



## EXCHANGE MET SCHOOL

MET CENTRE FOR ARTS & TECHNOLOGY

May 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021

Dear Grade 8 families,

I am writing to you today to draw your attention to the opportunity for your child to attend **Met Centre for Arts and Technology (MCAT)**, a new project-based learning high school from Seven Oaks School Division opening in September 2021. MCAT was founded as a result of increased interest in registration at the award-winning Seven Oaks Met School (opened in 2009) and Maples Met School (opened in 2016). **MCAT is now accepting applications for learners in Grade 8, who will be entering into Grade 9 in September 2021.**

Met Centre for Arts and Technology is located in the Exchange District area of downtown Winnipeg. It is a free publicly-funded high school from Seven Oaks School Division and accessible to all. As with other high schools in Seven Oaks, students need to complete 30 high school credit courses to graduate, and in doing so will earn the same Grade 12 diploma as other students in Manitoba. It's still high school, but just done differently.

### ***What are the characteristics of a Met School?***

- Small Teacher to Student Ratio
  - Each learner is assigned an Advisor - a certified teacher who they and 14 other learners will spend their time at MCAT with. With classes usually capped at 15, Advisors are able to develop deep relationships with learners and families.
- Learning Through Projects
  - In a traditional high school learners are assigned a daily schedule and attend different classes with different teachers from Grade 9 to 12. At MCAT learners integrate different Manitoba curriculum into projects designed with their Advisor as they seek to answer meaningful questions about themselves or the world around them. Although still participating in the mandated Grade 12 Exams, rather than exams students at MCAT demonstrate their learning through presentations to their peers, family and mentors.
- Learning Through Internships
  - Two days a week learners will engage in internships in the community. Seven Oaks Met Schools have approaching a thousand internship opportunities in which learners can select a mentor or organization to learn alongside. The learning from these internships then inform the learners project work back at the school the other three days a week. Many internships are located in the Exchange District, making easy transitions between the school and internship.
- Focus on Experiential Learning
  - Internships form one part of the focus on experiential learning, but learning in, with and for the community is a regular part of project-based learning. Need to talk to a professor at the University of Winnipeg about autonomous cars? No problem. Want to collect samples to contrast the water pollution levels from different sources in the city? Let's go. Realize that the Manitoba Archives is housing that artifact on the Hudson's Bay you need? We'll be there in 10 minutes.



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- 'One Student at a Time...'
  - Met Schools value a balance between social-emotional learning and academics. Many questions around the philosophy and practices of our school are often responded to with the refrain, 'One student at a time...' which essentially means that there is flexibility within the school to support all learners and families to find success.

### ***How do I find out more information?***

The Met Centre for Arts and Technology is part of a global network of schools under Big Picture Learning. The basic principles of MCAT are the same as Seven Oaks Met School and Maples Met School, and more details on their schools can be found online [here](#) with a recent video of the Met Schools found [here](#). Should you want more information on the MCAT program, please feel free to contact Met Centre for Arts and Technology Principal-Teacher Will Burton via email ([william.burton@7oaks.org](mailto:william.burton@7oaks.org)) or phone (204-770-6240).

### ***How can my child apply?***

Applications are open now, and can be completed online through the following [link](#).

I look forward to hearing from you!

Cheers,

Will Burton,  
Principal-Teacher,  
Met Centre for Arts and Technology