

Curriculum Connection

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For Department Staff,
please [click here](#).

For Calendar of Events, please
[click here](#).



The Ministry of Education is continually adding new suggested resources as they renew curricula. Be sure to check the **SUPPORT MATERIALS** tab for new resources.

Recommended Online Video Resources (ROVER): Educators and students now have access to over 1500 ROVER videos from **anywhere with an internet connection (ie. Home)** using their Blackboard login credentials. To access the video resources, go to the Curriculum website <http://www.curriculum.gov.sk.ca/> and click on R.O.V.E.R. in the "Quick Links" section at the bottom right side of the home page. You will be redirected to the Blackboard login where you will be required to **login using your legal first and last names (firstname.lastname) and password, the numeric month and day of your birthday (eg. July 1st would be 0701).**

Teacher Resource Centre

The TRC is always on the search for new resources to support curricula. Follow the link to see the latest additions:

New Professional Resources
[December 2012](#)

If you discover a great resource that should be added to the TRC's collection, please forward the information to kjasieniuk@srsd119.ca.

Integrated Learning Library

New Resources

- *The Essential 55* by Ron Clark
- *The Excellent 11* by Ron Clark
- *The Leader's Guide to 21st Century Education* by Ken Kay
- *Literacy Work Stations* by Debbie Diller

REMINDERS

- * Assessment Day 2—February 4, 2013
- * Early Literacy Screens—data entered by February 5, 2013
- * Art pieces to be in by February 8, 2013
- * Grades 4, 7, and 10 Reading AFL in April 2013
- * Grades 5 and 8 Math AFL in May 2013

Pam Anderson Klassen (extension 2055)

Happy New Year! Wishing you all the best for a healthy and happy year ahead!

Have you forgotten about some great ELA resources in your school? Have you used the Learning Carpet or sent the Reading Connection newsletter home? The Learning Carpet is catalogued through your library and is a hands-on experience for your students. They can make word families, sentences, letter matching games, even some math ideas! Be sure to check it out! The Reading Connection newsletter can be found on the Integrated Learning webpage. There are many great ideas for teachers and parents to engage children in reading and writing.

ELA Curriculum Overview

Grades 1 to 9 ELA must include a minimum of five units taught during the school year. There are five contexts that must also be covered: personal and philosophical; communicative; imaginative and literary; social, cultural, and historical; and environmental and technological. Within these five units (one per context), a minimum of three can be multi-genre thematic, a minimum of one interdisciplinary or inquiry, and a maximum of one author or genre study.

If you have questions, please call me. I am happy to come out to your school and help you out!

Tracy Bloomquist (extension 2074)

First Nations and Metis Education

Teaching Treaties in the Classroom—Sign up for the three day workshop online. **Day 1 & 2 are scheduled for January 23-24, 2013.** The goal of the three day workshop is to support teachers in their efforts to actualize FNM content and perspectives in the classroom. A deeper understanding of the Treaty Essential Learnings will allow teachers to strengthen their practice and support other teachers in their school.

Learn about the four directions by traditional knowledge keepers. The website includes lesson plans connected to the teachings found on the site. Junior grade topics include Four Directions and Four Aspects of Self; intermediate grade topics include The Tipi, The Circle Model, and Governance; and senior grade topics include Four Directions, Four Aspects of Self, and The Teepee (connects well with health and wellness outcomes). www.fourdirectionteachings.com

Learn how to build a Tipi using this interactive site. Animated characters provide traditional teachings and explain technological aspects as users build the tipi. Great for classroom use on a SmartBoard.
<http://www.learnalberta.ca/content/wonbt/html/index.html>

Health / Wellness / PE – Top picks on R.O.V.E.R.

Grades K-3 [5 Ways to Work Things Out](#) Series: Get Along Monsters (USC1.3 Healthy School Relationships; USC2.1 Thoughts-Feelings-Actions; USC3.6 Real and Fictional Violence).

Grades 4-6 Zumba! [Fit Kids Classroom Workout 3: Shimmy, Shaking and Loving Latin](#) (PE Skillful Movement).

Grades 7-8 [Nutrition: Myths and Facts](#) (USC7.5 Personal Food Choices and Needs; USC8.5 Body Image Satisfaction/Dissatisfaction).

Grades 9-12 [Biomechanics of the Body](#).

Arts Education

Looking for Métis artwork for the Cultural/Historical outcomes? This collection includes numerous examples of Métis artistic expression, both traditional and contemporary. www.metismuseum.ca

Love to doodle? Check out the Zentangle Pattern Styles Tutorial including Zendoodle, Zendala, Zentangle Pattern Ideas. <http://www.milliande.com/Zendoodle-Sampler-Zentangle-Pattern-Styles-Tutorial.html>

*"Success and failure
are not episodes, they
are trajectories."* -
Tom Shimmer

Sheri Gunville (extension 2012)

GoApps is a Go!

The SRPSD version of Google Apps for Education has been branded GoApps. With this purple icon on the student links page, and hopefully a link on your school website, students AND teachers can login to GoApps.

Once inside students have mail, drive, sites, and calendar. Teachers have everything minus the mail (you already have an email account). In Google Drive you can upload documents from your computer so they are stored in the cloud and thus accessible anywhere, and you can also create in the cloud. When creating you simply make your assignment or slideshow or website on your own, or you can SHARE with others and co-create together. This is a great new alternative to the S drive for student collaboration and can be enabled for your class to collaborate with others outside SRPSD as well. Google forms can revolutionize the hot lunch sheets for your school too! Teacher and student usernames are the same as their regular computer logon usernames. For password information, ask your local C.A.T. team person.

Corrine Hoffman (extension 2065)

The SRPSD 2012-2013 Learning Improvement Plans for all schools are now on the website. Go to <http://www.srsd119.ca/continuousimprovementfiles/LIPschools.html> (SRSD Home Page -> Continuous Improvement -> Learning Improvement Plans by School).

Schools are encouraged to make revisions to their plan throughout the school year, reflective of work done in their efforts to reach student learning goals. This is a “live” document, which hopefully acts as a guiding force and keeps momentum going, for improved student learning results. It is a great tool to focus, highlight, and celebrate the meaningful work of school staffs. Plans will be “re-published” later this school year.

Sheila Cunningham (extension 2062)

Math

As part of a balanced mathematics program, it is useful to be able to add, subtract, multiply, and divide quickly, and it is important to know basic addition and multiplication facts without having to figure them out or count on your fingers. Asking students to demonstrate this knowledge within a given time limit may actually interfere with their learning. While computational recall is important, it is only part of a comprehensive mathematical background that includes more complex computation, an understanding of mathematical concepts, and the ability to think and reason to solve problems. Measuring this one aspect of mathematics— fact recall—using timed tests is both flawed as an assessment approach and damaging to many students’ confidence and willingness to tackle new problems. When pressed, many adults who dislike or fear mathematics attribute their negative feelings to experiences from their school years, especially the use of timed tests. Overemphasizing fast fact recall at the expense of problem solving and conceptual experiences gives students a distorted idea of the nature of mathematics and of their ability to do mathematics. (*Faster Isn't Smarter* by Cathy L. Seeley. 2009)

Carla Penner-Henry (extension 2064)

Career Education

All students from grades 8-12 have access to www.myBlueprint.ca. This educational planner focuses on helping students plan for their high school career as well as explore their post-secondary options. It would be beneficial to grade 8 students entering one of the city high schools as it allows students the opportunity to explore the courses offered at all of SK Rivers high schools. Please email me for the activation code for your students or for additional information and assistance.

As students begin the process of applying for post-secondary institutions, financial planning becomes a priority. Students may be interested in creating an account at www.studentawards.com. This website will email students weekly updates with scholarships related to the student’s academic achievement, community experience, and interests.

PAA

All PAA units from the former Sask Schools site have been saved on the t:drive. T:\Smartboard\PAA\WBLRD - Ministry now offline resources. The index in each file will allow you to access the heart of each resource.

A food studies kit has been created and is ready to be loaned out from the TRC. The kit contains recipes and equipment needed for many middle level food studies modules. More information about the kit can be found on the TRC site.