

# Curriculum Connection

## Curriculum Connection

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.

To access Ministry Web-based learning resources, visit the following:

<http://www.curriculum.gov.sk.ca>

or

<http://www.progetudes.gov.sk.ca>

These resources will be available through Blackboard until December 31, 2012.

If you require more information, please contact Tracy Bloomquist of our department.

### 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  
[September 2012](#)

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

### Integrated Learning Library

New Resources

- *The Leader in Me*—Stephen R. Covey
- *Moving the Classroom Outdoors*—Herbert W. Broda
- *Delivering on the Promise*—Richard Delorenzo

## Division Book Study

An educational book study will take place at the Education Centre once a month. Books will be chosen through suggestions from participants, and it will be the responsibility of the teacher to purchase their book. Depending on the length of the book, a study may last two to three months. The first book will be *Ten Things That Matter From Assessment to Grading* by Tom Schimmer and is available through Pearson (the cheapest option), Amazon, and Indigo/Chapters. The first meeting will take place on November 22<sup>nd</sup> from 3:30 – 4:30. If you are interested in this opportunity, please contact Pam Anderson Klassen.

## Pam Anderson Klassen (extension 2055)

### ELA

How do we create a culture of readers in our classrooms? Engaging students in reading for the joy of reading is becoming a more difficult task as students progress through school. How do we, as teachers, instill a love of reading in our students and help our struggling readers? Pam Allyn (*Educational Leadership*, March 2012) suggests 10 strategies:

- Don't judge the reader.
- Offer a range of materials.
- Provide time for dialogue.
- Give readers a tool kit.
- Let readers read at their comfort level.
- Dive deep.
- Value browsing and rereading.
- Build stamina.
- Teach students to curate their own reading lives.
- Remember, joy matters.**

---

## Tracy Bloomquist (extension 2074)

### Social Studies

- The 13th Annual Law Day High School Mock Trial Competition, also known as the McKercher Cup, is scheduled for Saturday, April 13, 2013. High school students will have the opportunity to present their cases in front of judges from both the Court of Queen's Bench and the Provincial Court in Saskatoon. Accommodations are provided by CBA. Information is available at <http://www.cba.org/saskatchewan/main/events/lawday.aspx#mocktrial>.
- PA Historical Society has Travelling Suitcases for loan. Three themed suitcases are available for you to take into the classroom for a period of two weeks. Themes included pioneer, war, and First Nations/Métis. They include descriptions of the artifacts that students can take out and examine. <http://www.historypa.com/>.
- SunWest School Division have wikis that might be helpful to you. They have rewritten all of the social studies outcomes and indicators from grades 4 and 6-9 as "I can..." statements. They are very user friendly this way and allow you to 'see' what performance tasks and lessons can come out of each one. Go to <http://supporting-social-studies.wikispaces.com/> and click on the applicable grade tab.
- SS4 teachers may be interested to see Our Town documents added under the Support Materials tab on the SS4 curriculum website. These printable documents offer history and facts on 18 Saskatchewan communities.

### Fine Arts

- **ArtsSmarts** Saskatchewan offers arts and education grants of up to \$7,500 to schools, artists, and community partnerships for innovative projects in any art form that bring K-12 students and professional artists together. Projects must take place between January 1 and June 30 (deadline for applications Nov 1). Information is available at <http://www.artsboard.sk.ca/>.
- **TreatySmarts** is an exploratory initiative within the ArtsSmarts program. The purpose is to encourage arts-based inquiry projects related to Treaty topics, concepts, and understandings.
- **LIVE** (Live Interactive Video Education) Arts Education is a dynamic distance education arts program for students in Grades 1 to 9 from October to May 2013. The zero cost program supports the Saskatchewan Arts Education curriculum and is delivered via the Saskatchewan Ministry of Education LIVE Satellite Network (SatNet). Professional Artists connect simultaneously with teachers and students in multiple schools across the province for a LIVE experience with Arts Education. For more information and to register, go to <http://liveartsaskatchewan.com/index3.php/>.
- **Traditional Storytelling Hip Hop Style** - November LIVE features Muskoday First Nation rap artist Lindsay Knight aka Eekwol. This, and many more programs support all the art strands, are available at [http://liveartsaskatchewan.com/index3.php?page\\_id=2383](http://liveartsaskatchewan.com/index3.php?page_id=2383).

"We are not what  
we know, but what  
we are willing to  
learn." -

Mary Bateson

## Sheri Gunville (extension 2012)

The 17 schools using the StudentsAchieve gradebook are progressing quite nicely. With the software working from the beginning of the school year, instead of late October like last term one, teachers have had the time to really use the gradebook before report card time. The overall sense of satisfaction with the product is quite high. I am out in schools until report cards print and look forward to CAT team meetings, Smartboard, and Drupal workshops in term 2.

---

## Corrine Hoffman (extension 2065)

Thank you to the principals, vice principals, secretaries, and school staff members who have welcomed me in my first round of school visits; I will be at every school at least once before the November 1<sup>st</sup> deadline for the submission of your school Learning Improvement Plans. Principals and vice principals - your continued positive attitudes and efforts as you refine your skills with the Skopus & SkoVision software demonstrate your commitment to leadership. The progress we have made from our experiences last year are allowing us to use these as stronger resources to support your goal setting discussions with staff.



The school visits create an opportunity to explore data results common throughout the school division – but unique to each school – and determine how to best include student assessment data results as a critical component of school learning improvement plans. In particular, we are becoming more skilled at examining DRA Reading Level Results, Common Math Assessment Results, and Elementary Achievement (Report Card) Results. We will continue to determine how Skopus & SkoVision resources can best meet the needs of all our schools. Please feel free to provide me or your Superintendent with input. It is your feedback and ideas that inspire the vision for this work: improved learning outcomes and results for students.

---

## Sheila Cunningham (extension 2062)

### Math

The new division math common assessments will be posted by mid-October. Thank you to the teachers who have been hard at work helping to develop these assessments. It is definitely not an easy task. An email will be sent out to administrators when the assessments have been posted.

### Science

Science.gc.ca and its partners are organizing the World's Largest Practical Science Lesson at multiple locations. This world record-setting event will take place for 30 minutes on Friday, October 12, at exactly the same time across Canada.

Please visit [Science.gc.ca/newrecord](http://Science.gc.ca/newrecord) to find out more ...and register your participation.

This record-setting event will also mark the beginning of the National Science and Technology Week, which will be held this year from October 12 to 21 with celebrations and fun events for all Canadians.

---

## Carla Penner-Henry (extension 2064)

### Career Education

The third annual 'Opening Doors to Tomorrow Career Fair' will be held on October 24th from 9:30-3:00. To assist students as they walk through the fair, encourage them to visit three post-secondary educational facilities that offer programs they are interested in or have them stop by two booths offering part-time or entry level positions. A list of questions will accompany your school's career fair package; use these questions as a guideline to assist students with their communication skills as they discuss possible education and employment opportunities with employers. The career fair website [www.srsd119.ca/careerfair/](http://www.srsd119.ca/careerfair/) contains a list of current employers and additional career fair resources. Please contact Carla Penner-Henry for any information you may need for the fair.

### PAA

To support the PAA renewed curriculum, grades 7-9 teachers are invited to attend the first of a series of middle level PAA workshops beginning on Monday, October 29<sup>th</sup>. Teachers will have the opportunity to develop their PAA survey course, create performance tasks, and related assessment pieces. Please see the Staff Learning Calendar for additional information.

The annual Cardboard Boat Races will take place at Carlton on Thursday, November 15<sup>th</sup>. Please contact Brian Linn to register a team.