



**Saskatchewan Rivers
School Division**

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Excellence for Every Learner

A REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE SASKATCHEWAN RIVERS SCHOOL DIVISION

VOL. 7, NO. 2



Proud Student Santee Jonathan shows her framed pastel to her father Devin and sister Karyss. Santee attends W. P. Sandin School in Shellbrook.

STUDENT ART ON DISPLAY

The Saskatchewan Rivers' Education Centre became a bustling place on Wednesday, June 11, 2008 when students and parents were invited to see the First Annual Student Art show.

Each year student art from across the division is selected to be framed and put on display at the Education Centre. Frequent comments by visitors to our building confirm the talents of our students. We have always been proud of their work and grateful to be able to work in an environment made so welcoming by such gifted students.

This year invitations were sent to the schools inviting artists and their parents to view their work and see the work of other inspiring artists. Approximately 200 visitors toured the building, commenting on their work and that of other students. Karen Fraser, local artist was responsible for selecting, framing, and hanging the art. Parents were amazed at the talents of their children and students were justly proud of their work.

Artists receive a certificate from the school division and have their work returned to them after it has hung in the building for a year. With the positive comments and the smiles on many of the faces, it is likely that the Student Art Show will become an annual event for Saskatchewan Rivers School Division.

NEW SUPERINTENDENT



Maureen Taylor, Superintendent as of August 1, 2008.

Maureen Taylor will begin her responsibilities as Superintendent of Schools beginning August 1, 2008. Maureen comes to the position of Superintendent with a variety of experiences which will complement her work within the Division. She has been the Integrated Learning Consultant for Saskatchewan Rivers School Division with primary responsibilities for language arts implementation within the Division for the past four years. Maureen has also worked as a presenter for the Saskatchewan Professional Development Unit and has been actively involved in the provincial assessment for learning initiative assisting with item development and standard setting. She has also been successful as a group leader working with teachers from across the province to ensure consistency in scoring the provincial reading assessment. Maureen has administrative experience in a rural K-12 school, has extensive knowledge of curriculum, assessment, and understands the support needed to bring about change in the classroom. She is noted for her strong work ethic and common sense. Maureen will replace former superintendent **Cathy Mills** who is retiring at the end of June.



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CARLTON TEACHERS RECOGNIZED

Donavon Elliott was awarded the SIAST honorary diploma at the graduation ceremonies held on June 6, 2008. This award is given to an individual for distinguished achievement or contribution that is widely recognized and that supports SIAST's vision, values, goals and objectives.

Donavon is known throughout the city and the province for his work in promoting trades and technology training amongst students in the province and across Canada. As an educator and an interprovincial electrical journeyman, Donavon knows that having specific training in a trade is a valuable resource for the student and the province. To that end, Donavon has worked with the Saskatchewan Apprenticeship Commission and SIAST Electrical Program / SIAST Registration Services to develop a liaison that allows students to obtain partial credits toward achieving journeyman's status while still in high school. Donavon has been active in the Prince Albert Construction Association, is the chairperson for Skills Saskatchewan and vice chairperson for National Skills Canada. He has also been active in establishing career fairs on a provincial and inter-provincial level. Through his involvement with Skills Canada, students in Saskatchewan Rivers School Division have been successful in Skills Canada competitions at both the provincial and national levels.

Donavon actively promotes work exploration and Practical and Applied Arts opportunities to students and staff in Saskatchewan Rivers School Division. His commitment to his students is evident to all. A positive attitude combined with a wonderful sense of humour regardless of the challenges faced, helps to energize and enrich all who come in contact with him. Congratulations Donavon!



L-R are: Larry Fladager, Director SIAST Woodland Campus
David Wells, SIAST Senior Vice President (Academic)
Donavon Elliott, Dr. Robert McCulloch, SIAST President & CEO



*Karen Grassick wins
Prime Minister's Certificate
of Achievement for 2007-08.*

Karen Grassick, Science Teacher at Carlton Comprehensive was awarded the 2007-2008 Prime Minister's Certificate of Achievement for Teaching Excellence in May. This award honours the achievements of outstanding teachers who instill in their students

a love of learning and recognizes their efforts to help students gain the skills and necessary knowledge to meet the challenges of the 21st century. Karen was chosen from 155 nominees who were evaluated on their leadership and innovative teaching styles.

Karen has been a leader amongst her colleagues at Carlton Comprehensive for her work in incorporating technology into her classroom. A pioneer of the SmartBoard, Karen, a chemistry teacher, was instrumental in using the interactive whiteboard to demonstrate to students the behind the scenes interaction of chemicals. Karen has been able to take abstract concepts to the concrete level to increase student understanding. Karen uses her expertise and enthusiasm for the new technology to work with other teachers within the Science department's professional learning community to find the best ways to enable students to excel and build a successful future. Karen has demonstrated in multiple ways why she is a worthy recipient of this award.

CONGRATULATIONS KAREN.

FIND TIME TO DO SOME SUMMER READING WITH YOUR CHILDREN

The long, lazy days of summer stretch out before us and soon our children will be wondering what to do to fill their days. Grab a book and read! For those students who enjoy reading, there will be nothing better than sitting on the beach with their nose buried in a book that carries them to some foreign land in a different time. Many students however see the summer as a time to remove themselves from anything even remotely related to school. Unfortunately reading skills can suffer over the summer.

Teachers have long recognized summer reading loss and now there is substantial research to verify teachers' September experiences. Students who do not read at all during the summer will experience a loss of reading skills that over time can accumulate to a two year reading gap by the time the student reaches the middle years. The good news is that "reading even four to five books during the summer is potentially enough to prevent a decline in reading achievement" according to the president of the International Reading Association, Linda Gambrell.

So parents, join with your child in finding novel ways to get books into their hands during the summer break. Here are a few suggestions:

- * Read a book with your child. Oprah's book club has created a renewed interest in talking about books. When you and your child read the same book, it provides plenty of opportunities for discussion during those long car rides, and it is much more stimulating than watching a DVD!

- * Read in short spurts during the day and talk about what you have read. Just as dividing a 40 minute workout into smaller bits is effective so is reading for 5 minutes three to four times a day. Can you find an interesting headline in the local paper? What catches your eye in the magazine rack at the check-out? How goofy are some of those alien stories? Read one with your child and talk about what you have read and whether it sounds like the truth. Children need to understand that not everything they read in print is actually true.

- * Watch a movie and then read the book and decide which you like better. Good readers make pictures in their heads as they read. Struggling readers may have trouble doing this but a movie can help to fill in some of the details for them. When you share your pictures with your child, you are helping to build their skills.

When your child sees you reading they understand that reading is important and they will try to copy your good habits. For more reading ideas, check out our website www.srsd119.ca during the summer months and Happy Reading!





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Kristy Martin, a history teacher from Debden Community School will be attending the History Teachers Professional Development Tour in France this summer from July 27 to August 5, 2008. Kristy, selected from a number of teacher applicants from across Canada, will join 30 other teachers to take part in the 4th annual opportunity to discover Canadian World War I and II historic sites. During the week long tour, Kristy will travel to Northern France and Normandy to gain first hand knowledge of Canada's participation in WWI & WWII. She will visit Canadian battlefields at Vimy Ridge, Beaumont-Hamel, the Falaise Gap, Normandy, and the D-Day landing sites at Juno Beach. While in Normandy, the lucky group of teachers will tour the Juno Beach Centre to gain a complete overview of Canada's involvement in the Second World War. Kristy will also attend seminars and hear local speakers who will share their knowledge of the significance of Canada's landings

at Juno Beach, the Battle of Normandy, and Victory in Europe that followed. Kristy is looking forward to meeting many of the locals who lived through D-Day and the Battle of Normandy, enjoying the kind hospitality in Normandy, and sharing teaching ideas with other history teachers from across Canada.

We know that Kristy will return filled with fresh ideas and information to share with her fortunate students next year.



Bill Yeaman, vice-principal and teacher at Kinistino School will attend the Historica Canadian Battlefields Foundation High School History Teacher's Study Tour from July 9 - July 19, 2008. The purpose of the tour is to introduce teachers to some of the most important Canadian battlefields and memorials in Belgium and France. The study tour is designed to provide an in-depth understanding of the Canadian experience in the two World Wars. Prior to going to Europe, Bill will have some homework to do. He will be given the name of a soldier commemorated at a site in either Belgium or France, to research and is expected to present a brief biological sketch to other participants when they visit the relevant site. Daily readings and map assignments will allow him to take part in discussions that encourage consideration of a variety of concepts including

the moral dimensions of war as well as exploring ways of presenting information to students. Bill has taught history for a number of years and believes it is important to have students understand the implications of war. Each year he introduces veterans to his history students and has them work together to develop a Remembrance Day service that tells the stories of the remaining heroes. His experiences in Europe will no doubt be shared with the students of Kinistino for the benefit of all.





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The Board recognizes the following employees at its Annual Recognition Event held on Monday, June 16, 2008 at the Art Hauser Centre.

10 YEARS

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Shelly Acorn • Pamela Aitken • Kathleen Alexandersen • Dawn Marie Anderson • Kathy Antoni • Shannon Auramenko • Dorothy Barton • Greg Bell • Judith Bischler • Patrick Boyer • Gayle Boyle • Roxane Bozak • Marjorie Bradley • Bill Cooke • Diana Couture • Irene Danger | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Ron Fines • Alice Finnestad • Sherry Gunville • Carrie Hazelwood • Patricia Hicks • Linda Hodgins • Brent Holmen • Cathy Howland • Vicki Johnson • Janet Jurgens • Kathleen Kacuiba • Karla Kazmiruk • Jocelyn Kennedy • David Kenny • Lana Kyliuk • Marcia Lawson | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Brenda Lecomte • Robert Leland • Shelley Lettvenuk • Bonnie Lueken • Dawn MacLeod • Donna McSymtz • Tracy Mercredi • Lorelle Meyer • Deborah Michayluk • Stacey Monette • Barry Nixon • Darcy Patchin • Valerie Payton • Myrna Peterson • Juliana Price • Ean Prosser | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Philippe Ruel • Donna Schrader • David Seto • Gina Sinoski • Susan Siwak • Ruth Smith • Michelle Sterling • Marilee Taylor • Cheryl Tetarenko • Tammy Twyver • Brian Vedress • Carolyn Vis • Bernie Ward • Mary Woodcock • Penny Zelensky |
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15 YEARS

- Don Abramyk
- Mike Basaraba
- Shelby Currie
- Deanna Dore
- Elaine Edeen
- Heather Edwards
- Wendy Fallis
- Gary Garneau
- Pamela Grassick
- Ellen Grewcock
- Leslie Jack
- Elizabeth Johnstone
- Gwen Jones
- Virginia Kostyniuk
- John Kuzbik
- Jeffrey Kyliuk
- Norma Lepage
- Kristy Martin
- Jim Mireau
- Darlene Parenteau
- Ruth Peake
- Tanya Price-Wright
- Patricia Tetreault
- Reginald Vaughan
- Denise Wilson

20 YEARS

- Deborah Avey
- Elise Beaulac
- Robert Brillinger
- Elizabeth Chapelle
- Colleen Code
- David Dubyk
- Janine Dubyk
- Ronald Foster
- Penny Hammond
- Cheryl Hislop
- Loretta Isbister
- Raymond Iskra
- Dolores Kellett
- Darlene Kowal
- Loretta Maltby
- Linda Njaa
- Colleen Northey
- Anne Schmalz
- Diane Sumners
- Daniel Weiers
- Dovona West

25 YEARS

- Margaret Bergen
- Anne Blais
- Karen Erickson
- Wendy Fiddler
- Marlene Gobeil
- Janis Hradec
- Patrick Jones
- John McIvor
- Sherry Moar
- Marlene Schutte
- Berk Seymour
- Betty Sinclair
- Margaret Zulkoskey

30 YEARS

- Elaine Beres
- Dianne Birkeland
- Dorothy Cholewa
- Donald Hansen
- Cathy Mills
- Daryl Rushbrooke
- Phyllis Soles
- Fred Stephens
- Gwyneth Topping

35 YEARS

- David Bissky
- Sandra Putland

RETIREES

- | | |
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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Vicki Bender • Bonnie Bouchard • Pattie Campbell • Gerald Deschambeault • Karen Erickson • Caroline Harrison • Inez Helm • Kerry Hubel • Patrick Jones • Linda Klughart • Arnold Kuhn | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Jean Markowsky • Robert McBeth • John McIvor • Cathy Mills • Sandra Putland • Heinz Serzisko • Twyla Simola • Maureen Strathdee • Don Thorsen • Gwyneth Topping • Janet Wright |
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