



**Saskatchewan Rivers  
School Division**

*Excellence for Every Learner*

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**A REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE SASKATCHEWAN RIVERS SCHOOL DIVISION**

**VOL. 8, NO. 3**

## BOARD HOLDS ITS ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING



**Front Row (Left to Right)**  
Barry Hollick (Vice-Chair),  
George McHenry,  
Bill Cooke (Director of  
Education),  
Rodney Thomson,  
Grant Gustafson  
**Back Row (Left to Right)**  
Wayne Steen (Board Chair),  
Darlene Rowden,  
Roger Provencher,  
Arne Lindberg,  
John McIvor,  
Jaimie Smith-Windsor

At the November 9, 2009 Organizational meeting, Wayne Steen was acclaimed as Board Chair and Barry Hollick was acclaimed as Vice-Chair. Trustees were assigned to a cluster of schools in the division as follows for 2009-2010:

**Cluster 1:**

- Red Wing School
  - St. Louis Community School
  - Westview Community School
  - West Central School
- Darlene Rowden**
- Alternate: Wayne Steen*

**Cluster 2:**

- Canwood Community School
  - Prince Albert Collegiate Institute (PACI)
  - Spruce Home School
- Rodney Thomson**
- Alternate: Jaimie SmithWindsor*

**Cluster 3:**

- Arthur Pechey School
  - Carlton Comprehensive High School
  - John Diefenbaker School
- Barry Hollick**
- Alternate: George McHenry*

**Cluster 4:**

- East Central School
  - Riverside Community School
  - W.J. Berezowsky School
- Grant Gustafson**
- Alternate: Arne Lindberg*

**Cluster 5:**

- Christopher Lake School
  - Meath Park School
  - Queen Mary Community School
- Jaimie SmithWindsor**
- Alternate: Grant Gustafson*

**Cluster 6:**

- Big River Community High School
  - Debden School
  - T.D. Michel Community School
- Roger Provencher**
- Alternate: John McIvor*

**Cluster 7:**

- Birch Hills School
  - Kinistino School
- Wayne Steen**
- Alternate: Darlene Rowden*

**Cluster 8:**

- Osborne School
  - Princess Margaret School
  - Wesmor Community High School
- Arne Lindberg**
- Alternate: Rodney Thomson*

**Cluster 9:**

- École Vickers School
  - King George Community School
  - Vincent Massey Community School
  - Wild Rose School
- George McHenry**
- Alternate: Barry Hollick*

**Cluster 10:**

- Shell Lake School
  - Shellbrook School
  - W.P. Sandin High School
- John McIvor**
- Alternate: Roger Provencher*



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*Small School Winner - Wild Rose School Cross Country Team*

# CROSS COUNTRY EXTRAVAGANZA

On October 6th, at the beautiful Silver Hills Golf Resort, the P4A (Prince Albert and Area Athletic Association) held its annual Cross Country Extravaganza. The P4A held 4 cross country events in September and the October Extravaganza was a chance to showcase this great program. All Saskatchewan Rivers schools and P.A. Catholic schools were invited to participate. This year, 23 Saskatchewan Rivers' schools participated with athletes winning 39 out of a possible 48 medals. Schools from Saskatchewan Rivers also won both banners; Arthur Pechey, the large school banner and Wild Rose, the small school banner.

A record setting 495 runners participated in 16 different age/gender categories this year, with the length of each run varying from 1.0 km to 2.0 km. Cross country running has been in place at the P4A level for 10 years and continues to grow larger and larger every year. This program has grown to become one of, if not the largest, cross country program in the province. Many of our track and field and high school cross country athletes get their motivation to train and represent their high schools from their initial development in cross country. It is also a great way for students to maintain their fitness levels, run for fun, and develop school spirit. Fitness and healthy lifestyles are direct spinoffs of athletic programming.

It is a huge undertaking to run a major cross country meet such as the Extravaganza and it is all coordinated and organized by coaches and volunteers in our school community. We appreciate all the support provided by host facilities, administrators, coaches, parents, and athletes. Thanks to everyone involved, it was a great day!

## TAKE OUR KIDS to Work

The 15<sup>th</sup> annual Take Our Kids to Work Day took place Wednesday, November 4, 2009 with approximately 350 Saskatchewan Rivers students spending the day at work with their parent or a volunteer host. The exciting job shadow activity, designed for Grade 9 students, was intended to connect the worlds of work and education for these students.

Between these two worlds, kids rely on their parents to give them a view of the work world. Alicia Folden from Birch Hills wanted to spend November 4<sup>th</sup> with her dad doing taxidermy. While many of us only see the finished products as the mounted form of an animal, we do not appreciate all of the work that goes into the process. The modern practice of taxidermy incorporates many crafts, such as carpentry, woodworking, tanning, molding and casting; but it also requires artistic talent, including the art of sculpture, painting and drawing. When Alicia was asked about the whole process she promptly replied, "Watching my dad do taxidermy was great!"

Jordan Lepine had a similar experience when he went to work as the school caretaker for the day. Jordan learned that what you see as a student in the school is very different from what the caretaker of the school experiences. Jordan said he "really enjoyed seeing all the places in the school that other students never get a chance to see".

The benefits of the annual Take Our Kids to Work (TOKW) program are numerous. Alicia, Jordan, and many other students now have a different view of the work world and certainly have a better understanding of the demands and opportunities in that world. They also have an increased appreciation for their parents, or volunteer hosts, and what they do to support their family.

Education goes well beyond the classroom walls. The Take Our Kids to Work program is one way we are preparing our youth for the future.



*Jordan Lepine (student) and Dale Meyers working at the school.*



*Alicia Folden (student) and Barry Folden doing taxidermy.*





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## Excellence for Every Learner: Model Science Labs

The motto of the Saskatchewan Rivers School Division is “Excellence for Every Learner” and with that motivation and a renewed science curriculum, the division has embarked on a new initiative; updated, innovative, model science labs. The division’s initial plan is to create two model labs; one at the elementary level and one at the high school level. These model labs will be the blueprint for all other school labs in our division.

The whole initiative began late last spring with the designating of pilot schools, W.J Berezowsky and Kinistino, and the forming of an implementation team which consisted of Education Centre staff and teachers from the respective schools. At the initial meeting, conceptual plans were laid out to bring together three critical components: curriculum, resources, and facilities.

In phase one of the project, implementation teachers went through curricula objectives as well as classroom activities and labs to make a list of desired resources for a model science lab. While it might have seemed like an overwhelming task at the time, Kinistino teacher **Laura Scheidl** said, “Upon the arrival of the equipment this September, my biology 30 students and I were like kids in a candy shop! Seeing the students’ eyes light up each time they opened a box to find a new treasure was something I’ll never forget. From the digital microscopes, to the weather station, to the human anatomy torso model, and everything in between, the lab was buzzing with inquiry and excitement.”

At W.J. Berezowsky, teacher **Matt Gray** had a similar experience. “Even at the early stages of this project students are already responding to what the science lab will offer...students are definitely more engaged with the activities in science. Students are being exposed to new and different equipment that make classes and lessons more engaging and interesting.”

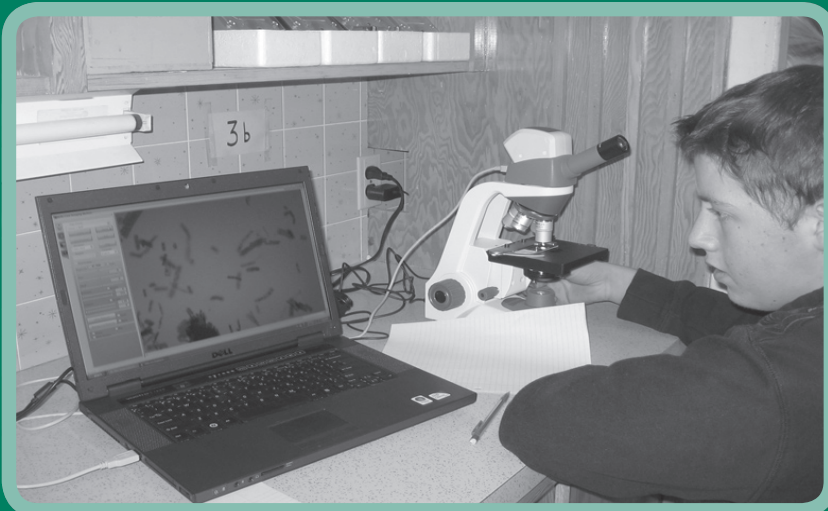
The process of creating model science labs goes well beyond just opening up a Boreal science catalogue and ordering science equipment. Designing the best lab facility is the second phase of this project and one that has just begun.

While there is still a lot of work to do in this project, both teachers recognize the potential and are undaunted by the task. Mr. Gray stated that, “as a teacher who loves to teach science...(I) saw this as an opportunity to make a lab that provides an area for students to use modern equipment, in an environment that encourages exploration, hands on learning and student discovery.”

Mrs. Scheidl also sees benefits for students, “On behalf of our school and students, I am extremely grateful for this opportunity and am very excited about what this lab will have to offer my science students. It is wonderful to be a part of a school division that believes in investing time and money into initiatives that will further enhance and greatly impact student learning.”

It is expected that the model labs in these two schools will be completed by June 2010 and that development will then shift to other schools within the division.

*Kinistino School students unpacking new science supplies.*



*Grade 12 student, Kelby Martin, is using a digital microscope.*





# SASKATCHEWAN RIVERS SCHOOL DIVISION

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### OSBORNE SCHOOL

Kindergarten to Grade 8

Phone: 922-8078 Fax: 922-7838

c/o R.R. #2, Site 10, Comp 48, Prince Albert, SK S6V 5P9

**88**

STUDENTS

#### ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Mark Hastings – Principal

**SCHOOL MOTTO** - "Small School, Big Heart"

#### SCHOOL SMART GOAL:

Our smart goals are based on the data collected from the Saskatchewan Rivers math common assessment from June 2009. Our staff reviewed the information and developed a K-3 math goal and a Grade 4-8 math goal.

\* Goal for K-3: It is expected that the students will obtain and retain an 80 % success rate for the areas of Patterns and Relations in the new Pearson Math curriculum.

\* Goal for Grades 4-8: It is expected that the students obtain and retain a success rate of at least 80% in the area of Shape and Space.

#### SCHOOL PROGRAMS:

Volleyball and basketball for Grade 5-8, badminton Grade 6-8, Red Cross swimming for Grade 3/4, skating, cross country skiing, intramurals for Grade 3 - 8, choir and piano lessons, CAP program, Playground Pals, playday, Quality Daily Physical Education Program, and track and field for Grade 4-8  
Gym activities Mondays from 3:15 -5:30 pm sponsored by the SCC

#### SPECIAL EVENTS:

Math-A-thon, harvest dinner, March rural school dance, Family Fun Night, movie night, Christmas concert, volunteer assembly, Remembrance Day drama, Student Snow Day, Terry Fox Fundraiser, TeleMiracle Fundraiser and Student TV presentation, Caring Tree, and Science Fair

#### SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL:

Mark Boden, Chair.  
We meet 7 times a year on the 3rd Wednesday of the month. All parents and staff are welcome. We have a volunteer babysitter with gym time activities available for the kids.

### THE STAR PROGRAM

Kindergarten to Grade 8

Phone: 922-6522 Fax: 922-6524

511-5 St E (Located in Riverside School)

**25**

STUDENTS

#### ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Connie Schill – Principal

**SCHOOL MOTTO** - "Working to understand our emotions and become excellent self-managers."

#### SCHOOL SMART GOAL:

We are proud to be a part of Saskatchewan Rivers' excellent academic initiatives and support as they continue to so positively affect student achievement. Our STAR 2009-2010 reading SMART goal is as follows: All STAR students will move up one level on the comprehension rubric at their independent reading level, as measured by the DRA.

#### SCHOOL PROGRAMS:

At STAR, students with diverse behavioral and emotional challenges learn strategies to understand their strong emotions, calm themselves, and solve problems effectively.

Within small, academically focused classrooms, STAR students improve their reading and math skills as they become better "self-managers". When ready, they gradually return to their home school.

Students come to this intensive program by referral from their home school.

#### SPECIAL EVENTS:

Throughout the year, we host a variety of special events, including: first day family breakfast, monthly assemblies, with student performances and Students of the Month, Annual STAR Terry Fox Walk, community volunteering, including at the Salvation Army, SPCA, and local nursing homes, Little Red Family Fun day, "Healing with Horses" program, June Family Picnic, year-end awards Assembly and ongoing celebrations for students integrating back into their home school.

### QUEEN MARY COMMUNITY SCHOOL

Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 8

Telephone: 763-7672 Fax: 763-4070

1010-15 St West P.A. SK S6V 3S2

**380**

STUDENTS

#### ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Kevin Mugford – Principal

Bonnie Lucas – Vice-Principal

Clint St. Denis – Community School Co-ordinator

**SCHOOL MOTTO** - "A School Where EVERYONE is Important"

#### SCHOOL SMART GOAL:

Our school SMART goals are focused on students improving their reading skills and their math skills. Our staff work on this improvement through such programs as the Early Literacy Project, SOAR to Success, the new provincial math curriculum and various other strategies.

#### SCHOOL PROGRAMS:

We are very proud of the many special programs we offer to a wide range of ages and students: pow wow-drumming and dancing junior and senior band, daily intramural programs, after school soccer and floor hockey, and baseball - a full range of competitive school team. Our students love to get involved with school activities.

#### SPECIAL EVENTS:

Our special events are family focused: such as family dances, family tea, family BBQ and community picnic.

#### SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL:

Marvin Sanderson, Chair  
Recent SCC endeavors include revamping the playground and getting a paved walking track up and running. Just this summer the parent room was completely remodeled and furnished.

### WILD ROSE SCHOOL

Kindergarten to Grade 8

Phone: 747-2323 Fax: 747-2929

RR#1 Shellbrook Sk S0J 2E0

**88**

STUDENTS

#### ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Neil Sherwin-Shields - Principal

#### SCHOOL SMART GOAL:

In the area of reading comprehension, by June, 2010: Grades K-4 students will improve their DRA oral and/or written summarizing skills to at or above their independent level; Grades 5-8 students will improve their written summarizing and interpretation skills by at least two DRA rubric levels.

#### SCHOOL PROGRAMS:

We offer a full complement of academic programming and extra-curricular opportunities for our children. Our staff of 10, and a number of dedicated, energetic parents, combine to provide a rich array of student activities in sports, arts, culture, and leadership. From curling to choir, basketball to babysitting courses, drama to downhill skiing, we do it at Wild Rose.

#### SPECIAL EVENTS:

Our annual special events include: walkathon and pancake breakfast, Halloween haunted house and hot dinner, Remembrance Day service, E.A. Rawlinson Christmas theatre excursion, Christmas dinner, Christmas concert, adult computer courses, family downhill ski trip, talent night, science fair, sports banquet, community picnic and awards ceremonies, year-end student excursions and Kindergarten and Grade 8 graduations.

#### SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL:

Jana Curran, Chair  
Our Council is here to support our students and staff. They meet 5 to 6 times per year in the evening and sincerely welcome all parents and community members to come out. The Council raises money for the school, provides hot meals (and cold milk) to students and is a vital part of every function held at the school.