

# Betty Gibson School

701-12th. Street, Brandon Mb R7A 6H7

204-729-3965

[www.bsd.ca/schools/bettygibson](http://www.bsd.ca/schools/bettygibson)

## 2025-2026 HANDBOOK



### OUR MISSION

We will provide a safe and inclusive environment to support learning at high levels.

### OUR VISION

To be a centre of educational excellence, built on community partnerships, effective leadership and exemplary practices.

### OUR LEARNING BELIEFS

In a world of difference, learning is common ground.

Learning is a lifelong process, enhanced by a safe environment where risk taking is encouraged.  
Learning is an active process, fueled by the learner's needs where that learner is given responsibility and choice.

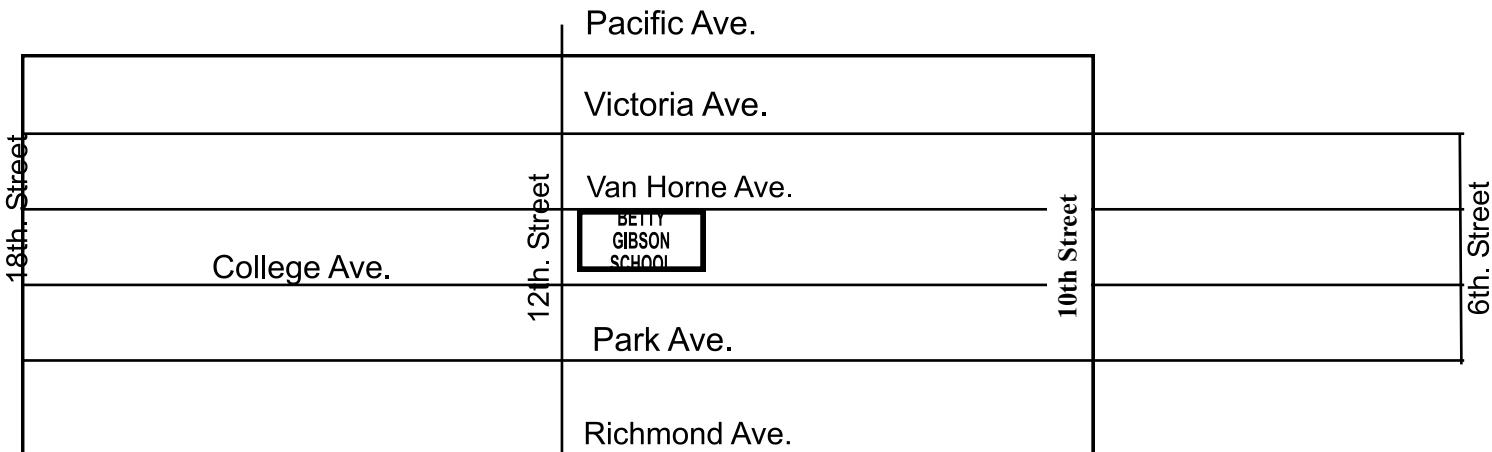
Learning happens in different ways, at different rates and for different reasons.

A reciprocal relationship exists between learning and self-esteem.

# WELCOME TO BETTY GIBSON SCHOOL

Betty Gibson School is a K-8 school located in the heart of Brandon. It has an average enrollment of 330 students. The school has a strong commitment to work in partnership with families to ensure that each student is challenged academically within a safe, nurturing and respectful school environment.

## CATCHMENT AREA



## SCHOOL TELEPHONE NUMBER

Principal	729-3963
Vice Principal	729-3966
Office	729-3965
Home-School Liaison	729-3967
Resource	725-8931
Gymnasium	729-3968

## SCHOOL HOURS

Morning Bell:	8:50 a.m.
Lunch	11:40 a.m.
Afternoon Bell	12:40 p.m.
School Ends	3:30 p.m.

Recess: Morning 10:10 - 10:40 / Afternoon 2:00 - 2:30

School staff greet the students at their assigned doors at entry times. For safety purposes, all outside doors remain locked during the day. Primary access or entry into the school building is always attainable through the front (12th Street) doors from 8:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m.

## SCHOOL STAFF

Mrs. Marcy Thomson.....	Principal
Mrs. Krista Adams.....	Vice Principal
Mrs. Cerah Dube .....	Administrative Assistant
Mrs. Cheryl Battersby.....	Kindergarten & Mrs. Ramandeep Sharma
Ms. Brittany Marshall.....	Kindergarten
Mrs. Brenda McDermid.....	Grade 1
Mrs. Heather Ramsey.....	Grade 1
Ms. Ashley Sadler.....	Grade 1/2
Ms. Krista Mowatt .....	Grade 1/2 & Ms. Angela Cross
Ms. Danielle Surreys. ....	Grade 2/3
Ms. Brooke Piche .....	Grade 2/3 & Ms. Angela Wilson
Mr. Dylan Chase.....	Grade 3/4
Ms. Cathy Watt-Gauthier.....	Grade 3/4
Ms. Libby Dempsey.....	Grade 4/5
Ms. Sagree Mudaly .....	Grade 4/5
Ms. Bobbee Morrisseau .....	Grade 5/6
Ms. Jen Terasaki.....	Grade 5/6
Ms. Leanna Baker .....	Grade 6/7
Mr. Jess Carr.....	Grade 7/8
Mr. Brett Farnsworth.....	Grade 7/8
Mr. Kurtis Warkentin.....	Grade 7/8
Ms. Brittany Desjarlais .....	Music
Mr. Steven Melnyk.....	Phys Ed. & Mr. Josh Murray
Ms. Jenna Sambrook.....	Continuous Improvement Coach & Academic Support
Ms. Kristen Welsh.....	Resource
Ms. Chantalle Crepeeble.....	Resource
Mr. Karl McDaniel .....	Counsellor & Mr. Geordie Lancaster
Mrs. Kelly Walker.....	Social Worker
Mrs. Tarah Sveistrup.....	EAL
Mrs. Jodi Armour.....	Literacy Support & Reading Recovery
Mrs. Laura Bignell.....	Home-School Liaison
Ms. Vanessa Pascal.....	B.S.S.I.P. & Breakfast Program Co-Ordinator
Mrs. Kelly Spurway .....	Community Connector
Educational Assistants.....	Mrs. Betty Alas, Mrs. Diane Birch, Ms. Maria Bock, Ms. Laurisa Falloon,
Mrs. Sarah Janzen, Mrs. Mandy Lawrence, Ms. Sharon Munroe, Mr. Davey Cook, Mrs. Monica Penner, Ms. Inna Shchuka, Mrs. Aiko Shimojino, Mrs. Amanda Taylor, Ms. Maria Vergara Valerio	

## SCHOOL INFORMATION

### KEEP US INFORMED

New Phone/Change of Address/Changed Parent Work Number/New Daycare Arrangements? To assist us in keeping in contact with you, personal information that changes during the school year should be reported to the school. (204-729-3965 or via email at: [bettygibson@bsd.ca](mailto:bettygibson@bsd.ca))

### ABSENCE CALL BACK SYSTEM

In an effort to ensure the safety of Betty Gibson School students, the school operates a “call-back” system every day during the school year. When your son/daughter is going to be absent from school, please telephone the school (204-729-3967) before 8:50 a.m. to advise the Home School Liaison of the absence. If you do not have a telephone, please send a message with a family member or friend. Where the parent has not called or sent a message to school to advise us that their child will be away from school, the Home-School Liaison will telephone the parent to make certain that the absence is with the parent’s knowledge. Your cooperation in contacting the school prior to the school contacting you is appreciated.

**Please call the school at 729-3967 to advise us of your child’s absence. All students that are late must enter through the front doors of the school and sign in at the office so that we know they have arrived safely at school.**

### NEWSLETTERS

One of the goals of our school is to actively promote an open flow of communication between the home and school. An important part of that communication is the school newsletter which allows you to keep current on school functions and activities. Our newsletters are sent by email to parents/guardians and are also available online at: <https://www.bsd.ca/schools/bettygibson> Look for our newsletters the first school day of every month.

### ALLERGIES

Betty Gibson School is a **nut safe** school. We ask your cooperation by not sending any snacks or lunches with your child containing nut or peanut products. Though it sounds simple, it means no peanut butter sandwiches or cookies., and no Nutella It means you should read the labels of other foods like muffins, granola bars and cereals before you put them in your child’s snack. If your child has eaten nuts or nut products at home for breakfast or lunch, please have them thoroughly wash their hands and face with soap and water before coming to school.

There are also students and staff at Betty Gibson who have **serious asthma/allergy** difficulties. We would ask that students and adults in the school not use or bring any strong scented perfumes, lotions, hairspray, etc.

### PARENT COUNCIL

An active Betty Gibson School Parent Council has been organized. This group acts as a liaison between the home and the school, provides information sessions for parents, and assists the school with a variety of activities from transportation for field trips to organizing food days and fund-raising activities. The council meets monthly and welcomes new members. If you are interested in being a part of our parent council, please e-mail the school at [bettygibson@bsd.ca](mailto:bettygibson@bsd.ca)

## **VOLUNTEERS**

Parents, guardians and community members interested in contributing to school activities are welcome. Volunteers are used in situations that are mutually beneficial to the home and school such as assisting in the library, helping with primary home reading programs and specific individual events such as pizza days and field trips. All volunteers of the Brandon School Division must have an current Criminal Record Checks and Child Abuse Check completed. Please contact the school office for information on completing these forms .

## **NOON HOURS**

Students are expected to go home for lunch and not return until 12:35 at the earliest. Those students involved in intramurals or special activities may stay for lunch only on the days those activities are scheduled. Lunch supervision will be provided for these students only. Please pack a nutritious lunch keeping in mind that students staying for lunch do not have access to a microwave. Also, please send cutlery with your children if needed.

## **LUNCH PROGRAM**

The YMCA will be offering a supervised lunch program for students in Kindergarten through grade 6. Parents must complete a registration form at Member Services at the YMCA (231 8th St) before their child attends. Cost of the program is as follows:

1 Child	\$43.00 per month
Each additional child in a family	is \$33.00.

## **BREAKFAST PROGRAM**

Breakfast is a very important meal. To place emphasis on the importance of a good breakfast, the Food For Thought Committee, with the help of National and Community Partners, are offering a breakfast program at Betty Gibson School. All school aged children are eligible to participate if there is the need. The purpose of the program is to provide nutrition and education to children and youth in the City of Brandon.

There is no charge to the students for the breakfast but parents are required to fill out a registration form. The program will run five days a week (Monday to Friday) from **8:30-8:50 a.m. until the end of June**. If you have any questions or would like to volunteer to help with the program, please call the school at 729-3967.

## **LOST AND FOUND**

All lost and found items are kept in three large drawers located in the main hallway outside the main office. Students should check the drawers for their lost items. Found personal items such as keys, watches and jewelry are kept for safe keeping in the main office.

## **BICYCLES/SCOOTERS/SKATEBOARDS**

Any bikes at school should be locked and their serial number recorded at home. Bikes are not to be ridden on school property. The school carries no responsibility for damaged or missing bicycles. Students choosing to ride a bike should wear a helmet. Scooters are not to be brought to school. Skateboards cannot be ridden on school property or stored in the school.

## **INCLEMENT WEATHER**

When the weather is inclement (pouring rain, lightning storms, windchill below -27° celsius), we will be holding indoor recess .

## **Y BEFORE AND AFTER SCHOOL PROGRAM**

The Brandon Family YMCA is pleased to announce that the Before & After School program will continue at Betty Gibson School in the fall. The program runs directly in the school and operates 7:30-8:50 am and 3:30 - 5:30 pm. Prices (monthly) are \$97.00 for the mornings and \$153.00 for the afternoons. Registration forms can be located at the YMCA and may be dropped off at the YMCA office. Payments must be included with registration.

# BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION DRESS CODE

## What you need to know:

### Appropriate clothing:

- Ø Hats, toques, bandanas and hoods must be removed in school.
- Ø Outerwear, large bags, backpacks etc. must be left in a locker or designated area unless immediately required for physical education.
- Ø Clothing must not display inappropriate words, phrases or images, or be revealing in nature and may not have accessories that are harmful to self or others.

### Self Identification:

- Ø Any student or person in a school building must identify himself/herself immediately when asked by a staff member.
- Ø Face painting will only be allowed in conjunction with school programming.

Disciplinary measures range from the student being asked to change clothing, a check through backpacks/bags, to receiving a suspension for non-compliance.

To ask questions about this policy, or to receive a copy of the policy in whole, please see one of the school administrators.



*"Accepting the Challenge"*

## CODE OF CONDUCT

Betty Gibson School staff and students will behave in a respectful manner and comply with the code of conduct. (Brandon School Division Code of Conduct Admin. Procedure 2005).

Expectations for behaviour help to promote and maintain a healthy, respectful, safe and productive learning environment. Following school rules helps the students interact positively and safely with others in their learning environment and helps them to develop responsibility, self-esteem and good citizenship.

Expected behaviours are taught and reinforced through:

- logical consequences
- social skills instruction
- problem solving and conflict resolution skills
- encouragement, praise and positive reinforcement
- modeling appropriate behaviour
- class meetings