

CONNECTIONS

NEWSLETTER

October 2023

Important Dates

- October 3: Regular Board Meeting
- October 4: District Cross Country
- October 6: No School for Students
- October 9: No School - Happy Thanksgiving
- October 14: Provincial Cross Country
- October 15-21: Education Week: *Bright Minds, Bright Futures*
- October 17: School Bus Driver Appreciation Day
- October 24: Committee of the Whole Board Meeting
- October 26: School-based Administrators' Meeting
- October 31: Happy Halloween!

Bright Minds,
Bright Futures!

Esprits brillants,
avenirs radieux!



Education Week
October 15 - 21, 2023

Semaine de l'éducation
du 15 au 21 octobre 2023



Let's celebrate student success and recognize our dedicated education professionals!

Célébrons ensemble la réussite de nos élèves et rendons hommage à nos professionnels dévoués en éducation!



saskatchewan.ca

Saskatchewan

Thank you



School Bus Driver Appreciation Day

Tuesday, October 17

Thanks for everything you do for our students!



SPOTLIGHT ON LEARNING DEPARTMENT



The Learning Department supports curriculum, instruction, assessment, and student support services in Prairie South schools. It is comprised of individuals who are responsible for supporting the delivery of programs and services. Members of the Learning Department are featured on the next several pages.

The Office Staff



Jen Montague (Student Support Services Coordinator), Lisa Schlamp (Executive Assistant), Amanda Olson (Superintendent of Learning), Trista Bradley (Executive Assistant), Jenn Chan (Curriculum Coordinator)

As part of the Central Administrative Council and the senior leadership team, the **Superintendent of Learning** provides leadership, guidance and strategic direction in all areas relating to curriculum, instruction, assessment, and student support services for the school division.

The **Student Support Services Coordinator** works in conjunction with the Curriculum Coordinator in the Learning Department to actualize a vision of inter-professional collaboration and the implementation of supports to students and teachers. In particular, the Coordinator supports the activities of the Advocacy and Behaviour Support Consultants and Student Support Consultants

The **Curriculum Coordinator** provides support and guidance to assist members of the Learning Department in understanding curriculum, assessment, instruction and instructional resources and the integration of these components of learning. The Curriculum Coordinator works with the Student Support Services Coordinator to implement department plans, professional learning, team projects and supports activities of the Learning Consultants and Student Support Consultants.

SPOTLIGHT ON LEARNING DEPARTMENT

Learning Consultants provide support to teachers implementing curriculum, using instructional and assessment methods that align with curriculum. Learning Consultants also collaborate with other members of the Learning Department to provide professional learning opportunities for groups of teachers, as well as respond to individual teacher requests for professional learning.

The **Early Learning Consultant** works with school teams supporting students in pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten. The Early Learning Consultant also provides support for the ELIS (Early Learning Intensive Support) program, coordinating meetings between the school team and outside agencies when required in order to ensure supports are continued within the school setting.

Learning Consultants



*Leah Tschetter, Tammy Grieve (Early Learning),
Stacie Richardson, Miranda Sonmor*

Student Support Consultants



Student Support Consultants support the development and implementation of individual student goals for students with physical, cognitive, and/or behavioural challenges that impede learning. Student Support Consultants support the inclusionary vision of the school division, connect schools and families with outside agencies, consult on student programming decisions, and provide leadership and guidance for Student Support Teachers.

Jenn Mitchell, Katie Blondeau, Melissa Romanow, Shirley Packet, Nicole Krosse

SPOTLIGHT ON LEARNING DEPARTMENT

School Psychologists



Kristin Bellows, Carla Hildebrandt, Kelly Michalko, Jenn Osberg

Through the application of theory and best practises, **School Psychologists** assess and may diagnose disorders of learning, behaviour and emotion, develop student centred and related family psychoeducational interventions and/or recommendations, consult with students, teachers and parents, and endeavour to enhance the academic success and psychosocial development of students.

Career Development Consultants



Jeff Feeley, Kara Rigden, Brett Young

The **Career Development Consultants** work collaboratively with school administration, students, staff, and parents/guardians to advise students on educational programming, transitioning to post-secondary education, and/or career pathways.

Advocacy and Behaviour Support Consultants



Kourtney Gorham, Lorelei Rendall, Candace Spanjer, Ashley Tran (Practicum Student), Krystal Hawkins, Kirsten Lawson Knoop, Nadine Elder, Lenea Okraincee

Advocacy and Behaviour Support Consultants support and advocate for students who are experiencing social, emotional, and/or behavioural problems. Advocacy and Behaviour Support Consultants work with classroom teachers and school-based teams to implement strategies in the classroom that assist in skill development for all students and staff.

SPOTLIGHT ON LEARNING DEPARTMENT

Speech-Language Pathologists



Barry Raymond, Nadine Cowie, Deann Dorgan, Randi Ruthven, Tara Schauenberg, Tracy Dombowsky, Valerie Brennan

Speech-Language Pathologists work as part of a collaborative team at the school and consultant level to address the speech, language, and literacy needs of students. The primary responsibilities of the Speech-Language Pathologists include administering speech and language assessments, in some cases hearing screens, and providing interventions. The Speech-Language Pathologists are responsible for supervising the Speech-Language Pathologist Assistants.

Speech-Language Pathologist Assistants

provide assistance to students with communication disorders and delays that are determined by the Speech-Language Pathologist. They are responsible for carrying out programming determined by and supervised by the Speech-Language Pathologist.

Speech-Language Pathologist Assistants



Kelly Smith, Rebecca Venn, Dalene Murray, Megan Prefontaine, Cindy Sapergia

Meet Our Staff

Shirley Packet, Student Support Consultant



Shirley grew up in Kennedy (15 miles north of Kenosee Lake) and is the youngest of three (one brother, one sister). She received her B. Ed (1998) and Certificate of Extended Studies in Inclusive Ed. (2007) from U of R then her M. Ed from Concordia University in Portland, Oregon (2015). She is currently in her 25th year of education and has taught: Gr. 6 internship at McNaughton High School (Moosomin, SK); Gr. 5 Clearwater River Dene Nation (north of La Loche, SK); Gr. 4/5 Limerick School; Gr. 8/SST Cornwall Alternative School (Regina); SST Lafleche Central School; and presently Prairie South Student Support Consultant. Shirley has been married for 20 years to Darcy (grain farmer/cattle rancher/machinist). They live on a farm south of Melaval and have three boys: Luke (18), Kai (16), and Jesse (12). They also have a golden lab named Paris, lots of cows, a few horses, and a few cats. Her boys love sports so they spend many hours traveling and watching them play. Hockey is their favourite, but they are also involved in baseball, volleyball, golf, track and badminton. They have a cabin at Thomson Lake, which is a 15-minute drive from their house, where they love to spend time in the summer. Shirley is an introvert. She loves garage sales & good deals, ice cream, music, books, movies, baths, and spending time with people that make her laugh! A piece of advice she'd give her younger self: Sometimes you win, sometimes you learn! Don't sweat the small stuff and don't worry about things you can't control. Be yourself and embrace your weirdness and imperfections!

Lorelei grew up in Outlook, Brownlee and Moose Jaw. She is married to her wonderful husband, Terry Auger. They have been married for five and a half years and together for almost 13 years! They have five kids together. Her step children are Megan (25), who manages Warehouse One and trains and sells horses (married to Cody), Josh (20) is in his second year of Finance at the U of R. Samuel Serviss is my oldest son (22) and he is currently taking Arts and Science at Briercrest. Anthony Serviss (19) is at Lethbridge College taking Conservation Officer Program and Jeremy Serviss (16) is in grade 12 at Riverview in the integrated functional program. Prior to working for Prairie South, Lorelei worked at Mental Health and Addictions with the Health Region as a counsellor. Lorelei received her first degree, a double honours in political studies and French from the U of S, and later went back for her social work degree from the U of R. Lorelei loves going for walks with her fur babies Taz (Giant Schnauzer) and Penny (Golden Doodle cross), spending time with family and friends on her porch with various beverages depending on the time of day, spending time at the lake and watching stand up comedy. In her younger years, Lorelei studied and worked in Quebec City. Her advice is: You are exactly who you are supposed to be ... give yourself grace and time.

Lorelei Rendall, Advocacy & Behaviour Support Consultant



Jenn Osberg, School Psychologist was born and raised in Moose Jaw and attended Palliser Heights School and Central Collegiate, then on to the University of Regina – so never too far from home! She has 3 brothers—she is the only girl in her family. Her husband, Dave, is the principal at Sunningdale School. They celebrated their 20-year wedding anniversary this year and have 3 amazing boys (she is still the only girl!). Their oldest son, Evan, is a power engineer at Yara. Kierin, their middle son, plays AAA hockey in Yorkton, and youngest, Ky, is in grade 7 at Sunningdale School with his Dad. They have 2 puppies – Ellie and Riley. Jenn received her Bachelor of Education from the U of R and was a substitute teacher for 4 months before getting a teaching position in Moose Jaw. For the next 13 years, she taught at Lindale, Prince Arthur, Westmount, and Empire Schools. She returned to university to work towards her master's degree and graduated in 2006 with her Master of Educational Psychology and started working as a psychologist for the newly amalgamated school division, Prairie South Schools, that same year. This is Jenn's 30th year with the school division! Jenn spends a lot of time at hockey rinks with her boys, but it is her favourite place to be! She also enjoys reading, restoring furniture, resin art, and has been learning to play the piano. Something that people may not know about Jenn is that she was a drummer and highland dancer with the Sprigs O' Heather Pipe Band for 8 years.



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Westmount School

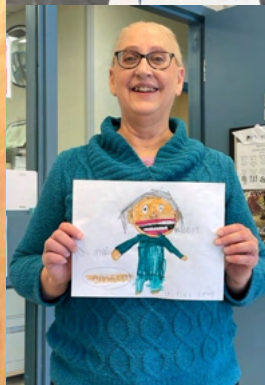
1100 Currie Cres., Moose Jaw

Check them out on Facebook and Twitter!

Westmount School is located on South Hill in Moose Jaw and is 102 years old! Westmount School has a population of 373 students from Prekindergarten to grade 8. The rich history of Westmount School is not lost on our students or community. As you walk our halls, you will be drawn immediately to the warm, caring spirit that is Westmount. If you happen to walk into any of our classrooms, you will quickly see how our instructional programming connects to the specific needs of each child.



Westmount School thrives on a culture of diversity that weaves us together in unity. Our school population is well represented by many countries across the globe. Our school prides itself on celebrating student individuality, uniqueness, diverse cultures, and as a school team we strive to learn new languages to make everyone feel welcome. The spirit of community at Westmount is evident in the laughter and hugs that staff receive daily from students and the words of appreciation from our parent partners.





Westmount School

1100 Currie Cres., Moose Jaw

Check them out on Facebook and Twitter!

Westmount offers extra-curricular activities such as: sports teams, running club, chess club, crochet club, recess club, generosity club, games club, drama club, and so much more. We celebrate academic goals, personal goals, and share weekly Friday spotlights highlighting student success both academically and socially. Westmount's morning announcements are streamed live everyday via YouTube and are written and delivered by our students. We also have a monthly podcast with students and staff highlighting staff, students, and what's happening around our school. All of these extra curricular activities supplement our academic programs to expand each child's particular talents, experience and interests. Westmount's parents/guardians are invited and encouraged to partner with staff on their child's educational journey to ensure individual student success.



We are truly blessed to have a very active and engaged School Community Council that strives to raise funds and support our students with as many opportunities as possible within and outside of the classroom. Our S.C.C. has planned school carnivals, hot lunches, contests, school-wide dances, literacy events, reading initiatives, a Christmas store, hampers for families in need, and spray painted our school tarmac with engaging games for our students to enjoy. We couldn't ask for a better group of community members and parents supporting our school!



Westmount has a welcoming and safe environment for learning. It's a wonderful school with a long history of serving the South Hill Moose Jaw community. It offers many wonderful educational opportunities for students who call Westmount their school.



Assiniboia Composite High



Assiniboia Elementary School



Craik School



Eyebrow School



Riverview Collegiate



Rouleau School



MOSSBANK SCHOOL



Eyebrow School



Central Collegiate



Cornerstone Christian School

If you have any stories or ideas to share in the newsletter, please email us at communications@prairiesouth.ca.



Ecole Gravelbourg School



Lindale School



Mossbank School



Kincaid School



Central Butte School



Prince Arthur School



Coronach School