



General Vanier School

Louis Riel School Division
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To Whom It May Concern,

Having attended General Vanier as a seven year old boy, almost 40 years ago, I was surprised to see some of the same playground structures still at the school as I returned as the principal. I was glad to hear that as part of their mandate, the General Vanier Parent Association has been working to develop the existing playground so that the community and the school have a playground that is safe, contemporary and designed to enhance the learning and developmental needs of all children who use it.

For quite some time the importance of education through play has been emphasized within schools and communities. General Vanier will benefit in many ways from the introduction and development of new structures and spaces at the schools. With potential plans that include outdoor learning spaces and equipment that will allow for greater access for students with physical challenges, more students are expected to be able to use the space, more often, for a variety of purposes.

As home for one of the Skills for Living Program in the Louis Riel School Division, General Vanier has a number of classrooms that are dedicated to the physical, educational, and emotional well-being of students who need specialized programming as part of their education. Many of these students have as part of their learning plans, the need for physical therapy and play therapy, and having these spaces outside of the school would be beneficial to the development of the students.

As the spaces around General Vanier are also used by the community throughout the year, in the evenings, on the weekends and over holidays, any improvement to the playground is an improvement to the community as well. Windsor Park is a mature community, but deserves the same quality of recreational spaces that can be found in newer communities in Winnipeg like Bridgewater, South Pointe and Sage Creek.

It is our hope at the school that we will be able to see constructed, playground facilities that will serve the needs of the school and the community for decades. We believe that the plans being created by our parent community will do this, and hope that any assistance that is available be given to them. If you have any questions feel free to contact me at the school at the numbers above.

Respectfully,

Allie Hassin
Principal
General Vanier School