

January/February 2020

PEOPLE CAPACITY FOCUS

GSSD is a community of learners and believes collaborative partnerships with students, staff, families and community members will enhance educational opportunities.

Long-term Goal

- By June 30, 2020, GSSD will demonstrate a commitment to provide professional development and training to its staff.
- By June 30, 2020, GSSD will increase our organization's cultural competencies through division-wide processes and professional learning that grow our collective understanding about Indigenous identity, histories, worldview and systemic barriers.
- By June 30, 2020, GSSD will enrich existing partnerships and establish new partnerships to enhance educational opportunities for Indigenous students.
- By June 30, 2020, GSSD will demonstrate a commitment to the establishment of new and reaffirmed partnerships.

YORKTON TRIBAL COUNCIL PRESENTATION

On January 17, Teachers Karen Hovind and Madison Shivak-Langford along with Principal Melissa Johanson presented on behalf of **Macdonald School Staff** at the Yorkton Tribal Council (YTC) Conference in Yorkton. They were asked to present on the work plans that accompany their goal towards reconciliation and the 94 Calls to Action.

Some highlighted areas of the presentation were:

- working with GSSD's Cultural Advocate - Andrew Quewezance;
- building capacity with staff, students, and families using recommended resources;
- using the seven sacred teachings as character education;
- the school exchange with Kakisiwew School & Macdonald School; and,
- the growth that has been witnessed over the years, both in the Macdonald School student body and staff, by doing this important work.



Photo above: Melissa Johanson, Karen Hovind and Madison Shivak-Langford present to the YTC on ways they are bringing reconciliation into their classrooms.

In continuation with walking alongside partners and community members, Macdonald School the grade 6 & 7 class went to Ochapowace on February 12 to participate in a Honoring Indigenous Leaders and Wellness conference. It was a great day of learning and conversation! Photos from the day are below.



GOOD SPIRIT SCHOOL DIVISION ADMINISTRATOR MEETING

The third 2019-20 **GSSD Administrator meeting** was held on January 9, 2020 at the Gallagher Centre in Yorkton. The group was fortunate to listen to and learn from a variety of presenters from both outside of and within GSSD .

To connect with the Division goal of “By June 30, 2020, GSSD will increase our organization’s cultural competencies through division-wide process and professional learning that grow our collective understanding about Indigenous identity, histories, worldview and systemic barriers.” Elder Albert Scott, from Saskatoon Tribal Council, did a teaching on the Spirit of Turtle. Did you know that the turtle is a simple way of tracking time while keeping closely connected to Mother Earth?

Christi Fallows & Wanda Nelson, from Child Protection, educated the group on the Child Abuse Protocol, their commitment to children, reporting and investigating, the roles and responsibilities of school personnel, and confidentiality.

Pharmacist Kelly Lazaruko and Sgt. Jeff Simpson provided information on Naloxone (Narcan®). Naloxone is an antidote for Opioid overdose. Administrators were instructed on how to use Naloxone in an emergent situation.



Photo above: Christi Fallows & Wanda Nelson from Child Protection, shared the Child Abuse Protocol.



The group also had the opportunity to experience coding.

Michelle Morley, Digital Learning Coach, showed the Administrators the newly developed Moodle middle years Robotics and Automation Practical Applied Arts modules. Melissa Morley, Teacher at MC Knoll School, provided a session on the Robot Mouse while Lisa Katchin, Teacher at Langenburg Central School, provided an opportunity for Administrators to interact with the Edison Robots.

Photo to the left: Administrators experience a session on the Robot Mouse



Photo to the right: Administrators interact with the Edison Robots

GSSD is in the process of transitioning to a new payroll, human resource (HR), and accounting software system, called atrieveERP. Raquel Spilchuk, Payroll Supervisor, presented to the group on how to access a pay stub in the new system. Jason Trost, HR Superintendent, also provided an overview of what to expect for training in the HR module over the next few months.

The next Administrator meeting is scheduled for March 5, 2020.



Photo above: Administrators at the Admin meeting on January 9, 2020.

RISE AND SHINE YOGA

Namaste. Mrs. Fast and Mrs. Prychak at **Canora Junior Elementary School** know the importance of waking up the brain and body before school even starts – which is why they decided to begin Rise and Shine Yoga.



Rise and Shine Yoga, which is held on Tuesday's at 8:30 am, not only gives students a chance to try yoga and mindfulness but also gets them ready to start the day in a positive way. Students have expressed that they love the teacher led yoga moves that are challenging enough yet allow them to continue to smile.

Students are encouraged to go at their own pace and only do what their body allows.

Once the weather starts warming up families will be encouraged to bring a yoga mat and join their children with some outdoor playground yoga.



JANUARY 29TH PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT DAY

Every January, GSSD holds a professional development (PD) day, the students may have the day off, but the staff are hard at work. The day provides staff with the opportunity to strengthen their skills and brush up on new ideas to use in and outside of the classroom.

On January 31, teachers and administrators attended a Parent Engagement session at the Yorkton Regional High School. Dr. Debbie Pushor allowed educators to explore parent engagement as a philosophy and pedagogy, and discussed which activities have high impact for students, families and teachers.



Photo above: Dr. Pushor spoke to over 300 teachers on the January 31, PD day.

The PD for Educational Assistants (EA) was held at the Yorkton Regional High School and Sask Abilities. Over 130 EAs were able to choose from 12 different sessions, ranging from "Music Therapy," "Internet Safety" and "Transitioning Youth to Employment."

Educators from across the division were also able to attend a presentation from Diane Musqua and Bonnie Musqua on Truth and Reconciliation.

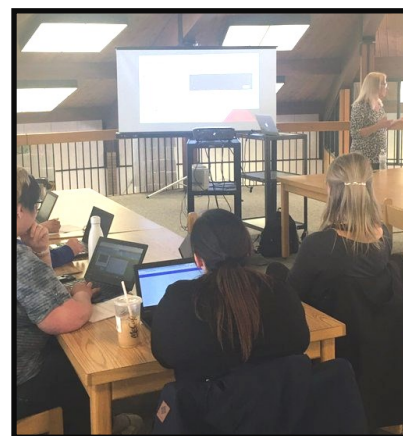


Photo above: EAs take in the "Writing Support Through Google Read & Write" PD session on January 31.

It was a great day of collaboration, communication and learning!

BUS DRIVER PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

The bus driver annual professional development was held on Friday, January 31 and Monday, February 3, 2020. with 120 staff in attendance.

It was an action packed two-day PD for staff; on one day, half of the staff took their recertification in First Aid while the other group attended a session at central office led by Deputy Director, Donna Kriger and the Transportation Team. On the second day, the two groups switched PD sessions.

Kriger and the team, went over Division updates and Occupational Therapist, Maureen Blight, talked about bus evacuations and demonstrated how to do a body drag. Darcy Almasi demonstrated how to operate the wheelchair lift using the automatic feature as well as manually.

Bus Drivers also heard from Behaviour Coach, Jackie Spencer and Education Psychologists, Deb Bulitz and Gary Scheffler, on student behaviour and setting expectations on the bus.



Photo above: Deputy Director, Donna Kriger discusses division updates with bus drivers.



Photo above: Occupational Therapist, Maureen Blight, demonstrates a manual lift off of the school bus.

GOOD SPIRIT SCHOOL DIVISION PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

PD Event	Date	Topic / Outcome
Fountas & Pinnell Training	Jan. 15, 2020	This training was for Grade 1-6 teachers who had not previously had F&P training in GSSD. The purpose of the session was to provide training for teachers to effectively administer the Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark Assessment.
Bus Driver 2 Day Professional Development	Jan. 31, 2020 Feb. 3, 2020	All GSSD Bus Drivers were recertified in First Aid training. Bus Drivers also took part in a full day session which included presentations on GSSD division updates, proper bus evacuations and lifts, student behaviour and setting expectations on the bus.
Parent Engagement – A Philosophy and Pedagogy of Walking Alongside - with Dr Debbie Pushor	Jan. 31, 2020	This session offered educators and administrators an understanding of what parent engagement is and what isn't. Dr. Pushor explored parent engagement as a philosophy and pedagogy, and discussed which activities have high impact for students, families and teachers. Teaching staff heard about exemplary practices from Prekindergarten to High School that are happening around our province and reflected on factors holding us back and what might allow us to move forward with parent engagement.
Truth and Reconciliation Session	Jan. 31, 2020	This session was presented by Bonnie Musqua and Diane Musqua. GSSD has set a division goal around Truth and Reconciliation as outlined in Section 63 of the TRC Calls to Action For Education. Bonnie Musqua and Diane Musqua have been responsible for training social workers across the province and have committed to leading Truth and Reconciliation sessions within GSSD.

Continued on next page.....

Educational Assistant (EA) Breakout Session: Executive Functioning Strategies that Work in the Classroom	Jan. 31, 2020	Some students do not develop executive functions to the same degree as their peers. For these students with deficits, additional support in the classroom can improve their development of executive function. This session highlighted executive functioning impact on student ability to learn and provided practical strategies to support what Educational Assistants do in the school environment.
EA Breakout Session: Healthy Relationships	Jan. 31, 2020	Discusses the seven pillars of healthy relationship, fair fighting and conflict resolution, and communication styles. This presentation can be formatted for middle years, teens and adults.
EA Breakout Session: Music Therapy	Jan. 31, 2020	In this session, EAs explored: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • what the objectives and goals of a music therapy session was; • ways in which music can assist in regulation; • practical applications; • how to best support during music therapy sessions.
EA Breakout Session: Reactive Strategies	Jan. 31, 2020	In this session, EAs explored: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • what a reactive strategy is; • when to use it; • examples and types of reactive strategies used, reading your environment; • understanding the crisis cycle/management; • active listening; • re-directing; • strategic capitulation.
EA Breakout Session: Sensory Gym	Jan. 31, 2020	The Sensory Gym session was held by Sask Abilities and was a hands on demonstration of sensory gym activities, how to involve others in sensory gym games and fun activities and EAs had a chance to try out the sensory gym resources that Sask Abilities has available.
EA Breakout Session: Social Thinking	Jan. 31, 2020	In this session EAs learned more about social thinking. “Social Thinking” or thinking socially refers to a process we all go through in our mind as we try to make sense of our own and others’ thoughts, feelings, and intentions in context, whether we are co-exiting, actively interacting, or figuring out what is happening from a distance.
EA Breakout Session: Work Experience Coaches	Jan. 31, 2020	This session was highly recommended for any EAs supporting Transitioning Youth to Employments (TYE) students in the workplace. TYE staff reviewed the role of the EA in the work experience placement setting and discussed how to support students on the job. Job coaching is often required when a youth with a disability is participating in a work experience or beginning a new job. The role of a Job Coach is to facilitate learning and foster on-the-job problem-solving.
EA Breakout Session: FRIENDS– Resilience	Jan. 31, 2020	This session was an introduction to key concepts of FRIENDS, a program endorsed by the World Health Organization designed to build resilience to anxiety and depression. Participants engaged in self-reflection, discussion and activities aimed to promote personal wellness.
EA Breakout Session: Internet Safety	Jan. 31, 2020	Living in a digital world may be a new challenge for parent/caregivers and youth. EAs learned about some of the dangers, understanding technology, and how to protect ourselves and our children from exploitation and sexting.
EA Breakout Session: Writing Support Through Google Read & Write	Jan. 31, 2020	In this session, participants were guided through several digital tools that will support students when reading and writing. The Google extension – Read & Write for Google Chrome was explored along with other digital writing platforms and research tools such as Discovery and Britannica. Participants learned through hands on experiences and walked away with strategies that could be used with students.



A special thank you goes out to Canadian Tire Jumpstart for donating Jumpstart socks to students. GSSD counsellors delivered them in January.

FINANCIAL STEWARDSHIP

GSSD believes that we are all accountable. Board members, students, staff, families and community members have a responsibility, both individually and as part of the learning team, to participate and to contribute positively to public education.

Long-term Goals

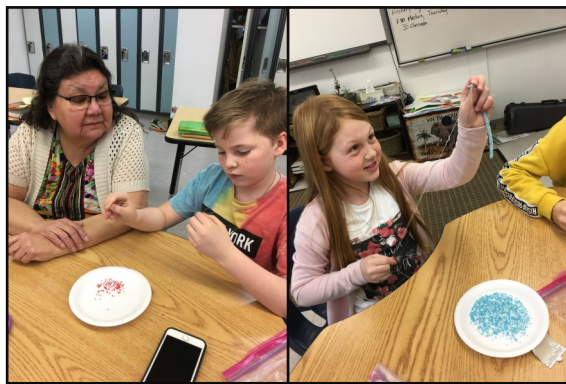
- By June 30, 2020, GSSD will implement systemic approaches to find efficiencies and increase value for money allowing the division to respond to the challenges of student and staff needs.

COMMUNITIES SUPPORTING STUDENT SUCCESS

The Painted Hand Community Development Fund has approved:

- ⇒ **\$1,000** for Yorkdale Central Schools - First Nations Beading Group (Have pictures)
- ⇒ **\$2,000** for Columbia School's Breakfast Program
- ⇒ **\$1,500** for Columbia School-First Nations Beading Group
- ⇒ **\$6,000** for Dr. Brass-Cultural Sensitivity & Professional Development
- ⇒ **\$4,550** for Victoria School-Culture Club
- ⇒ **\$2,875** for GSSD (Northern Cluster) - Lego Club

Thank you to the Painted Hand Community Development Corporation for their continued support and generous donations to students and their education.



Photos to the right: Students learning how to bead at the First Nations Beading Group, led by Margaret Brass.



Photo above: Students prepare breakfast for the Columbia School's Breakfast Program.

Dr. Brass School would like to express gratitude to the Yorkton Lions Club.

The Dr. Brass Breakfast Program is funded by the Yorkton Lions Club & the President's Choice Children's Charity.

The Yorkton Lions Club have donated \$2,500 for 15 years...a grand total of \$37,500!

Without the local support, the Dr. Brass Breakfast Program would not be what it is.

Thank you for investing in GSSD students!



STUDENT AND FAMILY FOCUS

GSSD exists to provide the highest level of student learning & well-being. All students will experience learning environments rich in the opportunities and experiences necessary to promote intellectual, emotional and spiritual growth.

Long-term Goals

- By June 30, 2020, 30% more students will exit Kindergarten at appropriate development (green) than when entering Kindergarten.
- By June 30, 2020, there will be 2% more students reading at or above grade level in Grades 1 to 6 compared to the previous year's June data.
- By June 30, 2020, there will be 2% more students writing at or above grade level in Grades 4, 7, & 9 compared to the previous year's June data.
- By June 30, 2020, there will be 2% more Grades 2, 5, & 8 students at or above grade level in math compared to the previous year's June data.
- By June 30, 2020, the number of students reporting high levels of anxiety will reduce by 2% based on the previous year's June data.
- By June 30, 2020, the three-year graduation rate will increase by 2% from the previous year's June data.
- By June 30, 2020, the five-year graduation rate will increase by 2% from the previous year's June data.
- By June 30, 2020, students in Grades 4 to 12 will report a 2% increase in student intellectual engagement based on the previous year's June data.
- By June 30, 2020, all students will achieve a 2% increase in student attendance based on the previous year's June data.
- By June 30, 2020, GSSD will determine the levels of parental engagement of all schools.

LIP DUB CELEBRATES 10 YEARS

For the past ten years, the students and staff of **Melville Comprehensive School (MCS)** have produced an annual MCS Lip Dub video with the leadership of Teacher Don Coleman and the Communications Media class. All students and staff are invited to participate and showcase their school as they dance through the halls.

Lip dub is a type of music video that combines lip synching and audio dubbing. The video is made by filming individuals or a group of people who are lip synching while listening to a song or recorded audio. Then during post editing, the original audio of the song is dubbed over. It takes an impressive amount of planning, rehearsing and coordination from all involved.

As a tribute to the first Lip Dub in 2010, the opening scene for the 2020 MCS Lip Dub was shot on the old Cobra Bus with *"The Boys in the Bright White Sports Car"* by Trooper. Aside from the blast from the past, this year's video also showcases *"High Hopes"* by Panic At The Disco and *"The Git Up"* by Blinco Brown. This year's video also has an MCS Lip Dub veteran who appears alongside his younger sister.

These videos would not have been possible without the dedication from the staff and students over the past 10 years!

To view this year's video: [MCS 2020 Lip Dub](#)



Photos above: Students and teachers bring out all the stops to ensure the videos are a great success and fun for everyone!

FAMILY LITERACY DAY

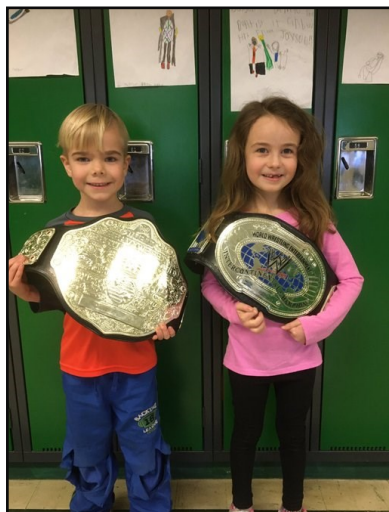
Monday, January 27, 2020 was Family Literacy Day.

The day raises awareness about the importance of reading and engaging in literacy activities as a family. This year's theme for Family Literacy Day was "Take 20 in 2020", the theme encouraged families to take 20 minutes each day to make learning together a part of their daily routine.

Schools within GSSD get creative with celebrating this important day!



Photo to the left & above: Macdonald School held a 'Books N' Bites' event at the school, family members were invited to come to the school and read with children. It was a hit!



Photos to the right: Saltcoats school held a school wide championship spelling bee! Congratulations to the Heavy Weigh Champion Spellers in the K-Gr. 3 category, Dylan and Kaydence and in the Gr. 4-8 category, Jacob!

Literacy Fast Facts:

- Children whose parents are involved with them in family literacy activities score 10 points higher on standardized reading tests .
- Reading to children before they start school helps develop their language skills and their interest in reading and learning in general.
- Check out this resource for 20 activities you can use at home to make learning together a part of your everyday! [Take 20 Activities](#)



Photo to the left: Grayson School celebrated Family Literacy Day by holding a book exchange and book character day.

ANTI-RACISM CONFERENCE

Melville Comprehensive School (MCS) recently hosted a two-day Anti-Racism Youth Workshop, in partnership with the Multicultural Society of Saskatchewan, Parkland Valley Sports and Recreation, and Peepeekisis First Nation.

Students and staff participated in the workshop alongside staff and students from Peepeekisis First Nation, which made for a powerful experience. The workshop was an opportunity to build capacity in the students toward the goals of

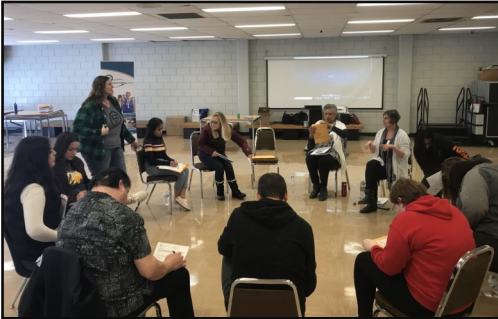


Photo above: Students participating in the workshop.

Truth and Reconciliation. This work represents MCS's commitment to eliminating all forms of racism and fostering partnerships with their First Nation neighbours. Together, MCS and Peepeekisis will be continuing their newly formed relationship with the culminating anti-racism project on March 21st.



PINK SHIRT DAY 2020

“Be the change you want to see in the world”

- Gandhi

February 26, 2020 was Pink Shirt day. The day started in 2007, when a grade nine student in Cambridge, Nova Scotia was bullied by classmates for wearing a pink shirt to school. Two boys chose to do something about the bullying and rallied behind the student, getting their peers to wear pink the next day. Their decision that day to not be bystanders, created a worldwide movement, educating and inspiring others to stand together and take action against violence and bullying.



Everyday is Pink Shirt Day, but on the 26th staff and students from around the Division wore pink to symbolize we support the movement of anti-bullying and continually work towards creating a positive and inclusive culture in our schools.



Photos above: In honour of Pink Day, kindergarten and gr. 1-2s at Invermay School, made “Be Someone’s Hero” capes. All students made huge pink shirt puzzles. The puzzle pieces had notes on how they can make the school a safe and respectful place for all.

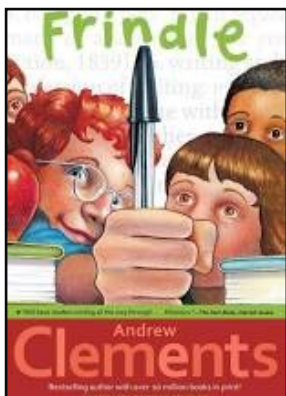


Photo above: Dr. Brass School held a Red Cross Beyond the Hurt session. Beyond the Hurt training is based on the believe that all youth—those targeted, those who bully, and bystanders—have a critical role in preventing bullying.

BE SOMEONE'S HERO

ONE SCHOOL ONE BOOK

On the January 27th, 2020 Family Literacy Day, **Canora Junior Elementary School (CJES)** kicked off a family engagement plan involving one book for the entire school.



Every family in CJES was given the book “Frindle” by Andrew Clements. The story is about a young boy who is a creative troublemaker that brings his school to a standstill as the new word he's invented is sweeping the country.

Families were given a calendar and trivia questions on the book that would allow everyone to follow along at the same pace. As families progressed with the chapters, classroom teachers had exciting activities planned around the book/family project.

On February 7th, all families completed the book and a huge family wind-up was planned at the school. Special CJES/“Frindle” pencils were handed out for every student and family member.

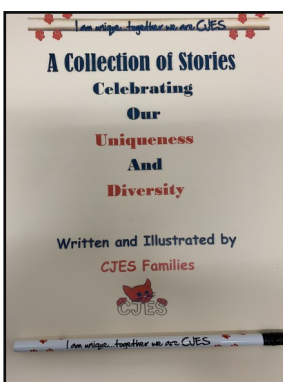
Cookies and milk were enjoyed by all as families worked on a special activity related to the book.

This one school one book event was a great way for family engagement - students and their families will continue to enjoy the memories as every family submission from the wind-up will be made into a book for each classroom.

Photo to the left: The cover of the book each classroom will receive



Photos above: The February 7th family wind up at CJES



LOCAL TEACHER RECEIVES AWARD

In December of 2019, **M.C. Knoll School (MCK)** teacher, Mark Schendel, received the 2019 Civic Recognition Award from the City of Yorkton in the adult category.

Aside from being a teacher, Schendel is actively involved in a variety of different ways in the community. From coaching, fundraising for a wheelchair accessible swing at MCK and organizing the first Yorkton Minor Hockey Outdoor Classic game, Schendel truly enjoys staying engaged in the community.

Congratulations on your award, Mark!



Photo above: Schendel leads by example. In December 2019, MCK basketball teams participated in the Hoops for Hunger program. They collected food items and had students colour over 300 lunch bags to bring some Christmas joy to those in need.



Photo above: Schendel received the Local Initiative Award from the Saskatchewan Physical Education Association in 2019. The award recognizes individuals for their contributions to physical education in their region.

STUDENT WINS NATIONAL SCHOLARSHIP



Yorkton Regional High School student, Connor Watrych, was one of four Saskatchewan high school students among 36 from across Canada to receive the **Loran Scholarship Foundation**. This scholarship valued at \$100,000 will cover four years of undergraduate studies.

Connor joined 87 other students from across Canada in Toronto to participate in the interview process. The scholarship recipients are selected based on evidence of character, commitment to service in the community and leadership potential.

Watrych was also awarded the youth Citizen Recognition Award in December 2019 and was the Quarterback for the YRHS Raiders Gridders football team, helping to lead the team to a Provincial Championship in 2019.

Congratulations on your accomplishments Connor!

BUILDING STRONG FOUNDATIONS

IT'S TIME!



Kindergarten

Children who were born in 2015 can register!

Register by the end of March.

Prekindergarten

Now accepting applications for children who will be age 3 or 4 during the 2020-2021 school year.

Please apply by April 30th.

PreK selection is based on the Ministry of Education eligibility criteria.

Children who turn 3 later in the year may apply to PreK throughout the year.

Visit www.gssd.ca for registration information or call 306-786-5500

GOOGLE CLASSROOM

Google Classroom is a Learning Management system that teachers and students within the Good Spirit School Division utilize.

Churchbridge Public School (CPS) teachers have been incorporating Google Classroom into their instruction for quite a few years. Grade 6 is the first year the students learn how to use Google Classroom and after that they frequently use it for the majority of their classes until their graduation .

CPS teachers feel that there is a magnitude of benefits from using Google Classroom, that surpass the obvious method of getting information, resources, and assignments to students in a way that can't be lost.

CPS Teacher Jessica Kachur shares tricks and tips and why she enjoys **Google Classroom**:

1

Parent engagement in their child's learning can be facilitated using Google Classroom. Teachers can invite parents to view class activity, upcoming work and missing assignments. Just go to the "People" menu on Google Classroom, and click "Invite Guardians" next to the student's name. This is done using any email address. Once they have been added, parents will begin receiving email summaries. Teachers can also use this feature to easily email parents.

2

Students can work offline and submit assignments whenever they connect to Wi-Fi. This means they can work from just about anywhere! Google Classroom keeps assignments and due dates readily available for the students and notifies them of anything upcoming or due. They are also notified directly to the app (if they have it), when something new has been added by their teacher. They usually come to school having pre-read their assignments before class has even started.

3

The ability to schedule posts ahead of time. Assignments can be added to the classroom anytime, but if you find yourself wanting to plan ahead for the upcoming week, you can schedule assignments and announcements to be released at specific times. Under the "Classwork" menu, create an assignment as usual and then click the drop-down menu next to the "Assign" button and choose "Schedule." Now you can select the date and time you would like your assignment to roll out. This way, teachers can plan in advance and not risk a student taking a quiz ahead of time.

4

Google Classroom works well with the Chromebooks that our school use. If students haven't started their assignments on Google Classroom itself, they are easily able to upload already created docs, slides, or however else they may have created their assignment. A newer feature, originality reports, flags students work for copy and pasting. It flags passages and gives the link to where they were copied from. Students are able to check their own work for plagiarism using this feature as well.

5

Kachur personally enjoys the organization and simplification of the resource:

"I am able to upload material and assignments, answer student questions, mark assignments and communicate with parents all from the app on my phone. I even get notifications to my Apple Watch when students have submitted assignments or if they have asked a question about their assignment. Overall, Google classroom has been a useful learning platform for teachers and students alike. It is user-friendly, accessible and allows for parental engagement – a great choice for online learning systems."

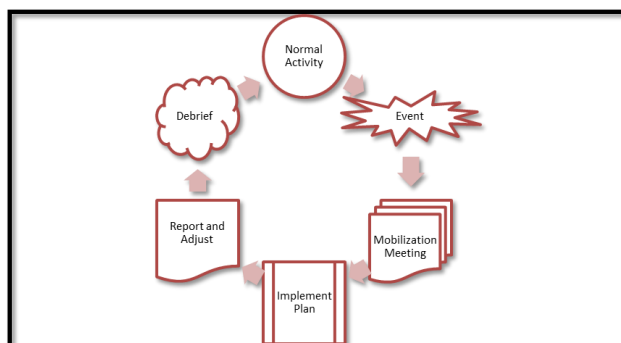
INTERNAL PROCESS FOCUS

GSSD is committed to providing equitable, balanced opportunities among schools, students, and staff.

Long-term Goals

- By June 30, 2020, each functional area within GSSD will demonstrate improvement in services through the development and revision of processes and administrative procedures.

EDUCATION CONTINUITY PLAN



On January 17, 2020, members of GSSD Senior Administration were informed that there was a potential emergency at Dr. Brass School. Due to extreme temperatures, a water suppression sprinkler line froze which caused over 10,000 gallons of water to pour through the school. The incident necessitated the initiation of the Education Continuity Plan (ECP) Team. The ECP document outlines processes, procedures, decisions and activities to ensure that GSSD can continue to function throughout disruptive events such as an emergency, a disaster or a crisis.

The ECP Team, including Facilities Staff, School Administration, and Senior Administration, met to discuss the extent of the damage, to implement processes associated with clean-up, insurance claims, and school closure and to develop communication to share with Dr. Brass staff and families. As a result of the professionalism displayed by the Dr. Brass Administration, Teachers, Support Staff, Bus Drivers, and GSSD Facilities Staff, classes at Dr. Brass resumed within a few short days from the initial incident.

As part of the Education Continuity Plan GSSD is committed to ensuring:

- staff and student safety and well-being;
- that we can continue our essential critical activities in the event of a disruption;
- that we have sufficient capacity to sustain our essential critical activities; and,
- that we can demonstrate and constantly improve our education continuity capability.

SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL SYMPOSIUM

On February 24 and 25, members of the GSSD Senior Administrative Team met with School Community Council (SCC) members to engage in conversations regarding the 2020-21 budget.



SCC members were informed of how the Division, under the leadership of the Board, aligns the budget with the Division's strategic plan, Division priorities, and the Provincial Education Sector's Strategic Plan (ESSP).

SCC members participated in a 'dotify' activity. During this activity, each participant was asked to place a red dot under the budget priority that they believed deserved the strongest consideration. They were then asked to place blue, green, and yellow dots under the priority areas that they

considered to be the top three considerations going into the 2020-21 school year.

The SCC were provided with detailed examples of how the Board of Education, through the budgeting process, actualized GSSD's aspirational statements of Student Learning & Well-being, Equitable and Balanced Opportunities, Accountability for All, People Engagement, and Sustainable Infrastructure.



Focusing in on ...

THE EAST CENTRAL DISTRICT ATHLETICS ASSOCIATION (ECDAA)

The primary goal of the ECDAA is to support the Saskatchewan High School Athletics Association (SHSAA).

The mission of the SHSAA is to foster educational opportunities for all students through interschool sport.

The 2019-2020 ECDAA Executive has 10 members:

President	Dan Alspach
Vice-President	Jason Payne
Officials Commissioner	Evan Rostotski
In School Administrator	Bryce Krawetz
Secretary	Curtis Spelay
Treasurer	Jason Boyda
Jr. High Coordinator	Garret Karcha
Website Liaison	Cory Johnson
Trustee	Shannon Leson
LEADS Representative	Alisa Leidl



Fast Facts About the ECDAA



- The ECDAA receives SHSAA support to manage senior athletics and fully coordinates junior (grade 7-9) competition.
- GSSD supports the ECDAA through budget and release time for participants.
- Three half-day meetings are held each year. This year the fall meeting was scheduled during a non-numbered PD day which saved GSSD costs associated with substitutes.
- The SHSAA Annual General Meeting will be held June 24-26 in Moose Jaw this year. GSSD supports participation of 7-10 delegates.
- GSSD also supports athletes and coaches at provincial competitions by covering hotel and mileage costs.
- The ECDAA has invested \$8,500 in an outdoor speaker system for Century Field. This will be installed in early spring 2020
- ECDAA will host the Provincial Track competition on June 5 & 6, 2020 in Yorkton.
- The [ECDAA Website](#) houses information specific to the district - constitution, meeting minutes, commissioners packages and much more.

GSSD FOUNDATIONAL STATEMENTS

<i>Our Motto</i>	Students Come First
<i>Our Mission</i>	Building Strong Foundations to Create Bright Futures
<i>Our Values</i>	Belonging, Respect, Responsibility, Learning, Nurturing, and Perseverance
<i>Our Vision</i>	Learning Without Limits...Achievement For All