

A WESTGATE
Retrospective



MENNONITE
WESTgate
COLLEGIATE

2023



Looking Up

BY JAMES FRIESEN

The sky has always captivated me. On our Middle East Study Tours, the Bedouin in the Wadi Rum plan a sunset observation every evening. It is a magical time as we sit together, sipping sweet tea, the blue sky against the red landscape becoming purple and dark. It is a time of contemplation and reflection. As the world changes around us, we become keenly aware of the beauty of our universe, our infinitesimal part in it, and the relative meaninglessness of our own lives, loved by a God that created the vastness of space.

The conversation becomes quieter and we all begin to feel small, tiny, insignificant.

In the dead of winter this year, I went into my backyard and looked into the cold night sky. Spread out before me, in a perfect arc were Mars, the Moon, and Jupiter. These three great lights in the sky in their symmetry made me pause. I tried to imagine myself on that great galactic plane, my very spot a part of that unfathomable connection. It was a dizzying moment, a vertiginous experience.

And I felt small, tiny, insignificant. A few days after that experience, also in the dead of winter, I was called into the school because a sprinkler head had failed and pressurized water was filling the choral office. That night, I stood in the Westgate atrium with the fire alarm painfully pulsating, the emergency lights flashing, and water pouring over the top floor landing, cascading down onto the floor below. And once again, I felt small, tiny, insignificant. But as the evening progressed, I saw parents rushing into the atrium to help mop up water,



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I saw staff members hustling into the building organizing the cleanup, I saw students running for the library trying to save games and books (in that order), and I witnessed a long line of volunteers, passing musical scores spanning sixty-four years of musical acumen from the choral office to higher ground. And again, just like when I have gazed up at the heavens, I became keenly aware of the beauty around me, this time the beauty of this community,

a community which God's gentle hand continues to guide. Westgate is a beautiful place. And I am not talking about our beautiful building or our beautiful location. Westgate, in its history and its mission, is beautiful.

In the same way that the sky makes me pause, the Westgate community also makes me consider my small place in this bigger story, and I am honoured to be a part of that story. It is a story that continues to be shaped

by so many people: our strong and dedicated staff members, our past, present and future students and parents, and all those who believed and continue to believe in a school that works tirelessly to inspire and empower its students to live as people of God.



Rebuilding—Shaped by Story and Song

There is still much to do as we try to recover that which was lost on that cold winter night. There is much that is difficult to replace, especially as we think about musical scores that lined the choral office. Put simply, **we need your help.**

Whether you've ever sung in a Westgate choir or have simply enjoyed the music, consider being a small part of this bigger, musical story by contributing to our appeal to cover the loss. These funds will help cover the sizable deductible which will allow us to replace the musical inventory. If more funds are raised than are required, those donations will go to our capital campaign. There are many ways to donate. Please visit [CanadaHelps-Westgate](https://CanadaHelps-Westgate.com) to donate.

You can also help by taking a look in your basement to see if you “accidentally” kept some of the choral music when you were singing in choir at Westgate.

Finding Belonging

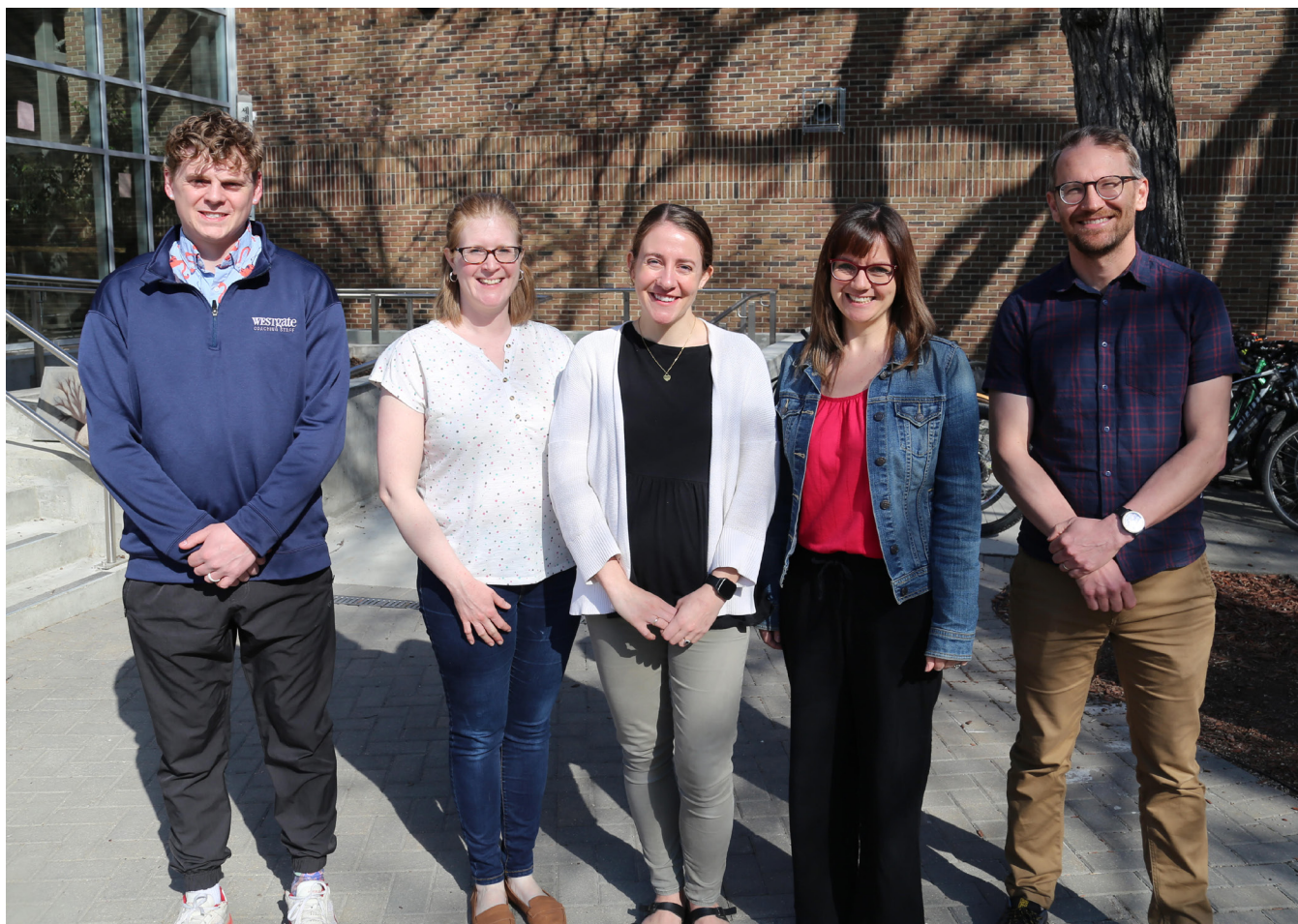
BY SCOTT MAIER ('19)

Something is different at 86 West Gate this year. Look around the atrium or wander through the hallways and you might not notice anything has changed. But step behind the staff room doors and you'll be greeted by five new faces: Owen Baerg ('13), Kara Reimer Barkwell, Tessa Nussbaum, Sherisse Spent, and Mark Wiehler.

Historically speaking, Westgate has not been a school with a high staff turnover rate. "From what I've seen, generally people come here and stay here for the rest of their careers," Mark explained – and it's true. Most teachers and admin are hooked by the school's charm and spend their professional careers becoming seasoned Westgaters. So how has the addition of five new staff members brought change to the

community – and how are new staff finding belonging?

For Kara, getting involved in extracurriculars was a catalyst for forging new relationships. Kara took stride both as a cross-country and basketball coach, and joined the seniors for their annual winter hike. "I don't teach seniors, so I felt a bit unsure about going – but now I feel more integrated into all areas



Staff Photo. L-R. Owen Baerg, Kara Reimer Barkwell, Tessa Nussbaum, Sherisse Spent, and Mark Wiehler

of the student population.” As for making connections with staff, Kara felt welcomed almost immediately. “I came in a few weeks before school started to set up my classroom, and every time I came in, people were so nice. I felt like that first day I had at least ten people to go to that felt safe – and that’s huge.”

Owen already knew many of the other staff members before he started in September. In fact, it was Owen’s connection to Westgate as an alumnus that prompted him to return as a teacher. “A hope of mine had always been coming back to Westgate, a place that was so influential to me, and being able to teach here.” Like Owen, Sherisse also had a personal connection. “My friend Heidi Redfern [’97] teaches here, and she would often talk about the culture of Westgate and the faith perspective. I thought it would

be a really good fit for me.” On top of her busy schedule as a classroom and resource teacher, Sherisse directed a Junior play. “That was a really neat way to feel connected to the bigger community of Westgate. And the trust to throw someone new into that role? It was great.”

For counselor Tessa, this abundance of trust and level of equality between staff members are at the core of operations at Westgate. “Right from the get-go, I was impressed with how collaborative James and Heidi [Koop ’04] are with everybody. Every voice matters, there’s not this hierarchy of staff. That’s just not the case

here.” Classroom and resource teacher Mark echoed this sentiment. “Any time I felt like we have come to admin or staff with ideas, we’ve always been well received, affirmed, and encouraged to share our ideas and perspectives.”

When I asked Tessa to describe her impression of Westgate in one word, a quick smile lit up her face: “Loving.” Regardless of changes to Westgate’s community, it’s the school’s abundance of love that is its hallmark. A few new staff members won’t change that – it will only make it stronger.

Regardless of changes to Westgate’s community, it’s the school’s abundance of love that is its hallmark. A few new staff members won’t change that – it will only make it stronger.



Kara Reimer Barkwell has her grade 8 science class not just studying about erosion, but finding ways to make a difference by planting trees along Westgate’s river bank.



Communication & Relationship Keys to Success

BY NADYA LANGELOTZ ('15)

In 2015, I was sitting in the pews at Bethel Mennonite, graduating from Westgate myself; a classmate's family was giving the musical tribute, and when she stood up to dance, I began to cry and do the same. What would I take away from the place I spent all of my awkward, pubescent, life-shaping years? And, how would it lead to where I am today?



JAKE PLETT ('20)

For **Jake Plett ('20)**, having gone directly into a combined program for Industrial Arts Education, he recalls participating in every single camping trip offered at Westgate, influencing each summer since, whether at Winnipeg Canoe Rentals, or this upcoming summer at Manitoba Pioneer Camp. The combination of learned study habits and research skills led to choosing biology as a

teachable minor, something Plett excelled in during his time at Westgate and appreciated his teachers support.

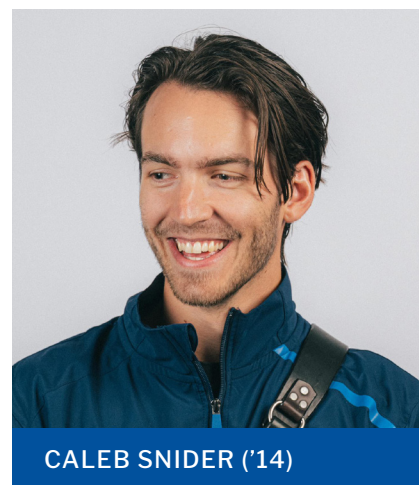


HANNAH ENNS ('15)

Hannah Enns ('15) is not where she thought she would be. In her five years after graduating, she attended four different universities, pursued three different degrees, and took a couple of gap years to travel. After an Indigenous Business Studies Degree, she accepted a job with the Canadian Council for Aboriginal Business Studies as a program coordinator for the Progressive Aboriginal Relations program, which involved a move to her partner's home in Shamattawa First Nation.

Both work ethic and time management are something Enns emphasizes as key to her time at Westgate, skills she

continues to use in her new job. Being involved in an array of sports and all of the choirs, as well as outdoor education and peer support, Enns learned how to balance it all, and stay healthy at the same time.



CALEB SNIDER ('14)

Caleb Snider ('14) works for True North Sports & Entertainment. After briefly studying business, followed by some travel, Snider completed Red River's Digital Media Design program. What started as a part time job with Truth North has turned into full time and he hasn't left since!

Snider notes interpersonal, communication, and networking skills as valuable tools he learned at Westgate, something he puts to use on a daily basis at True North, navigating the rather small world that Winnipeg is.



NATHALIE DAUDET ('12)

Nathalie Daudet ('12) began her post-Westgate years by nannying in both Switzerland and Montreal, after which she completed a Social Work Degree from the University of Manitoba, followed shortly by a master's degree during the recent pandemic. Throughout these years, Daudet discovered Fertility Awareness, a tool for knowing your body, its menstrual cycle and how to stay healthy, which, as Daudet says, looks and feels different for everyone. Since that discovery, Daudet has studied, researched, and trained in the Fertility Awareness Method, and runs her own successful, life-giving business here in Winnipeg.

Daudet echoes the appreciation for communication skills, stating rather simply that Westgate taught her how to speak in a way where many different people can understand her well.



ALLEGRA FRIESEN EPP ('14)

Allegra Friesen Epp ('14) works at Initiative for Just Communities, an NGO that provides support for folks with intellectual disabilities, FASD, and people currently or previously incarcerated. This came to be after a gap year, a Bachelor of Arts at Canadian Mennonite University in Theology and Peace and Conflict Transformation Studies, and a few years with Mennonite Church Canada's Indigenous-Settler Relations Office as well Community Peacemaker Teams.

Friesen Epp reflects on the combination of listening skills, developed and nurtured on peer support, as well as Westgate's ability to cultivate an openness and willingness to take risks, something she experienced biking from Banff to Jasper and auditioning for a lead in the musical.

What struck me in these conversations, are the ways in which Westgate fostered soft skills. As Enns writes, "I think a lot of what is taught in schools can become irrelevant once you graduate." Almost each of these graduates expressed some

element of relationship building as a tool they've kept close beyond the walls of Westgate. For Enns, her involvement in all that Westgate had to offer meant interpersonal skills and empathy in a variety of contexts.

Friesen Epp describes a set of critical thinking skills developed at Westgate, nurtured by the "crossover between academia and chapels that prompted questions about how faith shapes not only what we teach or learn, but the way we teach and learn".

Daudet also comments on the way faith was present at Westgate. For someone who did not grow up in a faith tradition, this experience is something she continues to value. Learning about faith traditions gave Daudet the skills to understand varying points of view and to co-exist in spaces with those who have many different backgrounds, especially in vulnerable spaces of fertility and infertility.

In some ways, the soft skills Westgate taught these graduates are as deep, and yet as simple as Plett reflects, which is to treat everyone with equal kindness and respect.

The impromptu dancing is the only thing I remember about my graduation day, though I'm still not sure why. Maybe it's because if the one thing I learned was the impulse to stand up and dance when I felt joy in communion with others, that would be more than enough, academically and otherwise.



Inviting Students into Church: as participants and leaders

BY EMILY ENNS

I have always loved the Sunday mornings when I arrive at the familiar space of my own church to encounter a noticeably different kind of energy— one that is brighter, fuller, louder than I am used to, and one that is unique to the arrival of dozens of Westgate high schoolers coming to sing for us and worship with us. The liveliness that pervades the air comes from the students, but it also flows from the regular congregants in their anticipation of witnessing something beautiful and new in the service.

Coming as I do from a congregation that is one of Westgate’s thirteen supporting churches, this event happens at my church once every two years, just as it does at each of the other twelve churches. These ‘Westgate Worship,’ as they are called, are an opportunity for the school to further shrink the gap between itself and the wider community it is part of. In the time they spend together, students, parents, teachers, and congregants are given space to connect to each other and to God through music, scripture and student reflections.

Natasha Neustaedter Barg ('16) reflected on her time



Westgate choir and band help lead church services.

visiting various churches throughout her time in choir and band at Westgate. “It was really encouraging to see the interconnectedness of it all, and really encouraging to be part of the bigger picture and to do something that felt meaningful. Occasionally we would have songs that were just so gorgeous, and I remember one service, we nearly made a few people cry, and I just thought, ‘this is good.’ Not that you want to make people cry,” she clarified, “but it’s about being able to help people emote



and to help people think about the sermon in a different way, and to have a moment to reflect and just exist.”

Though the beauty and spirit of what happens during a Westgate-led service is evident to see, there is a duality and mutuality to the value of this worship: just as the churches are being brought into the fold of school life, the students are

“...really encouraging to be part of the bigger picture and to do something that felt meaningful.”

being brought into the fold of church life. “One thing that [Westgate Worships] highlights is Westgate’s uniqueness of having specific supporting churches, as opposed to just being a Mennonite school,” Westgate principal James Friesen commented. “What it’s done is given more of a footing to who we are and with whom we should connect, as opposed to just saying ‘Mennonite.’ And then as we go into these churches, to say ‘we’re aligning ourselves with the mission of these churches, not just ‘Mennonite-ism’ in general, and then this task of education is done together... It’s that back and forth that’s grounded in these worship services that’s really profound.”

The educational aspect of Westgate Worships, perhaps outside of the point of their original intent, is undoubtedly present, as Neustaedter Barg can attest to. “When you practice

being in front of a congregation where you sing in a choir with people... [it] normalized being uncomfortable and vulnerable in a safe space,” she recalled. “Now I’ve spoken in churches... I’ve worship led, I’ve read scripture, I’ve done reflections further on in life and I think that is because I’ve had the practice of feeling the emotions of uncomfortable and nervous... but in a safe way.”

Adalynne Pahl, a current grade 11 student who has participated in both the Westgate Worships this school year and the last and in the music tour to Saskatchewan that took place in March, recognizes the ways in which Westgate’s church visits have shaped her perception and understanding of church liturgy and leadership. While she regularly attends a church outside of school commitments, her participation in the worship services Westgate leads has exposed her to alternative

ways of structuring meaningful worship. “I think maybe [I have] more of an understanding of what church leading can be,” Pahl remarked, “and... thinking of my own self, I’m more interested in being more involved in the church potentially in the future with church leading stuff.”

More recently, Westgate has been shifting towards more student-centred worship as students are asked to share Westgate’s chapel theme — this year, the fruit of the spirit — and where they see God. Pahl has been sharing about the role music has played in her life and in her connection with God, especially during the pandemic. Reflections such as Pahl’s make clear the value of inviting students in to experience and practice the rhythm of the church, allowing them the chance to both see and to be seen by the church community that holds them up.



Students heading out on Music Tour to play for churches and schools.

SCHOOL LIFE

Frantic February

February might be the shortest month of the year, but at Westgate, we've somehow managed to make it the fullest month.



A break from regularly scheduled classes for an afternoon of broomball on the river. The pandemic has made us much more conscious of the frozen playground we have right behind our school.



Lucy Fast finishes the gruelling final snowshoeing leg for her team in the Winter Triathlon.



Pat Koslowsky-Wiebe supervises winter cooking classes at the Junior afternoon at Camp Assiniboia.



It's not the middle of nowhere, but you can see it from here. Winter hikers pull their gear on the long trek back to civilization.



A brief pause on the 20 km hike to the Mantario cabin. Everyone's happy because it's 15 degrees warmer than it was for the group that went a week earlier.



The cast of "Meet the Monsters" returns the love to an adoring audience. This picture shows a fraction of the 83 junior students who worked for 3 months to put on two wonderful performances this February.



Don John (Luke Campbell) executes his evil plan by gaslighting Claudia (Alma Sawatzky) in Westgate's production of Much Ado About Nothing. No high school students were harmed in the making of this play.



Aidan Kratschmar (#11), Amrit Ahluwalia (#21) and Dylan Martens (#12) leave the hard defensive work to Timo Grafe (#22) at the Westgate Homecoming Basketball Evening.



Having coordinated their stories about the "ones that got away," 26 ice fishers come together to celebrate their greatest works of both fact and fiction.

In just seventeen school days:

- We staged a Shakespearean comedy at the Gas Station Theatre
- 15 students wrote the Manitoba German Language Contest – and had 10 winners!
- We hiked across frozen lakes to the Mantario cabin (and did it again in March!)
- The junior highs had a Winter Fun Day at Camp Assiniboia
- The 3rd annual Winter Triathlon was run on the Assiniboine River
- We went ice fishing on the Red River
- The Senior High Choir and Band led worship at Springfield Heights Mennonite Church
- The junior highs put on the Junior One Act Plays
- 25 grade 9-11 students wrote University of Waterloo math contests
- Our students hosted 65 prospective students from grade 5 to grade 10
- Senior Council held our 3rd annual River Days
- Many basketball games were played, and our Junior Varsity Boys made it to Provincials
- Our Senior Jazz Band performed live on CTV
- The ELA program took our junior high students to plays at MTyp
- All levels of band performed at Band Festivals

...and we even had regular classes in between!



Aaron Friesen, Ms. Koop and Susan Gomic have strapped on snowshoes for a walk in the winter wonderland of Camp Assiniboia.

Staff embody Westgate, both on and off campus

BY NICOLIEN KLASSEN-WIEBE ('14)

At Westgate, teachers aren't limited to their classrooms. They're summiting mountains, singing in talent shows, and volunteering alongside students at churches. Westgate works because teachers don't just believe in Westgate's values—they live them.

Music and languages teacher **Gabrielle Bishop Wiebe ('08)** has spent the year writing the Bible curriculum for Camps with Meaning, Mennonite Church Manitoba's camping ministry at Camp Assiniboia and Camp Koinonia. The curriculum focuses on the way of peace, specifically lived out by Jesus in the gospels, and will be used to teach Bible lessons this summer. "It's been

great to have that chance to grow my faith in working on this resource," she says.

Bishop Wiebe has missed only a few camp summers since she started as a counselor in 2006, working for many years as a full-time staff and now as a volunteer cook or camp pastor. She says the sharing of staff, campers, and students between Camps with Meaning and Westgate shapes how teachers speak to students about faith. Students, too, learn this role. "Our students go from being the students at school to the teachers at camp," she says.

One of Jarrett Rempel's favourite parts of Westgate is how much everyone gets outside. Whether he's leading Marsh and Mountain camping trips or coaching cross-country, his involvement at Westgate mirrors one of his biggest passions outside the school's walls.



Jarrett Rempel competing in the Swamp Donkey.

The physics and chemistry teacher has participated for almost a decade in the Swamp Donkey, a 6–9 hour adventure race in the Manitoba wilderness. With a map and compass, trios have to navigate, paddle, bike, and trek to all checkpoints and reach the finish line the fastest. Rempel has incorporated his hobby into his outdoor education class, teaching some of those orienteering skills to his students. Now, he often sees numerous Westgate alumni and parents competing in the annual race.

"There's a very large degree of creation care and connection [at Westgate]," Rempel says, adding that people often share in chapel about feeling closest to God in nature. It's a love he strives to instill back at home. When he builds quinzhees on



Gabrielle Bishop Wiebe volunteering in the camp kitchen with her husband Stephen.



Andrea Bell conducting.

Westgate’s winter camping trip, he also makes one with his kids. After he created the skating rink at school, he made one for his family in their yard.

Andrea Bell teaches French and conducts the string orchestras. “Music is an important part of who we are as Westgate people,” she says. “It’s important to everyone, not just us music geeks. That’s really cool.” It’s certainly part of Bell’s identity, whose musical life flows seamlessly between the school halls and venues across the city.

Bell is a professional cellist who subs for symphonies, plays weddings with her string quartet, and teaches private cello students. She recently performed a solo alongside global star Michael Bubl  at his packed stadium concert in Winnipeg and she’s played in orchestras for the Eagles, The

Tenors, and many more. As a conductor, she directs the Mennonite Community Orchestra and has been at the helm of the Winnipeg Youth Orchestra since 1997, making her the ensemble’s longest-serving conductor.

“Every time I do gigs, I look around and there’s always some former Westgate students,” Bell says, adding that sometimes alumni will update her on their lives. “It’s fun to see kids doing music stuff at Westgate and then going into music or a completely different field...and still playing instruments or singing in choirs.”

For years, English and Physical Education teacher Karina Fast (’92) had her English students write and illustrate children’s books. She did the project alongside them each time, learning more about the genre and tucking away a few more story ideas. When she decided to fulfill her dream of writing her own children’s book, but got stumped by the illustrations, she realized: “Wait a second, I’ve got a

whole bunch of illustrators at my fingertips!”

Fast loves collaborating with students, whether they’re co-writing their lines in school plays or illustrating backdrops for the productions. “Kids are life-giving...they bring value to me,” she says. “They don’t realize it, but wow, they build me up—it’s a two-way street.”

She asked grade 10 student Manjit Dhingra to illustrate the book, which is based on Fast’s experiences with her own children. The story features an inquisitive boy who asks his mother, “Am I kind?” and they talk about people’s many different characteristics. Fast and Dhingra spoke to a grade one classroom about their book, showing how they collaborated and inspiring the young students to imagine the possibilities of what they can do—at any age.



Karina Fast talking to kids about her book.



Fitness Room Builds Confidence and Skills

BY JEREMY SIEMENS

As a space for Grade 9 to 12 students and staff, Westgate's fitness room meets many different needs. For some, it is a safe and convenient place to try something new.

"I think the fitness room helps students build their self-confidence...it's less intimidating than a regular gym," said Grade 9 student **Ayla Friesen**. Ayla also appreciates how the facility allows her to conveniently push her physical limits outside the pressure and schedule demands of team sports.

At the same time, many high-level athletes have used the facility to train for team-based competitions. **Maren Penner ('22)** started rowing during her time at Westgate and recognizes the role the fitness room played in her ascension within the sport.

"I had set a goal to join Team Manitoba and row at the Canada Games. Using the fitness room not only improved my rowing but also got me in a place with my fitness where I was able to join the provincial team earlier than expected," she said.

As a member of Team Manitoba, Maren represented her province in various national and international competitions. The Manitoba Rowing Association named her team the Most Competitive Crew after an undefeated regular season last summer.

The fitness room has also been a blessing to Westgate's staff. At the peak of the pandemic, it offered us a safe place for private workouts. During the whirlwind of a regular academic year, it affords us convenient exercise at lunch, on preps, or around our extracurricular involvements.

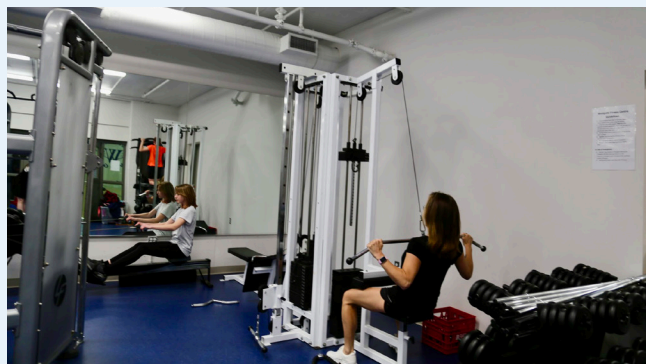


Maren Penner ('22) Rowing at the 2022 Canada Games

As we wrap up our sixth school year with the fitness room, its wide-ranging benefits to our students and staff are clear. On behalf of the many students and staff who have used this facility, we want to thank all of the Capital Campaign donors (past, present and future). Your gifts have directly supported the mental and physical health of the Westgate community.



Students and staff taking advantage of the fitness room.





Remembering: Frank Neufeld

BY BOB HUMMELT

My first encounter with Frank Neufeld came in the early 1980s at a regularly scheduled staff meeting after he had spent a few days observing classes and school operations on behalf of the Department of Education. He shared some impressions of the school and then laid a small section of tree branch he had collected from the riverbank behind the school on the meeting table, and encouraged our shops program to take advantage of God's gift of nature in some future projects. I still appreciate this simple message, where it is good to look around to see if what we need is actually at hand.

I believe the early Mennonite Educational Institute (now Westgate) board indeed did just that when they hired Mr. Neufeld as teacher-principal in 1958 to launch the school's inaugural year in a Notre Dame Avenue church basement. With a move to an Edison Avenue church in between, he and his small staff arrived at the



current Armstrong Point site in 1964. His workload in those foundational years was heavy as along with his administration responsibilities he taught classes, conducted daily chapels, assumed secretarial duties, and raised funds to keep the doors open. Mr. Neufeld was described by one of his early employees as "old school," though this would not preclude

his students remembering him fondly. Peter Letkemann '68 shared with me a few years ago that he and a few other North Kildonan Westgaters would pile into their principal's car each morning to enjoy a ride of rich conversation with the school's first servant-leader, one who clearly was deeply interested in his students' lives. I humbly feel that Mr. Neufeld had set the template that has guided Westgate principals decades later.

**Frank Neufeld passed away
Sunday, June 26, 2022**

*Mr. Neufeld had set the template that has guided
Westgate principals decades later.*



Reunions

Last summer the class of 2002 gathered for their 20 year reunion! Folks traveled from BC, Southern Ontario, and Illinois to be there, visiting and snacking together at Assiniboine Park. Thank you to Lukas Thiessen and Ryan Stoesz who organized this reunion.



Upcoming Reunions

The Class of 2003 is having an impromptu 20th reunion.

All classmates and cohort members of 2003 are invited to join in.

Meet at the Cargo Bar at Assiniboine Park on Friday June 9th at 6:30pm.

Hope to see you there!
Rachel, Jennifer, & Amy

10 Years! Wow!

We are having a reunion for Westgate's class of 2013! It will be a barbecue at the school featuring Menno burgers (and a vegetarian option), catching up with old friends, and possibly even Friz-Knock! Children and partners are welcome to come, as are people who were part of our Westgate class but may have transferred out of Westgate before graduation.

Come at five if you would like to help set up or take a tour of the newly renovated school building with some of our former teachers. Supper will be served around six.

We will also be planting a tree in the yard in memory of Evan Neufeld who sadly died a few years ago.

Hope to see everybody there!

Baden GF & Joshua NB

Hello Alumni!

You're important to us!

And we want to keep in touch to know the good things that are happening in your life and to share what's happening at Westgate. If you have stories, births, engagements or other announcements to share,

please let us know. If you want to participate or volunteer in any of our events throughout the year, please let us know. If you have an updated address, email, phone or other contact information, please let us know.

Please email us to help us stay in touch at alumni@westgatemennonite.org.

– Krista Neustaedter Barg, Alumni Relations Coordinator



WANTED!

Class Reunion Volunteers

Let us help you plan your Alumni Reunion. If you need assistance in contacting your fellow grads for your Alumni Reunion, please contact us at alumni@westgatemennonite.org



STAY CONNECTED



HOW CAN I SUPPORT WESTGATE?

There are many ways to give:

1. Credit Card (Through Canadahelps.org)
2. Monthly Pre-authorized giving forms- available at westgatemennonite.ca
3. Gifts of stock or securities- facilitated through Abundance Canada
4. E- Transfer Payments: To be sent to: **accounting@westgatemennonite.org**

Giving opportunities include:

1. **Rebuilding–Shaped by Story and Song Music Appeal**
2. Capital Campaign
3. Area of greatest need (non-designated gifts)
4. Bursaries
5. Scholarships
6. Designated Gifts

Westgate 2022 Net Fundraising Snapshot



Move-A-Thon
\$16,277



Bursary Banquet
\$50,237



Workday
\$16,277



Golf Tournament
\$21,852

Amount left from the Capital Campaign: **\$522,313**



Thank you for the many ways you have supported Westgate Mennonite Collegiate over the 2022/2023 year. We are grateful for our enthusiastic community that believes in the good work of this place. A place where students are free to explore, learn, and grow, in and outside the classroom. We have enjoyed a busy year of events including Move-A-Thon, Community Service Day, and large community gatherings at the Alumni and Friends Golf Tournament and the Spring Bursary Banquet.

We hope to see you at many more events!

Please Save The Date for more ways to support Westgate:

SAVE THE DATE

WESTGATE

ALUMNI & FRIENDS GOLF TOURNAMENT

Tuesday August 8th 2023
Bridges Golf Course

MENNONITE
WESTgate
COLLEGIATE

DINE AND DONATE

MENNONITE
WESTgate
COLLEGIATE

Westgate Fall Supper

October 12, 2023
Westgate Gymnasium
Everyone welcome!
Donate what you can!

Please join us for this year's Buffet Fundraising Dinner.

If you are the parent of a Westgate grad who is now living on their own, please encourage them to send us their updated contact info. We'd love to send them this publication in the future!



Retrospective is published by Westgate Mennonite Collegiate
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