



**Saskatchewan Rivers
School Division**

Excellence for Every Learner

EDUCATION CENTRE
545-11th Street East
Prince Albert, SK S6V 1B1

Tel: 306-764-1571
Fax: 306-763-4460
Toll Free: 1-888-764-1571
Website: www.srsd119.ca

A REPORT ON THE WORK OF THE SASKATCHEWAN RIVERS SCHOOL DIVISION

VOL. 8, NO. 1

DECISION 2009

WHICH SASKATCHEWAN RIVERS HIGH SCHOOL IS RIGHT FOR YOU?

MARCH 10

It is time for you to make a decision about which of our three high schools will be your school next year! **Will you be a Golden Bear, a Wildcat or a Crusader...?** To help you decide which school best meets your needs, school tours of Carlton, PACI and Wesmor are one part of that process. The tours for 2009 will occur on **March 10th and 11th**. Please refer to the table to see the date and schedule for your child's school tour.

TIMES	CARLTON	P.A.C.I.	WESMOR
9:30 – 10:30	Spruce Home, Christopher Lake, Wild Rose, Red Wing, Arthur Pechey	Vincent Massey, Queen Mary, East Central	King George, West Central
10:45 – 11:45		King George, West Central	Vincent Massey, Queen Mary, East Central
12:15 – 1:15	Vincent Massey, East Central, King George, West Central, Queen Mary	Arthur Pechey, Christopher Lake, Wild Rose	Red Wing, Spruce Home
1:30 – 2:30		Red Wing, Spruce Home	Arthur Pechey, Christopher Lake, Wild Rose

MARCH 11

Students will stay for lunch at the school they are visiting from 10:45 – 11:45. Pizza will be provided at each school, but if students are not huge fans of pizza they may bring a bagged lunch.

TIMES	CARLTON	P.A.C.I.	WESMOR
9:30 – 10:30	École Vickers, Osborne, Riverside, Westview	John Diefenbaker	W.J.Berezowsky, Princess Margaret
10:45 – 11:45		W.J.Berezowsky, Princess Margaret	John Diefenbaker
12:15 – 1:15	John Diefenbaker, W.J.Berezowsky, Princess Margaret	École Vickers, Osborne	Riverside, Westview
1:30 – 2:30		Riverside, Westview	École Vickers, Osborne

CARLTON, WESMOR AND P.A.C.I. will be holding Parent Information sessions on the following evenings:

WESMOR – MONDAY, MARCH 9

Wesmor is the only public community high school in the city. They offer a family atmosphere with personalized instruction. Wesmor operates on the block system. Grade 9 students will take Math and English every morning all year long and take the rest of their classes in the afternoon in 2 month blocks.

CARLTON – WEDNESDAY, MARCH 11

Carlton is offering a new hockey class this fall to Grade 9 students. The Hockey Program will follow a format which will run for the entire year. Students will participate in physical education class during the off-ice days. April through June will see participants focus on dry land training as well as off-ice topics such as fitness and nutrition.

P.A.C.I. – THURSDAY, MARCH 12

P.A.C.I. is a school of approximately 210 students, in Grades 9-12. Research shows that a small school offers many advantages; personalized attention, improved chances of graduating, a safer environment, more choice, and greater participation in school.

Registration forms are available at your current school. Registrations are to be returned to the high school of your choice, or your principal, by **FRIDAY, MARCH 20**. We ask that you register at one school only.





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LEARNING BY DOING

What to do? What to do? This question was on the minds of 300 Saskatchewan Rivers Grade 7 students in January when they were presented with options for a unique learning experience. Carlton Comprehensive High School invited these students to come and be a part of their first Skills, Trades, and Technology Day. The Grade 7 students were given information about each of the 9 different trade and technology areas Carlton students were studying this term and were asked to choose two that they would like to experience firsthand.

Tuesday, February 24, 2009 was the long awaited day of opportunity. The Grade 7 students were bussed to Carlton and partnered with a high school student who acted as their mentor for the day. Students quickly dispersed to their respective stations and after some instruction began trying their hand at new skills. The day saw students welding nuts and bolts people, experimenting with character make-up, and assembling blinking light kits. They experienced fingernail art, prepared creative cooking masterpieces, and built name plates out of wood. They also had the chance to complete a short multi-media project, machine a dog tag, and remove cylinder heads and crankcase covers from a small engine. At the end of it all, each student proudly took home their finished products.



*"Sparks fly in a
CAREER IN WELDING"*

*A first hand
approach to
COSMETOLOGY*



With the shortage of skilled workers in our region and in the province, this day allowed the younger students to experience firsthand some of the different skills that are needed in the workforce. These students will be able to plan their high school programs so that they take advantage of opportunities like trade specific classes, the Apprenticeship Work Experience program, or the Student Youth Apprenticeship program. This exceptional experience will enable the students to make informed decisions as they choose classes and determine their future.

February 24th will be a day that is long remembered as one of awareness, opportunity, experience, and fun!

REGISTER FOR PRE-KINDERGARTEN AND KINDERGARTEN RESERVE YOUR SPOT NOW!

Saskatchewan Rivers School Division believes that Pre-kindergarten and Kindergarten programs play an important part in laying the foundation for successful school experiences. Now is the time of year when parents begin considering the school program best suited for their child's introduction to a formal education program.

Pre-kindergarten programs are available for children who are turning 4 years old by December 31, 2009. Pre-kindergarten programs were developed in the province to support the overall development of young children and to lay the foundation for school success and lifelong learning.

Kindergarten programs are available for children who will be 5 years old by December 31, 2009. Parents have a number of options regarding the best kind of kindergarten programming for their child. They may choose the language of instruction for their child, either English or French Immersion, and the type of programming that best suits their lifestyle.

French Immersion programming is available at École Vickers School and Debden School. Parents living in the City of Prince Albert also have the option of choosing full day-alternate day programming for their child or half day-every day programming.

Visit our website for more information, www.srsd119.ca





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'OUT OF THIS WORLD' EXPERIENCE



Round and round we go!

Students in two Saskatchewan Rivers schools were treated to an 'out of this world' experience in late November when they became part of an elite group that were chosen to receive instruction from the Canadian Space Agency (CSA). Grades 5 to 8 students at Wild Rose School and Grade 7 students at Vincent Massey Community School were among the students, in fewer than 50 schools across Canada, chosen to take part in an interactive session with the Space Agency.

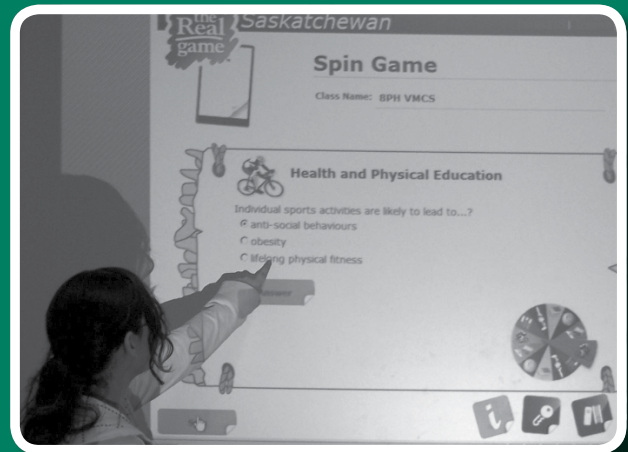
At Wild Rose, Teacher **Leanne Tretiak** and her students worked through a 1½ hour workshop with Dr. Pat Sullivan (Space Science, Operational Space Medicine Group – Project Manager), learning about space flight and the effects on the neurovestibular system (a fancy name to describe the systems which help us balance, move, have correct posture, and stable vision). Dr. Sullivan was projected on Mrs. Tretiak's SMARTboard via the internet and a microphone was set up in her classroom so students could interact with him in real time during the presentation. The students had an opportunity to participate in a variety of hands-on activities to help deepen their understanding of the neurovestibular system in space.

Vincent Massey Community School students had a similar experience. **Paul Watson** and his class were engaged in a presentation entitled "The Vastness of Space" with Dr. Marie-Jossee Potvin, a research engineer for CSA. Dr. Potvin took the students on an interactive journey through space that enabled them to experience and understand the structure and expanse of our universe. Did you know that there are over 100 billion Large Galaxies like Milky Way in our universe and that each galaxy contains hundreds of billions of stars?



Students go on an interactive space journey.

THE REAL GAME – SASKATCHEWAN



Students making "REAL" life decisions!

With the dynamics of Saskatchewan's economy, the renewed middle years Career Education curriculum has been created to reflect the needs of our province. Career Education is a thirty hour curriculum taught to students in grades six through nine. It is designed to help students become successful with balancing the demands of work and life. Through the teachings of this program it is hoped that students will become active citizens who have a sense of community and a desire to be lifelong learners.

With the guidance of **Lynn Peterson**, three Saskatchewan Rivers' educators have been involved in redesigning an online Career Education resource for grades seven and eight. **Carla Penner-Henry, Leona Strelloff, and Carol Wilkinson** have focused on making the online career simulation game, "The Real Game" a provincial, rather than a national, resource.

"The Real Game – Saskatchewan" allows students to role play the life of a young, single adult. Through this game, students are able to explore a variety of employment and educational opportunities, learn how to budget in order to meet their needs and wants, and understand the important role entrepreneurship plays in the life of Saskatchewan citizens. It is hoped "The Real Game – Saskatchewan" will provide students with an insight into the world of work and the career opportunities that await them.

With the pilot phase of the game nearing completion, we look forward to the provincial launch of "The Real Game – Saskatchewan" on April 2nd, 2009.





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BIRCH HILLS SCHOOL

Kindergarten to Grade 12
Phone: 921-8339 Fax: 982-2557
110 McCallum Street, Birch Hills

384
STUDENTS

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Doug Wallace – Principal **Shannon McElligott** – Vice-Principal

School Motto - *This Community accepts the challenges of life-long learning by nurturing respect, creativity and cooperation.*

SCHOOL SMART GOAL: By May of 2009, 75% of the K to 5 students will be reading at grade level (blue) or higher as measured by the DRA 2.

SCHOOL PROGRAMS: We have teams compete in the volleyball, basketball, badminton, curling, and track & field from Grade 5 through Grade 12.

We are proud of our level of commitment to technology assisted learning. At this time, all of our elementary classrooms are fortunate to be equipped with SMARTboards and sound fields. We also have Smartboards and Soundfields in our senior math and art rooms.

SPECIAL EVENTS: Our school is involved in the Breakfast for Learning Program that runs in the mornings from 8:30-8:55 a.m. on Tuesdays and Fridays. These breakfast items are healthier alternatives to the food available in the vending machines.

Some other events include a Heritage Day, a musical and drama production each year, annual Christmas Concert, annual Turkey Trot Fundraiser, Halloween activities including a dance, weekly assemblies, play day and track and field.

SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL: President: Sandy Berge

The SCC meets on the second Tuesday evening of each month.

JOHN DIEFENBAKER SCHOOL

Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 8
Phone: 763-6031 Fax: 922-3878
1090 Branion Drive Prince Albert, SK S6V 2S8

360
STUDENTS

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Mel Kelley – Principal **Ina Holmen** – Vice-Principal

School Motto - *"Every Child Matters"*

SCHOOL SMART GOAL:

Reading is John Diefenbaker's major curriculum focus this year. We are striving for a 90% achievement level or higher (SRSD bench marks blue and green). Each division has certain areas they are focusing on within the reading strand.

SCHOOL PROGRAMS:

John Diefenbaker offers a full range of extra-curricular activities: Intramural programs, cross country running, volleyball, basketball, badminton, track and field and outdoor education. We offer a music and band program as well as a Drama Club.

SPECIAL EVENTS:

Events such as assemblies, a quarter carnival, special SRC days, Christmas family activities, a fall bbq, band concerts and a play day are among the many special activities we enjoy at J.D.

SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL: President: Sharon Ardell

The SCC meets at JD School every second Tuesday of the month. Babysitting is provided and new members are always welcome.

CHRISTOPHER LAKE SCHOOL

Kindergarten to Grade 8
Telephone: 982-2131 Fax: 982-2557
Box 310, Christopher Lake, SK S0J 0N0

137
STUDENTS

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Suzanne Quiring – Principal

SCHOOL SMART GOAL: By June 2009, students will improve their reading comprehension by one grade level and provide indicators of authentic application and effective explanations to established benchmarks as set out in the DRA2, ELP screens, and provincial reading and writing assessments. Teachers focus on improving student learning through collaboration. Critical analysis of common assessments provide the teachers with data to guide decisions in setting new team goals and identify the required student supports.

SCHOOL PROGRAMS: Extra-curricular sports and special offerings include: cross country running, volleyball, basketball, cross country skiing, snowshoeing, badminton, track and field, student leadership, drama, and guitar club. Students have a strong sense of social justice and through a Charity club raise funds for the underprivileged in our community and in other parts of the world as well as for medical research.

SPECIAL EVENTS: Camping trips, year-end BBQ, Christmas concert, family fun night, movie nights, outside performing artists, year end beach day and picnic, and a ski trip.

SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL: President: Gail Kowblich

The SCC meets 7:00 p.m. on the second Tuesday of the month except January. All parents, community members and young children welcome. Through the Nutrition Program, the SCC serves healthy snacks on Mondays and Wednesdays and community volunteers prepare a hot lunch every Wednesday.

WEST CENTRAL SCHOOL

Kindergarten to Grade 8
Phone: 922-8339 Fax: 982-2557
Rural Prince Albert

116
STUDENTS

ADMINISTRATIVE TEAM

Roxane Bozak - Principal

School Motto - *"A Small School with a Big Heart – a place where Character Counts!"*

SCHOOL SMART GOAL: This year, our SMART Goal is in the discipline of Math. Every month we meet for our book study: "Teaching Student-Centered Mathematics" by Van de Walle. These meetings are led by Darlana Harding, one of Saskatchewan River's Math coaches. We are also focusing on student problem solving within our classrooms. All our classrooms are SMARTboard equipped to support student achievement!

SCHOOL PROGRAMS: We are involved in extra curricular cross-country running, volleyball, basketball, badminton and track and field. We offer an After School Recreation Program to all students. Older students participate in Red Cross Swimming lessons and an annual ski trip. West Central School runs a Character Education Program, based on universal virtues, to promote a respectful and safe school environment for all!

SPECIAL EVENTS: Students and staff at West Central have enjoyed a number of special events. We hold our annual School Walk-a-Thon and later, our Fall Fair. We enjoyed the Mad Hatter Theatre and Willy Wonka drama presentations. Our Family Holiday Fun Night was truly magical! We look forward to our year end Farewell and Celebration Teas and our day at the Melfort Wave Pool!

SCHOOL COMMUNITY COUNCIL: Chairperson: Lisa McDougall
WCSCC meets the second Wednesday, of each month, at 7:00 p.m. in the library. Everyone is welcome to attend these meetings! This year, we have been working on creating and selling our school calendars to help support our students and staff.