the end of the 2022-2023 school year.

While we were saddened to see her leave us, colleagues, families and students current and past joined us in wishing her all the very best on her transition back to Calgary and a new leadership role.



Our 25th Anniversary

2022 marked a monumental moment in the history of Jewish education in Winnipeg. Back in 1997, the Asper Jewish Community Campus opened its doors, bringing a broad range of Jewish agencies and facilities together under one roof. It was then that Joseph Wolinsky Collegiate, Ramah Hebrew School and Talmud Torah- I.L. Peretz School came together as Gray Academy, becoming an essential hub of Jewish community life in our city.

SILVER SOUVENIRS

We launched our celebration with a video featuring one representative from every graduating class from the past 25 years. Alumni shared their memories and their greatest takeaways (souvenirs) from Gray Academy.



Use the code to view this impactful video:



HONOUR OUR PAST, BUILD OUR FUTURE

Our celebration continued with the Honour Our Past, Build Our Future Fundraising Campaign from May 25-June 25. We are incredibly grateful to those who helped us honour and celebrate our special anniversary.



Gray Academy
OF JEWISH EDUCATION

תודה רבה

Lead Gifts

Laura ('99) & Josh and Baillie & Dan Chisick
Michael Sydney Gray
Sara Gray
Shindleman Family

Major Gifts

The Asper Foundation
Bayview Construction Ltd
Val Benevet, Daniel Matzkin, Parker, Oliver, Cooper & Spencer
Brenda Tessler, Joel Donen, Jessica ('09), Josh ('11), Zach ('14) & Adam ('17)

Major Supporters

Lori Binder ('91)
Booke & Partners
Lainie Filkow ('95) & Bryan Borzykowski ('98) & Family
Bounce Design
BPG The Benefits Planning Group Ltd
Imperial Soap & Supplies Ltd
Eric, Daniela, Maxine ('17) & Sarah ('19) Jacobsohn
Michelle, Steven, Seth ('21) and Lev ('23) Kohn
Adam & Marla ('93) Levene
Ian Schnoor ('91)
Ed Shinewald & Family
Allison, Jonathan, Nathan & Noah Strauss
Josh Weinstein ('89), Brenlee Schacter ('90), Dylan & Samantha
QDOC Inc

Supporters

Jennifer & Ian ('88) Dimerman, EPIC Information Solutions
HUB International, Jill Winograd ('98)

Friends

Anonymous, Nancy Gliner ('69), David & Barbara Goldenberg
Dr. Sharon Graham, Steven Hyman ('98) & Ilana Abrams ('94), Avery
Joel, Tracy Kasner ('94), Joyce, Jeff, Lindsay ('09) & Josh ('12) Kerr,
Miriam Kohn ('69), Shane Kozlowich ('94), Ruth & Chuck Narvey,
Leoz Rafaeli ('98), Myron, Elana ('86), Dafna ('15), Abbie ('18) & Liat
('20) Schultz, Tara ('94) Kozlowich & Paul, Samara & Bailee Shur,
Max Steinkopf, Robbie Waldman ('75), Blair Worb, Brenda & Phil Yakir

CHAMPAGNE N' SCHMOOZE

As a fitting wrap-up to our 25th-anniversary celebration, we were thrilled to welcome special guests, colleagues, past and present staff, administrators, board members and supporters to a very special "Champagne n' Schmooze" celebration in the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba Garden at the Asper Jewish Community Campus.

In addition to expressing our gratitude to the many agencies that have supported Gray Academy over the past two-and-a-half decades, we also recognized founding members of the Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education and staff who have been part of the Gray Academy family since the beginning. We were honoured to have 14 WBJE past presidents with us for the occasion as well as long-time Jewish Awareness Retreat coordinator, Barry Bender who joined us from New York to receive a special honour.



Our Generous Supporters

ALLOCATIONS, GRANTS & GIFTS

In a year in which we celebrated our milestone Silver Anniversary, we are incredibly grateful to the organizations and individuals who have not only supported Gray Academy during the 2022-2023 school year, but for its entire 25 year history and beyond. We are excited to create more opportunities for community and Alumni engagement in order to strengthen connections with our graduates, parents, grandparents, donors and supporters.



As one of the 12 beneficiary agencies of the Jewish Federation of Winnipeg (JFW), Gray Academy has kept Jewish day school education financially accessible for families. For 2022-23, we were privileged to receive \$974,000 for Gray Academy and \$40,000 for the Kaufman Silverberg Library from JFW, thanks to generous donations to JFW's annual Combined Jewish Appeal campaign.

At the heart of Gray Academy's long-standing relationship with the JFW is a shared commitment to providing an accessible path to meaningful Jewish learning. Nearly 60 per cent of Gray Academy families require some level of bursary assistance. One hundred per cent of the school's annual allocation from JFW goes toward our Bursary Assistance program and to ensure our Kaufman Silverberg Library remains accessible to the community.

Combined Jewish Appeal Designated Gifts

We are grateful for the designated gifts received for the 2022-2023 school year:

Gail Asper and Michael Paterson

Roz and Marty Greenfeld - toward the Roz and Marty Greenfeld Grade 12 Scholarship Award

Susan Holt

Richard Morantz & Sheree Walder Morantz - supporting the EAL program

Matthew and Mira Narvey - supporting the continued operations of the Gray Academy - Tough Duck Ice Rink

Silver Family (Norman, Shane, Michael and their families) - towards the Ron Silver Scholarship for Excellence in Physics



JEWISH FOUNDATION OF MANITOBA

Disbursements through the JFM

Grosberg Family Fund

In support of the enhancement to Student Support Services through an Educational Assistant

Mona & David Rich Family Fund

In support of the ongoing development of the Gray Academy-Tough Duck Community Ice Rink

Gray Academy Endowment Fund

Thank you to everyone who contributed to our Gray Academy Endowment Fund last year. We are thrilled to participate in the BERVIN Incentive Program with a matching ratio of 1:5, which means that these gifts will impact our students even more. Our balance at December 31, 2022 was \$349,745.

Gray Academy Debating and Public Speaking Fund Our Debate and Public speaking program remained one of the top programs in Canada, with students competing and achieving excellence locally, nationally and internationally. Our balance at December 31, 2022 was \$161,693.

Jewish Foundation of Manitoba Grants - Received in October 2022 and March 2023

- Early Years Technology Upgrade - \$15,000
- Expanding Perspectives resources to support truth and reconciliation learning - \$5,500
- Furnishing Learning Community Spaces - \$23,000
- Library Grant for Learning Lounge - \$48,735
- JET Fund Affordable Jewish Experiential Learning - \$40,000
- Jewish Educational Professional Development - \$40,000
- Classroom Learning Enhancements - \$10,000
- Visual Rebrand - \$10,000



The Gray Academy community continues to mourn the loss of Grade 12 student Ben Ben Chimol, z"l, who passed away in December 2022 following a courageous battle with cancer. The school worked closely with Ben's parents, Tatiyana and David, to formally honour Ben's memory, his love of life and the positive impact he had on his classmates, teachers, family and friends.

In March 2023, just days before what would have been Ben's 18th birthday, we were thrilled to launch this new fund within the Gray Academy Endowment at the Jewish Foundation of Manitoba. Dollars earned annually will be used for programs in the school that bring joy to others and provide students with opportunities to share their passions and celebrate life, as Ben always did.

At the end of the school year, the Ben Benchimol (z"l) Simchat Chayim Fund was at a total of \$5,458.

Ben was incredibly close to his parents, his younger sister, Lihi, his brother, Natan, his dog, Yuki, and his friends, who loved and supported him tirelessly, in good times and bad.

Use the code to learn more about Ben, including a beautiful video tribute by his closest friends:



THE ASPER FOUNDATION

Debating and Public Speaking Program - Asper Cup

We thank the Asper Foundation for its continued support of Gray Academy's Debate and Public Speaking program. We are proud to celebrate this support annually by hosting the Asper Cup Debate Tournament at our school.



Human Rights and Holocaust Studies Trip to Washington, DC

In September 2022, our Grade 12 students took their rescheduled trip, originally scheduled in Grade 9 but cancelled due to the pandemic. We are grateful that our students could complete this journey, as part of their human right and Holocaust learning, before completing High School. We thank the Asper Foundation for supporting this program since 1997, in fulfillment of the vision of Izzy Asper, z"l.



DIRECT DONATIONS TO GRAY ACADEMY

\$10,000 - \$25,000

Bayview Construction
The Asper Foundation
The Laing Family Foundation

\$5,000 - \$9,999

Anonymous

\$1,000-\$4,999

Baillie & Dan Chisick and Family
Bryan Borzykowski & Lainie Filkow and Family
Courtney & Jon Feldman and Family
Family & Friends of Jerry Cohen, in honour of his second Bar Mitzvah
Jonathon & Karly Leipsic - Coleman and Rose Silverman (z"l) Immediate Needs Bursary Fund

\$250-\$999

Anne Dublin and Family
Family Acupuncture Inc & Family
Ian & Jennifer Dimerman and Family
Jennifer Blumenthal & Dan Bubis and Family
Laura & Josh Chisick and Family
Marla & Adam Levene and Family
Tracy & Rob White and Family
Shree Thompson and Family
Tracy Kasner and Family

\$101-\$249

Arnold Permut and Family
Ayli Klein and Family
Brian Rosenberg and Family
Bruce Caplan
Etel Avimelek and Family
Evgeny Gotfrid
Danna & Joel Kaplan and Family
Matthew Leibl

Please excuse any errors or omissions

DIRECT DONATIONS TO GRAY ACADEMY

Up to \$100

Hao Wu
Jennifer Jensen and Family
Kateryna Nemchynova and Family
Luiz Henrique Fernandez Family
Nina Glazman and Family
Sarah Piche and Family
Sharon Love and Family
Olesia Rutgaizer and Family

Enrollment Gifts

Thank you to the families who chose to give a gift to Gray Academy at (re-)enrollment time. Total gifts of \$12,952 during 2023 enrollment will be used to enhance programming throughout the school.

HaMorah Joyce Fund

Created in honour of our “L’hitraot to HaMorah Joyce” celebrations.
Total donations of \$1,558 will be used to enhance Elementary learning and programming.

High School Musical Sponsors

Todah rabah to all those who supported our 2022-23 High School musical, *Mamma Mia!*
Donations of \$4,338 went a long way to supporting a spectacular production and experience for our students.

Tribute Cards

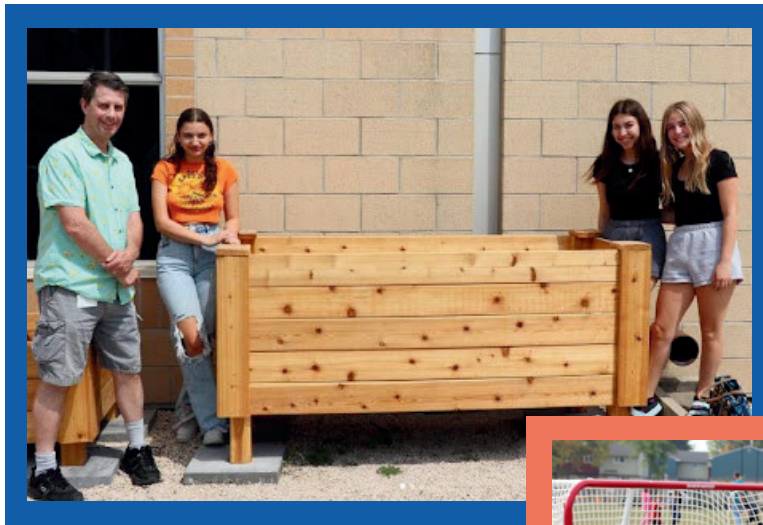
Thank you to everyone who recognized milestones and offered condolences through the Kaufman Silverberg Resource Centre and Winnipeg Board of Jewish Education Tribute Card programs.



SUPPORT FROM GAPA

Thanks to the dedication and hard work of our incredible team of parent volunteers, GAPA raised funds to impact students and staff at Gray Academy. A generous gift of \$40,000 was used to support some of the school's biggest "wishlist" items, including:

- Flexible Seating – 60 chairs for JK to Grade 6 classrooms
- Outdoor Garden Boxes – a collaboration between Elementary and High School
- 6 Soccer Nets – for student use at recess
- 2 Microwaves with Carts – for High School student use at lunchtime
- Yearbook Contribution – for a Special 25th Anniversary edition of our *Legacies* Yearbook
- Grade 12 Grad Contribution
- Contributions to LEGO Wall in the Library
- Staff Appreciation Toques
- Upgrades to the School Sound System

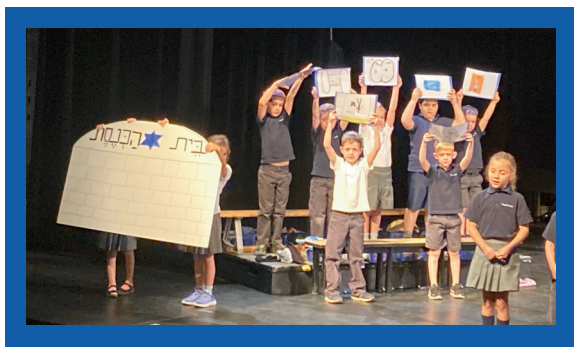


CELEBRATING MILESTONES, CREATING MEMORIES

Thank you to our families who enriched our students' experiences and celebrations by supporting our milestone programs.

Grade 1 Chaggigat Ha Siddur

Valerie Benevet & Daniel Matzkin
Baillie & Daniel Chisick
Luiz Fernandez & Family
Pamela Kravetsky & Family
Dr. Marli Leibl & Family
Northshield Windows & Doors



Grade 2 Chaggigat HaTorah

Bryan Borzykowski & Lainie Filkow & Family
Lauren Bronstein & Family
Alexander Singer & Family



Grade 6 Celebration & Tzedaka Box Sponsors

Gilbert Family
Fritzler Family
Mardechaev Family
Kozlowich Family
Lukianovsky Family



Grade 12 Graduation

Bling My Lawn
Bubis Family
Congregation Etz Chayim
Kohn Family
Monroe Pharmacy
Nisanov Family
Rosenberg Family
Linda Waldman
Gray Academy Parent Association



GIFTS TO THE KAUFMAN SILVERBERG LIBRARY

Thank you to all the students who joined the Sefer Shelanu Birthday Book Club during the 2022-23 school year. For a minimum \$18 donation, a book was purchased for the library in each Sefer Shelanu Book Club member's name for all children to enjoy.

Emma Ansarian
William Ansarian
Romi Borzykowski
Amelia Dick
Asher Goldenberg
Nathaniel Goldenberg
Sari Goldenberg
Ethan Golding
Naomi Halberthal
George LeGoff

Rafaela LeGoff
Oscar Li
Ashton Miller
Sarah Navarro
Benny Pollock
RJ Silver
Patrick Tashiro
Liam Yosef
Scarlett Zu



Our Parents

Gray Academy parents are active partners in building an exceptional school community. Our Gray Academy Parent Association (GAPA) organized a broad range of programs for students and families, including lunch programs, our annual Fun Fair, teacher and staff appreciation initiatives, fun family events, fundraising activities and more. Thank you to all the parent volunteers who keep these valued programs running for our students and families.

GAPA EXECUTIVE 2022-2023

Allison Strauss, President
Emily Niozick, Vice President
Malka Khalimov, Treasurer

Sima Feuer & Sharon Goldenberg
Pre-Loved Uniform Sales

Allison Strauss & Ayli Klein
Elementary Lunch Program

Susie Freedman Tapper & Heather Silver
High School Lunch Program

Fanny Levy, Fundraising



Our Class of 2023

In 2023, we celebrated one of the largest graduating classes in Gray Academy's history. Our 43 grads, their parents and Gray Academy staff were aglow with pride, as the Class of 2023 completed the final steps in their Gray Academy learning journey with Ethical Wills, Grad Shabbat, Grad-Staff Luncheon, Time Capsule, Progressive Dinner, Convocation and a beautiful Safe Grad-Dinner Dance.

During our festivities, we paused to honour the memory of Ben Benchimol (z'l), who lost his courageous battle with cancer mid-way through the 2022-2023 school year. Ben encouraged his classmates and friends to live life with joy. It is a lesson our Class of 2023 will take with them on the next stage of their life's journey.

מזל טוב!

אקדמיה לחינוך יהודי ע"ש גריי

Gray Academy of Jewish Education

Class of 2023

No Photo Available: Sam Rosenstock.

Ben Benchimol (z'l)
March 5, 2005 - December 1, 2023
May his memory always be a blessing.

Our Milestones

Every Gray Academy school year is woven through with meaningful milestone programs that celebrate student growth, enrich Jewish learning, and build memories that last a lifetime. We were especially thrilled to welcome families and friends to celebrate with us once again.



JK Family Kabbalat Shabbat



Kindergarten Family Shabbat Dinner



Grade 1 Chaggigat HaSiddur



Grade 2 Chaggigat HaTorah



Grade 3 Virtual Voyage to Israel



Grade 4 Torah Siyyum



Grade 5 Outdoor Education Overnight at Camp Massad Manitoba



Grade 6 Shabbaton



Two nights of unplugged, fresh-air fun at the Grade 7 Outdoor Education Overnight at BB Camp Kenora



Grade 6 Year-end Celebration Ceremony and Party



Grade 11-12 Retreat



Class of 2023 Convocation

Our Mitzvot

At Gray Academy, learning lives beyond the classroom, as our students learn and live the vital Jewish values of kindness, tzedaka and tikkun olam by leading and participating in a broad range of activities throughout the year. In 2022-2023, students contributed funds, needed items, creative ideas and collaborative efforts to help those in need in our community



Some of Our 2022-2023 Tzedaka Initiatives:

- Yom Kippur "Tin for the Bin" Food Drive
- Monthly Casual Day for a Cause
- Mitzvah Day - making, packaging and delivering meals for Main Street Project
- Pesach Chicken Challenge for Jewish Family and Child Service
- Youth in Philanthropy Program donations

Our Focus on the Arts

Arts and creativity are an integral part of integrated learning and expression at Gray Academy. Last year, our students enjoyed visual arts and music education, along with optional opportunities to participate in band and drum line, our High School musical and art exhibitions.



High School wowed the crowd with their musical production of *Mamma Mia!*



Patrons purchased student originals at our Yom Ha'atzmaut Art Fair



Our Band and Drumline performed concerts in January and June



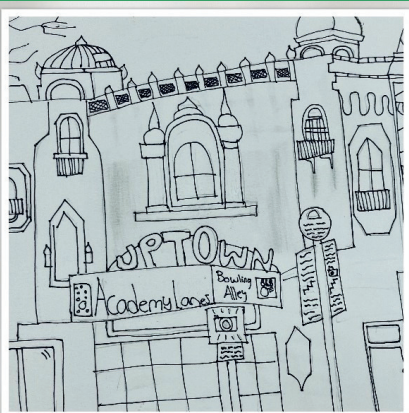
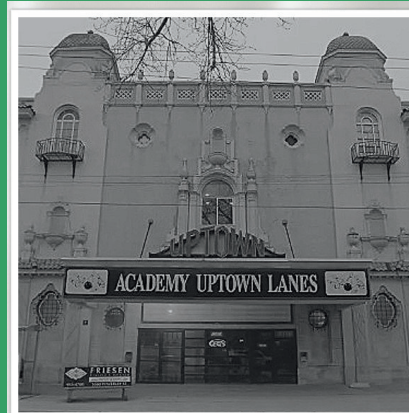
Grade 6 students displayed their work on the theme of peace at the MHC Gallery



Grade 11 took the wheel in the Art Room



JK learned the art of self-portraits



Grade 9 and 10 students recreated heritage building for our annual Jewish Heritage Art Exhibit

Our Passion for Athletics

On the court, the field, the green and the rink, students stayed active, learned new skills, and made new friendships. Thank you to our coaches, Mr. Kagan, Mr. Bellan, Mr. Abrahams, Mr. Hartnell, HaMoreh Gil, Mr. Van der Hooft, volunteer coaches, and all the staff, volunteers and parents who cheered on our teams. Go Raiders!



Raiders Varsity Boys Basketball



Raiders Varsity Girls Basketball



Grade 6 Girls Volleyball



Grade 7/8 Boys Volleyball



Raiders Curling



RaidersGolf



Champs! Junior High Raiders Ultimate

RAIDERS LEGACY FOR LIFE

In the Fall of 2022, we were thrilled to celebrate the induction of four Joseph Wolinsky Collegiate Raiders Varsity Boys basketball teams into the Manitoba Basketball Hall of Fame. Alumni came from near and far to accept the prestigious award and share great memories of their championship wins. We are incredibly proud to display their banner in the Gray Academy Gym, where it will inspire new generations of Raiders athletes – including several children of these Hall-of-Famers – to give it their all on the court.



Our Learning Outside the Classroom

Gray Academy students have many opportunities to explore activities, discover their talents, develop skills and bond with peers. Athletics, arts, overnight trips, and more keep students engaged and learning in and out of the classroom. In 2021-2022, under the leadership and guidance of our new Student Life Coordinators, we also introduced a host of new clubs for students to enjoy at lunchtime.



CLUBS

Thanks to the passion and hard work of teachers and student leaders, students gained access to a wide variety of new clubs to choose from, including sewing, embroidery, chess, LEGO, visual art, dance, woodworking, math club and more. All these clubs offered opportunities to explore interests, learn new skills and spend time with friends. Thank you to HaMorah Ronit Kantarzhi, Elementary Student Life Coordinator, for her leadership of all student clubs.

REACH FOR THE TOP

Our Junior and Senior teams had a great time testing their trivia knowledge and competing locally and nationally. Thank you to our coaches, Mr. Micah Doerksen and HaMorah Lauren Tenenhouse, for their expert guidance.



DEBATE AND PUBLIC SPEAKING

Our High School Junior and Senior teams had a spectacular year competing locally, nationally and internationally. Thank to our coach, Mr. Andrew Kaplan, for coordinating Asper Cup and accompanying students to competitions in Winnipeg, Montreal and the World Public Speaking Competition in South Africa!

Our Partners in Israel

Since 1997, Gray Academy has participated in the Jewish Federation of Winnipeg's Partnership 2Gether (P2G) program. Since 2002, Gray Academy High School students have traveled to Israel to meet and learn with students at Danciger High School and Nachshonei HaChuleh Elementary in Kiryat Shmona. We have then welcomed Danciger students and staff to visit our community. The program has created a deep connection with Israel in all of our students and has created authentic and lasting relationships between students in the two countries.



In Spring 2023, five Grade 10 and 11 students travelled to Israel to meet and learn with peers through our P2G program.

Our Celebrations

One of the important ways Gray Academy students discover and strengthen their Jewish identity is through joyous celebrations at school. From dancing with “HaMorah Torah” to weekly prayers and songs of Kabbalat Shabbat; from Chanukah lights and dreidls to Purim and the Pesach table; our students found joy in celebrating together as a community throughout the school year. For Israel’s 75 birthday, the whole school came together to mark an extra special Yom Haatzmaut milestone with a memorable photo op.







Gray Academy
OF JEWISH EDUCATION



Partner Agency of the
Jewish Federation
OF WINNIPEG



JEWISH FOUNDATION
OF MANITOBA



Canadian
Accredited
Independent
Schools



Manitoba Federation of
Independent Schools
CHOICE • DIVERSITY • EXCELLENCE



PRIZMAH

Center for Jewish Day Schools