

EVERY STUDENT IS

- Known
- Valued
- Believed In



Saskatoon
Public Schools

October 10, 2019

FROM THE BOARD TABLE

Drum project provides hands-on cultural learning

Students and staff from Pleasant Hill Community School shared the adventure of making their own drum during the Oct. 18 Board of Education meeting. They explained how the experience was connected to Indigenous, land-based teachings and how it responded to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action.

In the fall of 2018, the school decided to make its own drum – including processing a moose hide to make the drum cover. The processing of the hide was done at the Brightwater Science, Environmental and Indigenous Learning Centre and the school returns monthly to continue the learning. Twenty-seven students took part in the school's drum group and in their year-end reflections many students said processing the hide was their favourite experience. Tim Eashappie, a traditional knowledge keeper with Saskatoon Public Schools, along with Kathy Eashappie guided the journey of processing the hide.

Learn more about the project and the learning it inspired at saskatoonpublicschools.ca/pleasanthill.

Trustees received a report on high school student data. For the 2018-29 school year, the division's three-year graduation rate was 72 per cent, compared to the provincial rate of 77 per cent. Seventy-two per cent of Grade 10 students earned eight or more credits during the past year, a pace which puts them on track for a three-year graduation with the required 24 credits. Information was also shared about the division's continued focus on outcomes-based assessment and instruction, as well as instructional leadership and the responsive actions of school-based data teams.

Reports and information presented at board meetings can be found at saskatoonpublicschools.ca. The next meeting of the Board of Education is Tuesday, Nov. 5, 2019, at 7 p.m. The public is welcome to attend.

Saskatoon Public Schools

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 saskatoonpublicschools.ca



MOVE TO GROW... YOUR BRAIN

Research evidence suggests that children who are more physically active do better in school. Exercising not only spikes brain activity and prepares you for mental stresses, but also increases the retention of new information and helps students to better react to complex situations. Just a single session of moderate exercise before school has been shown to benefit brain function and academic performance in children, while also producing healthy consequences in terms of mental health.

The benefits of exercise come directly from its ability to reduce insulin resistance, reduce inflammation, and stimulate the release of growth hormones—chemicals in the brain that affect the health and abundance of brain cells. Exercise stimulates growth of new connections between these cells in a wide array of important areas of the brain, making it easier for the brain to grow new and strong connections during a learning process. Indirectly, exercise improves mood and sleep, and reduces stress and anxiety.



#MOVE2GROW
A SASKATOON PUBLIC SCHOOLS' MOVEMENT



Education Week
October 20-26, 2019

Semaine de l'éducation
Du 20 au 26 octobre 2019

Working and Learning Together



Travailler et apprendre ensemble

saskatchewan.ca



Parent-School Communication Process Regarding Your Child

1. CONTACT YOUR CHILD'S TEACHER

Most of your concerns will be dealt with at the classroom level, *but if not then*



2. CONTACT THE PRINCIPAL OF THE SCHOOL

Other appropriate staff might be involved at this level to deal with the issue, *but if more needs to be done then*



3. CONTACT YOUR SCHOOL'S SUPERINTENDENT

The school's superintendent is listed on the school's website or can be provided by the principal. *If the issue is still unresolved,*



4. CONTACT THE DIRECTOR OF EDUCATION

If you are still unsatisfied with the issue,



5. CONTACT THE BOARD OF EDUCATION

Either your school trustee or the board chair.



Saskatoon Public Schools
Inspiring Learning

saskatoonpublicschools.ca

IMPORTANT DATES

OCTOBER 11 PD / Planning Day—Students DO NOT ATTEND

OCTOBER 14 Thanksgiving Holiday

NOVEMBER 5 Saskatoon Board of Education Meeting 7 p.m.

NOVEMBER 8 PD / Planning Day—Elementary Students

DO NOT ATTEND

NOVEMBER 11 Remembrance Day

NOVEMBER 26 Saskatoon Board of Education Meeting 7 p.m.

INDIGENOUS Cultural Arts & Language INSTRUCTIONAL PROGRAM



Tuesday evenings starting October 15

On-site registration and instructor introductions will begin at 4:00 p.m. Please use the front school doors.

The program will run 4:00 - 6:00 pm every Tuesday until December 17 (10 weeks) and is open to all Saskatoon Public Schools students and staff.

Elementary students (age 7 & up) 4:00 - 4:45 pm

Collegiate students and SPS staff at 5:00 - 5:45 pm
(Participation and completion of this 10 week program will also qualify collegiate students for the **SPS Indigenous Ensemble**.)

SPS Indigenous Ensemble students this is your weekly practice.
Bring a friend and show them what the ensemble is about.

HUGH CAIRNS V.C. SCHOOL
2621 Cairns Avenue

Saskatoon Public Schools is committed to being a culturally responsive school division. It values and recognizes the vital role that culture and the arts play in the development of strong learners, schools and community.

We are committed to providing our learning community with relevant, meaningful cultural awareness opportunities to enrich life-long learning experiences and to promote a better understanding of First Nations and Métis histories, cultures and perspectives.

Since the beginning of time, language, song and dance have been a primary medium for facilitating thanksgiving, socializing and honouring accomplishments within First Nations and Métis cultures.

Please register by contacting:

Don Speidel, Cultural Resource Liaison
email: speideld@spsd.sk.ca or tel: 306.683.8317

Hugh Cairns V.C. School tel: 306.683.7270
email: HughCairnsSchool@spsd.sk.ca

Introductory Indigenous language classes:

Nêhiyâwiwin (Cree)	Nakota
Dene	Nakwé (Saulteaux)
Michif	Dakota/Lakota

Instructional classes will be offered in the following disciplines:

- Male Pow Wow Song and Drum
- Female Backup Singing
- Male Pow Wow Dance
- Female Pow Wow Dance
- Co-Ed Métis Jigging
- Métis Fiddle Music
- Indigenous Arts



Saskatoon Public Schools
Inspiring Learning



Office of the
Treaty Commissioner

All SPS Students are welcome!

SASKATOON PUBLIC SCHOOLS CULTURAL RESPONSIVE PROGRAMMING