

EVERY STUDENT IS

- Known
- Valued
- Believed In



Saskatoon
Public Schools

May 6, 2020

FROM THE BOARD TABLE

Teachers maintaining connections as students learn from home

Teachers in Saskatoon Public Schools have been successfully engaging students in learning from home, trustees were told during the Board of Education meeting held May 5.

Using a variety of online platforms and other communication strategies, educators are finding ways to provide learning experiences, sustain learning relationships, and monitor student progress.

Charlene Velonas, a learning coordinator at Aden Bowman Collegiate, posts a video lesson and supporting materials three times a week and hosts a weekly Zoom meeting for students needing support. When connecting with parents and caregivers, Velonas makes sure to let them know that their effort at home to support students is enough.

Principal Shalene Herron shared with trustees how teachers at École Lakeview School have approached supplemental learning for English and French students. Families in teacher Annie Schubert's Grade 2 French immersion class have all opted-in to supplemental learning with varying levels of engagement. Her weekly plan has variety and flexibility for families who do not speak French at home.

The contributions of the division's Information Systems and Technology team in supporting schools and staff in the transition to online learning was recognized during the Celebrating Excellence portion of the meeting. Staff provided solutions to a wide variety of complex technical challenges, including the preparation of hundreds of devices for staff and students and assisting staff as they moved to online teaching and learning.

Principal Yvonne Denomy of École Forest Grove School illustrated the commitment with a story about how staff quickly responded to a family's request for help on a Saturday night.

Reports and information presented at board meetings can be found at saskatoonpublicschools.ca. The next meeting of the Board of Education is Tuesday, June 2, 2020. Requirements that limit the size of public gatherings due to the COVID-19 pandemic mean the Board of Education will hold its meetings electronically until further notice. Meetings will be recorded, and audio will be available upon request following the meeting by emailing spsdinfo@spsd.sk.ca.

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ATTENTION GRADE 5 STUDENTS AND FAMILIES

The iGen classroom is a program for Grade 6 students offered by Saskatoon Public Schools and Sherbrooke Community Centre. Students spend a full year in a unique classroom experience at Sherbrooke where they learn with their teachers and alongside Sherbrooke's Elders and staff.

Visit the iGen website at saskatoonpublicschools.ca/igen to find the application forms. The deadline for applications is June 1, 2020. Applications may be submitted by email to École College Park School office at collegeparkschool@spsd.sk.ca. For questions or further assistance please email Keri Albert, Lead Teacher of iGen, at albertk@spsd.sk.ca.



Go OFF THE GRID for Grade 9

Off The Grid is a half-day, full-year learning experience that takes Grade 9 students on an interdisciplinary adventure. Located at Tommy Douglas Collegiate, the program will appeal to students who are interested in topics such as climate change, sustainable living, social justice and the growing need for innovation in these areas.

The deadline for applications for the 2020-21 school year has been **extended until May 29, 2020**. For more information and to download an application visit saskatoonpublicschools.ca/offthegrid or contact program teacher Mike Prebble at prebblem@spsd.sk.ca.



FLEX PROGRAM for Grades 6-12

Are you an athlete, artist, or musician? Would you benefit from a more flexible school experience in order to pursue your passion? FLEX may be for YOU!

The FLEX—Flexible Schedule, Blended Learning—Program is designed for students in Grade 6 to Grade 12 who wish to combine their education with pursuits that are often found outside school offerings. Students receive face-to-face, as well as online learning instruction. Our learning program is a quality education in a flexible learning environment.

For more information contact City Park School at 306.683.7550 or visit our website at saskatoonpublicschools.ca/flex

GRADE 8 Academic & Experiential Programs

Application deadlines have been **extended to June 1** for Saskatoon Public Schools' elementary unique programs.

Four programs for Grade 8 students—Creative Action, Ecoquest, ScienceTrek and Let's Lead—Nikānētān—are still accepting applications for the 2020-21 school year.

The programs offer elementary school students unique learning opportunities through hands-on experiences both in and out of school. The programs are open to any current Grade 7 student attending Saskatoon Public Schools. Students must apply to be considered for the programs.



Let's Lead—Nikānētān

Based at Westmount Community School, Let's Lead—Nikānētān welcomes students who enjoy the outdoors and want to improve leadership and teamwork skills while learning in a practical format. Apply for Let's Lead—Nikānētān today and start a new journey for September 2020! Visit the program website to learn more and for the application form or send an email to wattsb@spsd.sk.ca.

saskatoonpublicschools.ca/letslead



ScienceTrek

ScienceTrek combines hands-on science opportunities with outdoor pursuits to create an exciting learning environment. Located at Montgomery School, ScienceTrek is a field-based science program created to inspire Grade 8 students to grow academically, socially, personally, and culturally. Please visit our website for more information or contact us by email at sciencetrek@spsd.sk.ca.

saskatoonpublicschools.ca/sciencetrek

Ecoquest



Ecoquest is a unique and active ecological, outdoor adventure program based at City Park School. Students participate in field studies that bring the curriculum to life through exciting experiences and firsthand exploration. The students form a close community as they develop a deeper understanding and appreciation of environmental and social issues. Email us at ecoquest@spsd.sk.ca

saskatoonpublicschools.ca/ecoquest



Creative Action

In Creative Action we are all about using our creativity to make a difference in the world! We partner with local organizations, artists and experts in our studio classroom at North Park Wilson School and beyond in the wider community. Email creativeaction@spsd.sk.ca to learn more or download an application form!

saskatoonpublicschools.ca/creativeaction

