

IN FOCUS

WITH THE GOOD SPIRIT SCHOOL DIVISION



SEPTEMBER & OCTOBER, 2024

FROM THE DIRECTOR

HIGH QUALITY TEACHING AND LEARNING

ENGAGEMENT OF ALL STUDENTS, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES

HEALTHY, SUSTAINABLE PHYSICAL & SOCIAL ENVIRONMENTS

EFFECTIVE POLICY AND PROCEDURES

Welcome to the first edition of the In Focus for the 2024-25 school year, where we celebrate the energy and enthusiasm that comes with fall in the Good Spirit School Division.

September and October have brought so many opportunities for our students to grow and connect, from the excitement of the Grade 4/5 track meet to the teamwork and spirit on display in volleyball games and extracurricular activities. Our band students have also been hitting the road, creating lasting memories through music, while schools are busy preparing for drama performances that promise to showcase their creativity and talent.

It's not just the students who are thriving—our staff have had a busy start to the year as well, with over 25 professional development sessions already completed. These sessions have provided valuable opportunities for learning, collaboration, and growth, helping to ensure that we continue offering the best educational experiences for our students.

We've also seen the power of community come to life through family engagement events across the division. These gatherings have brought families into our schools, strengthening the connections that are so vital to our shared success. As you read through this edition, you'll find stories that capture the heart of GSSD—a place where learning, growth, and community spirit thrive.

Quintin M. Robertson
Director of Education/CEO



Pictured above: Quintin presents Aspen from Sturgis Composite School with her Summer Reading Contest Prize!

IN THIS ISSUE



STUDENTS COME FIRST.

HIGH QUALITY TEACHING AND LEARNING

- GSSD Professional Development Opportunities pg. 3
- Minecraft for Teachers Professional Development pg. 8
- Kamsack Comprehensive Institute Band Students Partake in Mount Rushmore Band Trip pg. 9
- Churchbridge Public School Art Students Explore the World of Art in Canmore and Banff pg. 10

ENGAGEMENT OF ALL STUDENTS, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES

- Melville Comprehensive School SADD Chapter: Keeping Saskatchewan Highways Safe During the Summer pg. 11
- Canora Composite School presents the Kim Eiteneier Fitness Centre pg. 12
- SUTIL Career Fair Comes to GSSD! pg. 12
- GSSD Hosts the Grade 4/5 Track Showcase! pg. 13
- GSSD Summer 2024 Reading Contest pg. 14
- 150 Years of Treaty 4 Territory pg. 14
- Saltcoats School Autumn Summit Celebrates 40 years! pg. 15

HEALTHY, SUSTAINABLE PHYSICAL AND SOCIAL ENVIRONMENTS

- New Walkway Adds Accessibility to Davison Elementary Playground pg. 16
- Langenburg Central School Celebrates World Mental Health Day pg. 16
- Victoria School Commemorates National Day for Truth and Reconciliation pg. 17
- Springside School Raises Funds for the Terry Fox Run pg. 17
- Grayson School Pancake Breakfast Supports Nutrition For All pg. 18
- Columbia School Receives Generous Donation from Grain Millers Yorkton pg. 18

EFFECTIVE POLICY AND PROCEDURES

- GSSD Board of Education pg.19
- Board of Education Elections Updates pg.19

FOCUSING IN ON



Back to School Student & Family Engagement

PAGE 21



HIGH QUALITY TEACHING AND LEARNING



- Improving student outcomes
- Implementing the "Inspiring Success" Policy
- Developing GSSD leaders
- Ensuring consistent practices across GSSD schools
- Delivering high-quality teaching and learning resources
- Providing equal access to technology

GSSD PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT OPPORTUNITIES

Professional development (PD) is vital to GSSD’s commitment to high-quality teaching and learning. It supports improving student outcomes, implementing the “Inspiring Success” Policy, developing leaders, ensuring consistent practices, and providing top-notch resources. School start-up is always packed with PD opportunities. Between August, September, and October, GSSD has hosted over 30 sessions. Dive into the details below!

PD Event	Date	Topic/Outcome
New Professional Staff Orientation	Aug. 22, 2024	This session equipped new Professional Staff and their Administrators with the essential knowledge and tools for a smooth, productive start at GSSD, ensuring a positive transition into their roles.
Administrative Assistant (AA) School Start Up Refresher	Aug. 23, 2024	This session provided AAs with a review of new items for 2024-2025, updates and prompts for various systems including MySchoolSask, Edsby, SchoolMessenger, Student Data System, Clevr, and SchoolCash.
East Central Districts Athletic Association	Aug. 26, 2024	In the Fall Organization meeting, key points discussed included athletics readiness and preparation, upcoming planned events, and current challenges.
Administrator Meeting #1 (in-person)	Aug. 27, 2024	Administrators met at the Good Spirit Education Complex to review school start-up and prepare for the 2024-25 school year.

New Professional Staff Orientation





PD Event	Date	Topic/Outcome
Day 1 - Early Literacy and the Science of Reading with Dr. George Georgiou, University of Alberta	Aug. 28, 2024	The first Early Literacy session of the year with Dr. George Georgiou explored assessment, phonological awareness and phonics in the early years classroom.
Day 1 - Blended Learning	Aug. 28, 2024	Day 1 of the Blended Learning PD kicked off with a keynote by renowned author and expert Catlin Tucker. The morning continued with GSSD's Digital Learning Consultants leading a hands-on session, guiding participants through setting up blended learning spaces, exploring models like flipped learning and station rotation, and sharing best practices for classroom management.
Day 1 - Outcomes-Based Assessment for High School Learning	Aug. 28, 2024	This PD opportunity, designed for Grade 10-12 teachers, featured an online course by Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation (STF) Professional Learning. Teachers explored four modules focused on providing equitable assessment opportunities to support student success.
Division Wide Keynote Speaker	Aug. 29, 2024	Dr. Verna St. Denis presented "The Myth and Failure of Meritocracy". Dr. Verna St. Denis, Special Advisor to the President on Anti-Racism and Anti-Oppression at the University of Saskatchewan, is a Professor Emerita who taught anti-racist education for 30 years. A Métis and Cree scholar, she has conducted extensive research and is co-editor of the best-selling book <i>White Benevolence: Racism and Colonial Violence in the Helping Professions</i> .
Day 2 - Early Literacy and the Science of Reading with Dr. George Georgiou, University of Alberta	Aug. 29, 2024	Building on Day 1 from August 28th, the August 29th session focused on fluency and phonics.

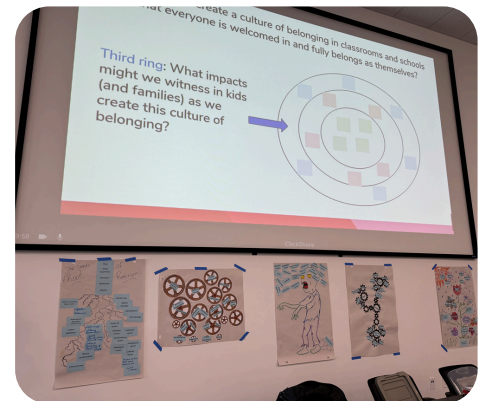
HIGH QUALITY TEACHING AND LEARNING



PD Event	Date	Topic/Outcome
Day 2- Blended Learning	Aug. 29, 2024	Day 2 was packed with engaging, face-to-face sessions that equipped teachers with the tools and skills needed to seamlessly integrate blended learning into their teaching practice.
Day 2 - Outcomes-Based Assessment for High School Learning	Aug. 29, 2024	Day 2 built on the learning from Day 1, diving deeper into the four modules focused on equitable assessment opportunities to support student success.
New Support Staff Onboarding	Aug. 29, 2024	This training for new Educational Assistants, Library Techs, and Indigenous Community Workers provided essential knowledge and tools for a successful start with GSSD. In the afternoon, EAs and ICWs received professional development on risk reduction, personal safety, and handling defensive behaviors.
15 Passenger Van Training	Aug. 29 & 30, 2024	15 Passenger Van Training covered the essential safety protocols and driving techniques required for operating large vans, ensuring safe transportation of passengers.
Lexia Training, English as an Additional Language	Sept. 12, 2024	The session provided an overview of the Lexia platform, including Lexia English and Power Up, a reading intervention program for Grades 6-8.
Math UP Orientation	Sept. 13, 2024	GSSD hosted an introductory webinar for teachers new to Math UP, led by Rubicon's National Math Consultant.
FRIENDS Training	Sept. 19, 2024	Friends Resilience, an anxiety and depression prevention program for Grades 1, 4, and 6, provided participants with online, self-paced training.

PD Event	Date	Topic/Outcome
Continuing Your Journey Toward Becoming an Anti-Racist Educator	Sept. 18 & 19, 2024	Admin Council members participated in two days of anti-racist training with Linda Aspen-Baxter from the STF. This session is a continuation of last year's "Becoming an Anti-Racist Educator" training.
Day 1 - Dance Workshop with Tammy Kustersky	Sept. 24, 2024	Dance educator Tammy Kustersky provided Grade 3-4 teachers with resources, teaching tools, and dance techniques to enhance their arts education classes. This session was designed for teachers handling the dance strand in the 2024-25 school year.
Edsby Learning Stories Professional Development	Sept. 24, 25 & 26, 2024	This session for Kindergarten teachers focused on using Edsby Learning Stories to share Kindergarten Reportfolios. Teachers learned to upload and share videos, images, and audio, providing parents a comprehensive view of their child's progress and achievements.
Mental Health Literacy Training	Sept. 26, 2024	The session focused on building a foundation in Mental Health Literacy to support schools in promoting evidence-based mental health approaches. Participants explored four key areas: obtaining and maintaining good mental health, understanding mental disorders and treatments, reducing stigma, and improving help-seeking efficacy.

Continuing Your Journey Toward Becoming an Anti-Racist Educator



HIGH QUALITY TEACHING AND LEARNING



PD Event	Date	Topic/Outcome
Day 3 - Early Literacy and the Science of Reading with Dr. George Georgiou, University of Alberta	Sept. 30, 2024	Building on Day 1 and 2 from August 28th and August 29th, the September 30th session focused on vocabulary and comprehension.
Day 3- Blended Learning	Sept. 30, 2024	Day 3 of the virtual Blended Learning event focused on differentiated instruction. Participants refined their practices to enhance learning environments, with a special guest from Texthelp demonstrating how tools like Google Read&Write can support all students.
Day 3 - Outcomes-Based Assessment for High School Learning	Sept. 30, 2024	Day 3 built on the learning from Day 1 and 2, diving deeper into the four modules focused on equitable assessment opportunities to support student success.
Administrator Meeting #2 (in-person)	Oct. 3, 2024	The second in-person Administrator meeting of the 2024-25 school year featured Structured Literacy and Assessment breakout sessions, followed by Division updates and shared celebrations in the afternoon.
Minecraft for Teachers	Oct. 15, 2024	Grade 4-9 Teachers gathered at the Good Spirit Education Complex to take part in Logics Academy's PD on Minecraft.
Math Matters	Oct. 16, 2024	The discussion focused on MathUP, with participants sharing success stories, challenges, and engaging in collaborative problem-solving based on their classroom experiences.
Student Support Teacher (SST) Professional Learning Community (PLC)	Oct. 16, 2024	SSTs gathered at GSEC for a full-day PLC, covering various key topics relevant to their roles in schools.

PD Event	Date	Topic/Outcome
Grade 9 Dialogic Refresh	Oct. 17, 2024	A teacher working committee met to refresh the Grade 9 dialogic learning unit.
New Staff Onboarding	Oct. 18, 2024	GSSD continued to offer New Staff Onboarding once a month for new Professional Staff.
PreK PLC	Oct. 18, 2024	Pre-Kindergarten Teachers, Educational Assistants, and Early Learning Intensive Support Speech Language Pathologists gathered for a day of learning and sharing.
Writing Engagement Working Committee	Oct. 21, 2024	Pre-designated teachers apart of the working committee gathered to enhance and explore writing engagement.
Violent Threat Risk Assessment Level 1	Oct. 24-25, 2024	This two-day training taught community partners (mental health, social services, youth probation, RCMP, YTC, and staff) to assess whether a threat maker poses a genuine risk. Participants learned to evaluate students with histories of violence, gather data, and determine appropriate interventions based on the level of risk.

MINECRAFT FOR TEACHERS PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT - OCTOBER 15, 2024



Logics Academy provided an engaging professional development opportunity for Good Spirit School Division teachers from Grades 4-9, introducing them to the educational potential of Minecraft.

Held as a one-day, in-person event in the Birch Room at the Good Spirit Education Complex, the session equipped teachers with hands-on experience in using Minecraft as a powerful tool. Through this immersive workshop, educators explored how to harness Minecraft’s interactive world to enhance student engagement and other educational outcomes.



KAMSACK COMPREHENSIVE INSTITUTE BAND STUDENTS PARTAKE IN MOUNT RUSHMORE BAND TRIP



“In my 22 years of teaching, this was the absolute best band trip I have ever been on.”
Mr. Kitsch



“I loved everything about the trip, especially the educational aspects.”
Ms. Hermery

The 2024 Kamsack Comprehensive Institute band trip took students on an enriching journey to Mount Rushmore and other cultural and natural highlights in the area. The group began with a stop at the University of Mary in Bismarck, North Dakota, where they participated in instrumental clinics with fourth-year students and professors. The KCI band joined a 62-student class, sharing a workshop experience led by Dennis Gowan, chair of the music department. Students enjoyed a taste of local dining and a classic movie experience at Bismarck’s Grand 22 Theater.

The group continued to the Black Hills, basing their stay in cozy Rockerville cabins just outside Mount Rushmore. In addition to excursions, they enjoyed BBQ dinners, campfires, and group games, creating a close-knit atmosphere. Highlights of their travels included the Rushmore Cave Tour and exploring Downtown Custer, where students saw the iconic, artist-painted buffalo statues and visited local shops.

A memorable part of the trip was a visit to the Crazy Horse Memorial, where students learned about the dedication to preserving Native American culture through the Indian Museum of North America and the Native American Educational and Cultural Center. Another highlight was the drive through Custer State Park’s Wildlife Loop, where students spotted diverse wildlife like bighorn sheep and wild turkeys.

In addition to witnessing the awe-inspiring Mount Rushmore and its evening lighting ceremony, the group experienced a roundup of 1,400 bison at Custer State Park, a longstanding tradition. Other adventures included Bear Country USA, a drive-through park with numerous North American mammals, and a tour of Reptile Gardens, a botanical park with rare reptiles and beautiful plant life.

One of the trip’s physical challenges was the hike up Bear Butte at Bear Butte State Park, a site sacred to many Indigenous tribes. Students were rewarded with panoramic views across multiple states, perfectly timed with a stunning sunset. Ending their trip, students explored Devils Tower, a unique geological formation that is sacred to Indigenous peoples.

The KCI band trip will surely be remembered as a journey of discovery, camaraderie, and memorable sights.



CHURCHBRIDGE PUBLIC SCHOOL ART STUDENTS EXPLORE THE WORLD OF ART IN CANMORE AND BANFF



Another highlight of the trip was a visit to the Fallen Leaf Art Gallery. Here, students met Curtis Galomb, a talented artist whose work is displayed in the gallery. Curtis engaged the students in a discussion about color theory, scale, and the complexities of running a successful art gallery. His candid advice and passion for art left a lasting impression on the aspiring young artists.

Canmore also offered a hands-on art experience, as the students participated in a pottery painting session, resulting in beautiful pieces to take home as mementos of their journey.

In Banff, the students explored the Art in Nature Trail, an outdoor gallery where unique art pieces could be found every 50 meters. Surrounded by the beautiful landscape, the students gained a new appreciation for how environment can influence artistic expression.



Pictured above and below: CPS Art 20 Class at the Carter-Ryan Art Gallery

Churchbridge Public School Art 20 students had an unforgettable experience traveling to Canmore and Banff from September 23-27, immersing themselves in the vibrant world of art and creativity. This adventure provided students the chance to connect with professional artists, explore galleries, and create their own art in the breathtaking scenery of the Rocky Mountains.

Their first stop was the Carter-Ryan Art Gallery, where students enjoyed a special meet-and-greet with artists Jason Carter and his wife Bridget. The couple shared their journey as artists, producers, and entrepreneurs, offering insight into the life of a professional artist in Canada. Jason highlighted some of his works, which are showcased across the country, and took the time to interact with the students.

The Churchbridge Public School Art 20 students would like to extend their heartfelt thanks to the school and community for their support in making this amazing trip possible. It was an experience that not only enhanced their artistic skills but also broadened their understanding of the diverse world of art.



ENGAGEMENT OF ALL STUDENTS, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES

- Fostering connections and supporting transitions
- Valuing input from students, families, staff, and the community
- Communicating openly and clearly
- Forming partnerships to support GSSD's priority areas

MCS SADD CHAPTER: KEEPING SASKATCHEWAN HIGHWAYS SAFE DURING THE SUMMER



Pictured Above: Billboard at Delmas, SK

Despite the summer break, the Melville Comprehensive School (MCS) SADD (Students Against Drinking and Driving) Chapter remained dedicated to its mission, solidifying its reputation as the Most Active SADD Chapter in the province. Travelers across Saskatchewan may have noticed their “If you drink, don’t get carried away!” billboards strategically placed throughout the province.

This summer, new 4’ X 8’ permanent billboards were installed at key locations, including along Highway 47 near Melville and Highway 10 near Balcarres. Additionally, three large 10’ X 40’ non-permanent billboards were rented from Prairie Billboards and placed along Highway 1 East near Sinteluta, Highway 1 West near Chaplain, and Highway 16 West near Delmas on the way to Lloydminster, home of the 2024 Summer Games. In a show of support for other Good Spirit School Division SADD Chapters, the MCS SADD Chapter also funded two permanent billboards for the Invermay SADD Chapter, which are set to be installed this fall.

The MCS SADD Chapter started their “If you drink, don’t get carried away!” billboard campaign last June when they placed an 8’ X 12’ permanent billboard outside of Melville. At this time, the MCS SADD Chapter collaborated with several partners including SGI, Matthews Funeral Home, Tracy Kerestesh Photography, the City of Melville, and SADD Saskatchewan to design a striking image of six MCS students carrying a coffin—a stark reminder of the fatal consequences of impaired driving.

As the new school year starts, the MCS SADD Chapter is eager to continue its fight against impaired driving. The MCS SADD chapter extends its gratitude to SGI and the Acquired Brain Injury Project Community Grant Program for their generous grant of \$9,311.35, which made this life-saving project possible.

Below: Highway 47 Billboard near Melville, SK



CANORA COMPOSITE SCHOOL PRESENTS THE KIM EITENEIER FITNESS CENTRE



Pictured above from left to right: Quintin Robertson, Director of Education; Mr. Dustin Nielsen, CCS Teacher & SRC Advisor; Mr. Kim Eiteneier; Mr. Derek Serdachny, Principal of CCS; Mr. Curtis Baillie, CCS Teacher & SRC Advisor

Canora Composite School (CCS) paid tribute and honored an individual on Tuesday, September 4th, 2024, who has made a significant positive impact on the school community.

Mr. Kim Eiteneier dedicated over a decade of his career to Canora Composite School, serving as a teacher, Vice Principal, and Principal. He was a driving force in fostering a positive school environment through his dedication to fitness and sports. His coaching skills were evident when he led the 2014/2015 Senior Boys Basketball team to an impressive third-place finish at Hoopla, exemplifying his commitment to excellence both on and off the court.

Beyond coaching, Kim devoted countless hours to officiating, driven by his passion for sports and skill development.

One of Mr. Eiteneier's lasting legacies is the transformation of the CCS fitness centre into the modern, fully equipped space it is today. Through his leadership in fundraising and a strong commitment to improving the facilities, he ensured that future generations of students would benefit from a top-notch fitness environment.

What truly set Mr. Eiteneier apart was his personal dedication to health and fitness. You didn't have to see him run down a street at full speed or workout to know he was in good shape! He served as a role model to both staff and students, regularly using the gym and working to enhance the school's snack program. CCS is grateful for his dedication to the well-being of both students and staff.

Mr. Eiteneier's contributions to athletics across the division have made a lasting impact, and CCS extends their heartfelt thanks for all he has accomplished.

At the September 4th assembly, the CCS staff and School Community Council were proud to rename the former weight room the Kim Eiteneier Fitness Centre in his honor.

SUTIL CAREER FAIR COMES TO GSSD!

SUTIL CAREER FAIR COMES TO GSSD!

SUTIL is a united team of post-secondary institutions who visit high schools across the province, engaging students to realize their potential and plan their path after graduation.

OCTOBER 15	AFTERNOON: Melville Comprehensive School	OCTOBER 17	AFTERNOON: Canora
OCTOBER 16	ALL DAY @ EHS: Estimotey, Churchillburg & Langanburg	OCTOBER 22	ALL DAY: Yorkton Regional High School
OCTOBER 17	MORNING @ SCS: Sturgis, Norbury, Prescoveille, Invermay		

Good Spirit SUTIL

Saskatchewan Universities & Technical Institute Liaison (SUTIL) visited GSSD last week! This team of post-secondary institutions traveled to high schools across the province, helping students explore their future possibilities and plan for life after graduation. It was an exciting opportunity for students to engage with representatives and learn about programs, scholarships, and career paths.

GSSD HOSTS THE GRADE 4/5 TRACK SHOWCASE!

What an incredible day the Grade 4/5 Track and Field Showcase was! A huge thank you to everyone who made this day possible—students, families, teachers, staff, and Board Members, we couldn't have done it without you!

The day kicked off with Oh Canada sung by YRHS student Sara Switzer, followed by a fun-filled day of events, support, and camaraderie.



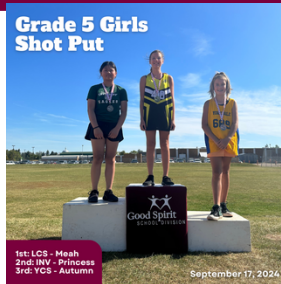
Grade 4 Girls Results



Grade 4 Boys Results



Grade 5 Girls Results



Grade 5 Boys Results



GSSD SUMMER 2024 READING CONTEST



The Good Spirit School Division (GSSD) wrapped up another successful Summer Reading Contest in partnership with Parkland Regional Libraries. This year, nearly 1,000 entries were submitted, marking the fourth year of this exciting initiative.



For over six years, GSSD schools have been opening school libraries during the summer months to provide students with access to books and fun activities. Several school libraries opened their doors again this past summer, offering students a chance to sign out books and engage in various literacy-related activities.



Congratulations to our six winners from Saltcoats, Langenburg, Macdonald, MC Knoll, and Sturgis schools! Thank you to all who participated, and we look forward to continuing this reading tradition next summer.

Pictured above: The six GSSD contest winners along with photos from summer library openings at GSSD schools.

150 YEARS OF TREATY 4 TERRITORY

Sunday, September 15th, 2024, marks 150 years of Treaty 4 Territory. To honor this day, central staff, trustees and educational partners gathered at the Good Spirit Education Complex on Friday, September 13, 2024, to celebrate and learn. The day began with a prayer from Elder Christianne Stevens and the blessing of the Canadian, Saskatchewan, and Treaty 4 flags. An honor song led by Aaron Tootoosis and Robert Severight followed, as Board Chair Jaime Johnson, Director of Education Quintin Robertson, and Keeseekoose First Nation Councillor Kevin Musqua raised the flags.



Pictured above: GSEC staff gather outside while Aaron Tootoosis and Robert Severight lead an honour song and Board Chair Jaime Johnson, Director of Education Quintin Robertson, and Keeseekoose First Nation Councillor Kevin Musqua raised the flags

The morning continued with Aaron Tootoosis presenting the history of Treaty 4, followed by a screening of Treaty Road - Episode 4, and a lunch of Bannock and soup. GSSD recognizes that we are all treaty people, and that the Division resides on Treaty 4 land. We are committed to honoring Indigenous history, supporting truth and reconciliation, and continuing the journey forward through education and action.



Pictured above: Treaty 4 Cake, a plaque honouring GSSD's commitment to continued learning, and a group photo with Quintin Robertson, Director of Education, Jaime Johnson, Board Chair, Christianne Stevens, Elder, Angella Pinay, Superintendent of Indigenous Education, Robert Severight, Indigenous Cultural Advocate, Aaron Tootoosis, Guest Speaker

SALTCOATS SCHOOL AUTUMN SUMMIT CELEBRATES 40 YEARS!



Pictured Above: Presentation of Commemorative 40th t-shirts to original founders, Brian Jones and Morley Maier, for the 40th Saltcoats Autumn Summit



Pictured Above: Crossing the Finish line at the 40th Saltcoats Autumn Summit

The 40th Annual Saltcoats School Autumn Summit Cross Country Race was held on Friday, September 27th at the Saltcoats Regional Park. 34 schools attended from the Good Spirit School Division, Christ the Teacher School Division, as well as other schools from Southeastern Saskatchewan. Over 700 runners took part in this year's event.

As part of the opening ceremonies, Brian Jones and Morley Maier, two founding organizers of the Autumn Summit were recognized. In 1984, the two men, along with the late Fred Nicholson (former Principal of Saltcoats School), acknowledged there was little opportunity for children to participate in long distance races. After many hours of planning, preparing, and organizing, the trio sent out the invite to Yorkdale, Bredenbury, MacNutt, Calder and Theodore for what became the First Annual Saltcoats Autumn Summit in 1985. The first race consisted of grades 7, 8 and 9, where approximately 35 runners competed. The following year the Yorkton Regional High School asked to participate and the rest, as they say, is history.



Over the years, schools from as far away as Tisdale and Maryfield have traveled to the Saltcoats Regional Park to attend the race. Even in 2020, when restrictions didn't allow for other schools to attend, students from Saltcoats School took to the field and ran the race, thus continuing the tradition. It's even become a multi-generational event with stories of parents who raced in the event coming to watch their children run or a Coach bringing students to the event they once raced in. Typically, between 700 and 800 participate in the event, with the highest number of runners in one year at just over 1,000. The Autumn Summit is the largest Cross Country event in Saskatchewan and Western Manitoba.



HEALTHY, SUSTAINABLE PHYSICAL & SOCIAL ENVIRONMENTS



- Enhancing mental health and well-being for students and staff
- Offering safe and inviting facilities
- Promoting equity, diversity, and inclusion

NEW WALKWAY ADDS ACCESSIBILITY TO DAVISON ELEMENTARY PLAYGROUND

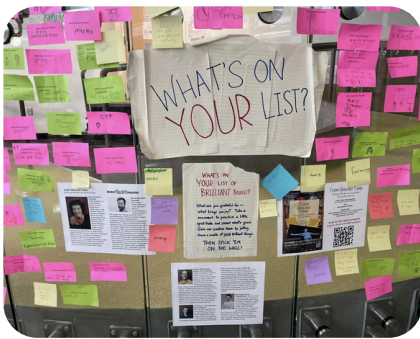
Davison Elementary School was excited to welcome students back this fall with a new addition to its All-Access Playground—a brand new walkway! Everyone belongs at Davison, and this walkway helps to ensure that everyone can be a part of the outdoor fun, promoting inclusivity for everyone.

The school extends a heartfelt thank you to the sponsors and community partners who made this project possible, including TF Concrete and Construction, E&H Redi Mix, Melville Home Hardware, and Painted Hand Casino CDC. Their support has helped create a more accessible space for all.



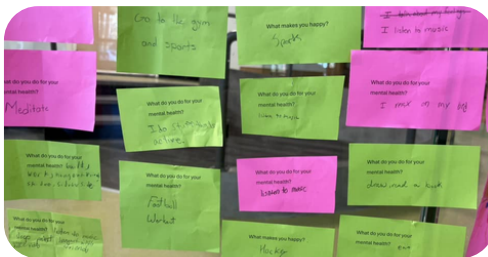
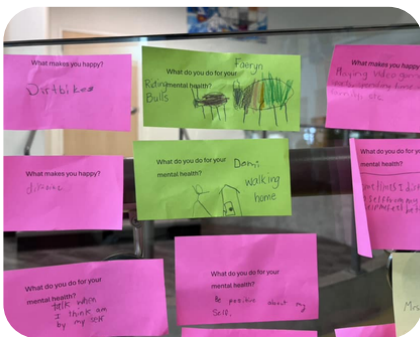
Thank You

LANGENBURG CENTRAL SCHOOL CELEBRATES WORLD MENTAL HEALTH DAY



On October 10th, World Mental Health Day, the Langenburg Central School Mental Health Committee organized a school-wide activity where students and staff wrote notes about the brilliant things in life and how they manage their mental health. The displayed papers were showcased in LCS's common area.

Grade 9-12 students also attended a performance of “Every Brilliant Thing”, put on by Burnt Thicket Theatre. This one-person play highlighted the importance of hope and managing mental health through support and human connections. The production featured audience participation, a beautiful soundtrack, and powerful moments.



A huge thank you goes to the Langenburg Arts Council for funding the entire show. Their generosity and dedication to bringing the arts to the Langenburg community and school are greatly appreciated.

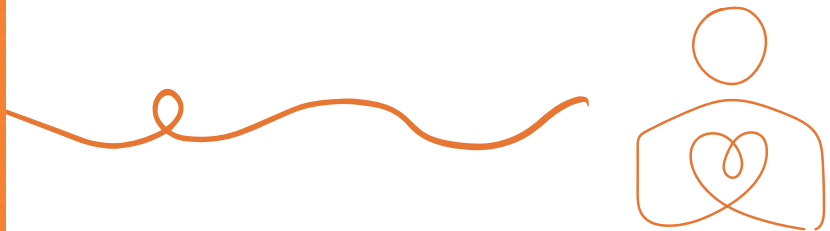
VICTORIA SCHOOL COMMEMORATES NATIONAL DAY FOR TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION



On Friday, September 27th, Victoria School recognized Orange Shirt Day and National Day for Truth and Reconciliation with a series of meaningful activities designed to engage students, staff, and families in reflection and learning. Throughout the week, in-class teachings were held to educate students about the history and lasting impacts of residential schools on Indigenous communities.

The culmination of the week’s efforts was a school-wide assembly. As a part of the commemoration, students also participated in a collaborative art project, symbolizing unity and reconciliation. After the assembly, students, staff, and families came together for an outdoor walk, reinforcing the importance of community support and shared commitment to understanding and healing.

This event served as a powerful reminder of the significance of Orange Shirt Day and the ongoing journey towards truth, reconciliation, and honouring Indigenous voices.



SPRINGSIDE SCHOOL RAISES FUNDS FOR THE TERRY FOX RUN

The Springside Stars from Springside School took part in the Terry Fox Run on September 20th, 2024, showing their support for cancer research and raising funds for a great cause. A big thank you goes out to everyone who donated!

Special recognition goes to Briar and Bowen Breitkreuz, who were Springside School’s top fundraisers and received a free t-shirt in honor of their efforts. Well done, Stars!



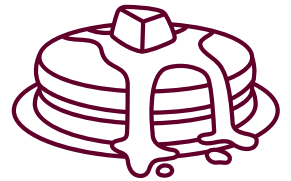
GRAYSON SCHOOL PANCAKE BREAKFAST SUPPORTS NUTRITION FOR ALL



On Friday, October 4th, 2024, Grayson School hosted its 3rd annual Pancake Breakfast, raising \$272 through silver collection donations from families and community members to support the breakfast club.

A heartfelt thank you goes to the Grayson Community Development Corporation for their generous \$1,000 donation to the school's breakfast program. Their continued support over the past three years has been invaluable.

This event's success reflects the strong community connections and commitment to student well-being at Grayson School.



COLUMBIA SCHOOL RECEIVES GENEROUS DONATION FROM GRAIN MILLERS YORKTON

Columbia School Community Council extends its heartfelt thanks to Grain Millers Yorkton for their generous donation of \$5,000 toward the school's playground project. This significant contribution will help create a better play space for students, benefiting both the kids and the community.

Columbia School is grateful to Grain Millers for investing in the future of their students and community!

THANK YOU!



GRAIN MILLERS



EFFECTIVE POLICY AND PROCEDURES

- Upholding clear, high-quality Board of Education Policies
- Maintaining transparent, high-quality administrative procedures aligned with Board policy
- Focusing on educational approaches that prioritize student success
- Allocating resources to improve experiences for students, staff, and the community



GSSD BOARD OF EDUCATION



On Thursday, October 10th, 2024, we held the last regular board meeting with our current GSSD Board of Education. It was a day filled with gratitude, memories, and shared moments. A heartfelt thank you to Trustees Jade Anderson, Lois Smandych, Gilda Dokuchie, Gord Gendur and Bob Simpson, who won't be returning for the next term. Your impacts and dedication do not go unnoticed, and we are sure we'll still see your friendly faces around the office from time to time. You're amazing!

Missing from photo: Gilda Dokuchie, Gord Gendur

BOARD OF EDUCATION ELECTIONS UPDATES

gssd.ca/board/2024-trustee-elections 🔍

Head to our website for all the details!

Board Elections

Persons elected by acclamation:

- Sub-Division No. 1: Jaime Johnson
- Sub-Division No. 2: Christopher Balyski
- Sub-Division No. 3: Shannon Leson
- Sub-Division No. 4: Nicole Pohl
- Sub-Division No. 5: Kelly Palmer
- Sub-Division No. 8: Jay-Cee Brass
- City of Yorkton at Large: Cara Makort, Jan Morrison and Steven Variyan

Upcoming elections and candidates:

Sub-Division No. 6
Election for the office of Board Member (1 per division)
Representing the incorporated area of the Villages of Duff, Goodeve, Grayson and Killaly, the City of Melville and associated rural areas*

Candidates:

- Victoria Duff
- Kendra Stav

Sub-Division No. 7
Representing the incorporated area of the Villages of Bird's Point, Gerald, Stockholm, Tantallon, Westend and Yarbo, the Town of Esterhazy and associated rural areas*

Candidates:

- Leah Maier
- Jamie Smart-Sondergaard

*Voting dates, times and locations will be posted and available on our website.

Good Spirit SCHOOL DIVISION

Notice of Advance/Regular Poll
GOOD SPIRIT SCHOOL DIVISION #204

Election for the office of Board Member (1 per division)

Sub-Division No. 6
Representing the incorporated area of the Villages of Duff, Goodeve, Grayson and Killaly, the City of Melville and associated rural areas

Melville Voting Locations & Times

- Tuesday, November 05th, 2024
CN Community Center
575 2nd Ave West, Melville, Sk
6:00 pm - 9:00 pm
- Wednesday, November 13th, 2024
CN Community Center
575 2nd Ave West, Melville, Sk
9:00 am - 8:00 pm

Grayson Voting Locations & Times

- Thursday, November 07th, 2024
Grayson Seniors Centre
111 Main Street, Grayson, Sk
2:00 pm - 7:00 pm
- Wednesday, November 13th, 2024
Grayson Seniors Centre
111 Main Street, Grayson, Sk
9:00 am - 8:00 pm

Sub-Division No. 7
Representing the incorporated area of the Villages of Bird's Point, Gerald, Stockholm, Tantallon, Westend and Yarbo, the Town of Esterhazy and associated rural areas

Esterhazy Voting Locations & Times

- Tuesday, November 05th, 2024
Esterhazy Town Office
600 Sumner Street, Esterhazy, Sk
3:00 pm - 8:00 pm
- Wednesday, November 13th, 2024
S.N. Boreen Centre
800 4th Ave, Esterhazy, Sk
9:00 am - 8:00 pm

Stockholm Voting Locations & Times

- Wednesday, November 06th, 2024
Reg Banga Communiplex
203 Ohlien Street, Stockholm, Sk
3:00 pm - 7:00 pm
- Wednesday, November 13th, 2024
Reg Banga Communiplex
203 Ohlien Street, Stockholm, Sk
9:00 am - 8:00 pm

Jennifer Livock
Returning Officer GSSD
Dated this 17th Day of October 2024

CITY OF YORKTON TRUSTEES



PUBLIC NOTICE

ABANDONMENT OF POLL

Election for Board Trustees
Good Spirit School Division No. 204
Yorkton at Large Subdivision

Public Notice is hereby given that in accordance with sections 77 and 82 of *The Local Government Elections Act, 2015*, the number of candidates for the Good Spirit School Division No. 204 - Yorkton at Large Subdivision Election is equal to that of the number of vacancies, and therefore, a poll is not required.

Dated this 10th day of October, 2024
Jessica Matsalla, Associate Returning Officer



PUBLIC NOTICE

DECLARATION OF RESULTS

Election for Board Trustees
Good Spirit School Division Board No. 204
Yorkton At Large Subdivision

Public Notice is hereby given that, in accordance with subsection 78(a) of *The Local Government Elections Act, 2015*, at the close of nomination and withdrawal periods on October 9 & 10, 2024, respectively, that the three Board Member vacancies for the Good Spirit School Division No. 204 - Yorkton at Large Subdivision Election which was to be held on the 13th day of November, 2024, have been filled by acclamation by the following candidates:

- Jan Morrison
- Steve Variyan
- Cara Makort

I declare that this is an accurate statement of the office as acclaimed.
Dated this 10th day of October, 2024
Jessica Matsalla, Associate Returning Officer

SUBDIVISIONS 1-8 UPDATE



PUBLIC NOTICE

ABANDONMENT OF POLL

GOOD SPIRIT SCHOOL DIVISION NO.204
ELECTION FOR BOARD TRUSTEES
POLL DIVISIONS #1, 2, 3, 4, 5 and 8

Public notice is hereby given that in accordance with sections 78(a) and 82 of *The Local Government Elections Act, 2015*, the number of candidates for the Good Spirit School Division No. 204, Polls # 1,2,3,4,5 and 8 are equal to that of the number of vacancies, and therefore, a poll is not required in these divisions.

Dated this 10th day of October 2024
Jennifer Lizuck, Returning Officer



PUBLIC NOTICE

DECLARATION OF RESULTS

ELECTION FOR BOARD TRUSTEES
GOOD SPIRIT SCHOOL DIVISION BOARD NO.204
SUBDIVISIONS 1,2,3,4,5 AND 8

Public notice is hereby given that, in accordance with subsection 139(1) of the *Local Government Elections Act, 2015*, at the close of nomination and withdrawal periods on October 9th & 10th, 2024, respectively, that 6 of the 8 Board Member vacancies for the Good Spirit School Division No.204, which was to be held November 13th, 2024, have been filled by acclamation by the following candidates:

- Poll # 1 – Jamie Johnson
- Poll # 2 – Christopher Balyski
- Poll # 3 – Shannon Leson
- Poll # 4 – Nicole Pohl
- Poll # 5 – Kelly Palmer
- Poll # 8 – Jay-Cee Brass

I declare that this is an accurate statement of the office as acclaimed.
Dated this 10th day of October 2024
Jennifer Lizuck, Returning Officer

FOCUSING IN ON...



Back 2 School Student & Family Engagement

P.J. GILLEN SCHOOL

The Pandas at P.J. Gillen hosted their Family Fun Night on Thursday, October 17th! Families enjoyed a fun-filled evening with carnival games, a book fair, and tasty treats from the canteen!



NORQUAY SCHOOL



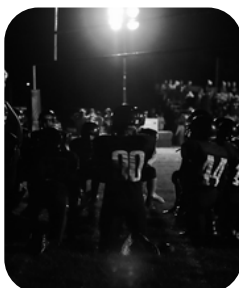
Norquay School's Pumpkin Decorating Family Fun Night was a huge success, showcasing the creativity of many families in the school community. A big thank you goes to the Holland family and Kathy Handzuik for generously donating the fantastic pumpkins.

YORKTON REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

On Friday, October 11th, 2024, The YRHS hosted their annual Thanksgiving Feast, feeding over 1,000 people! Thank you to all the sponsors and volunteers that continually make this event a possibility and success!



PREECEVILLE SCHOOL



Preeceville School held its first-ever Friday Night Lights football game on Friday, October 4th, 2024, facing off against the Viscount Vikings. The event saw a fantastic turnout, with tremendous support from the community through both attendance and sponsorship. The success of the evening was made possible by the strong backing from local supporters, highlighting the community's vital role in making the event a reality.

Our Motto
Our Mission
Our Values
Our Vision

Students Come First
Building Strong Foundations to Create Bright Futures
Learning Without Limits, Achievement For All
Belonging, Diversity, Learning, Perseverance & Responsibility