

# THIS IS WELLNESS: BRETON ELEMENTARY

Breton Elementary School made a decision to embrace a direction set by Wild Rose School Division which was to “provide culturally appropriate learning experiences about First Nations, Metis and Inuit culture that support reconciliation”. We decided to create a committee which had staff, parents, and a First Nation rep on it. We applied for a Wellness Fund grant to allow us to create the vision.

Students learn best through multimodal activities. We decided to start the year with a cultural day. This day had Metis author David Bouchard present to our students on the issues of reconciliation. A Pow Wow was held in the afternoon with the crowning event being the hoop dance presented by Dallas Arcand. Dallas took the time to explain to the audience about the meaning of the hoop dance. We ended with a round dance in which all students got to participate.

In the 2016 - 2017 school year, we focused our staff on FNMI PD. We accessed terrific PD through the ATA which included the “Blanket Exercise”, residential schools, and understanding history. The staff also attended a cultural camp. Our learning commons also updated its resources to provide a wider variety of student accessible material on FNMI. Thank you for the support the Wellness Fund grant provided our school!

Mickey Kolody  
Principal  
Breton Elementary

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