



CONNECTIONS

NEW REPRESENTATIVE FOR SUBDIVISION 7

On September 17th community members living within subdivision 7 as per NLSD #113 election boundaries voted in a bi-election for a new board member. Larry Ahenakew was the successful candidate, a position previously held by Doyle Vermette. This covers La Ronge/Air Ronge and area as well as Weyakwin and Timber Bay. Larry will serve in office until October 2009 wherein the Annual General Election will take place for the school division.



Larry brings many years of experience and leadership skill in the educational field. We look forward to his time in office as a member for the NLSD #113 Board of Education.

NLSD #113 AND NATA SIGN TEACHERS' LOCAL AGREEMENT: All parties involved have reached a new agreement. The new Teachers' Local Agreement is for the period September 1, 2008 to August 31, 2011.

NLSD #113 STUDENTS PARTICIPATE IN THE LIEUTENANT GOVERNOR'S 2008 LEADERSHIP FORUM

Four students from the school division were chosen to participate in the leadership forum that took place from October 13 to 24 in Saskatoon, Regina, Moose Jaw and La Ronge. Dakota De Caux (La Loche), Sheldon Merriman, Joseph Randhile (La Ronge) and Robyn Woodhouse-McKenzie (Air Ronge) were chosen along with 15 other students from all over the province.

The Lieutenant Governor's Leadership Forum is dedicated to engaging students in discussion and exposing them to educational and career opportunities in Saskatchewan. It encourages them to accept the challenge of leadership.

Congratulations to all participants and thank you for being positive role models for other young individuals.



Dakota DeCaux and Sheldon Merriman

YEARS OF SERVICE AWARDS

Teachers and support staff employed at each community school within the division are recognized for their years of service in the fall.

Employees receiving awards:

10 YEAR AWARDS: Rose Bradfield, Stella Brown, Donna Chartier, Hank Clarke, Trudy Conner, William Dorion, Clara Lemaigre, Miroslawa Rozanowski, Connie Trasher

15 YEAR AWARDS: Dorothy Sylvester-Fontaine, Lena McCallum, Bella Pederson

20 YEAR AWARD: Peggy Simpson

25 YEAR AWARD: Elaine Crate

Teachers receiving awards at the NATA Convention:

10 YEAR AWARDS: Marina Brown-Carriere, Ruby Couillonneur, Susan Greene, Lillian Hansen, Dawn Kuppenbender, Ida Lemaigre, Marlette McLaughlin, Linda Nelson, Lynda Renaud

15 YEAR AWARDS: Rose-Anne Bear, Gloria Belcourt, Reid Dingwall, Jackie Durocher, Chris Fettig, Sharon Halsall-Park, Ronelda McCallum, John Guy Penny, Kandis Riese

20 YEAR AWARDS: Tony Bear, Raymond Chan, Dawna Olson

25 YEAR AWARDS: Darcey Hubka, Debby Noble, Karen Robertson

30 YEAR AWARDS: Rob Shukin, Debbie Thomas, Chris Todd

Thank you for your dedicated service.

WHAT'S HAPPENING AT YOUR SCHOOL OR IN YOUR COMMUNITY?

Charlebois Community School – The Pisim Project, Cumberland House, Ron Chatterson

Ron Chatterson (High School Teacher) and the Grade 10 students of Charlebois School have embarked on an innovative project with the College of Engineering of the U of S.

The goal is to build an energy efficient home based on the footprint of a century ago and incorporate 21st century technology. The home will be all weather, all season with double stack-wall construction. Recycled materials will be used as much as possible along with products available locally. The main focus is to build an eco-friendly home.



Ron Chatterson at the work bench

Alan Bishoff (area board rep.) was instrumental in ensuring the project got off the ground. Alan along with Cameco provided monetary support there have also been other generous donations given to the project. Ron has indicated that it is going to be very important to continue lobbying for support in order for all areas of construction to be a success.

Importantly is the team involved in the Pisim Project, many players are involved. Ken Coutu is the primary contact from the University. This is the first project of this kind approved by the Outreach branch of the College of Engineering.

The boys and girls involved in building the home are learning and growing in many ways. The knowledge and experience gained will provide opportunity for doors to be opened more readily in their career path. The students' names are Lionel McKenzie, Rayne Bo Favel, Iris McKenzie, Kurt Bloomfield, Tyler Dorion, Valdene Chaboyer, Bianca Carriere, Gerald Carriere, and Gerald Lambert.

We will be following the project as things progress and will provide updates of the project on NLSD #113's website.

***A Message on Math – Bert Emisch
Math Assessment Consultant***

In 2005-06 the NLSD as part of the **Northern Lights School Division #113 Building a Community of Learners** initiative implemented locally developed common curriculum based assessment instruments for numeracy. I was hired to construct these instruments starting in Grades 1 – 6 and later moving on to Grades 7 – 9.

It became apparent that although one person could write the math instruments, it takes more specific grade-related teachers to adapt the tests and make them more user friendly for each particular grade. Therefore proofing groups were formed to specifically review, change and modify the assessments.

At this time we would like to recognize these dedicated teachers. In Grades 1 – 6 are Carissa Borthwick, Lori Ulriksen, Joy Needhan, Marlena Ballantyne, Lori Howe and Rob Liggett. In the past Shivaun Toth and Lisa Oscienny have also helped out.

In Grades 7 – 9 the proofing group consists of Joan Chow, Ian Rewcastle, Phyllis Longobardi and Scott Tomporowski.

The professional expertise and leadership shown by these two groups have definitely made the assessments a stronger vehicle for improving the academics of all students in the school division. We applaud their efforts and in the spirit of cooperation remind every teacher in Northern Lights to continually offer suggestions for improvements in the numeracy assessments to these two groups.

***Sasdaze School, Bear Creek
Eileen Brennan and Kate Carlisle,
Co-Principals***

Job sharing – a new idea for sharing teaching responsibilities in the classroom. Kate Carlisle and Eileen Brennan are job sharing this year at Susdaze School and things are working out terrific. Both still enjoy teaching very much but also each has more time at home.

There are 10 students at the school, 3 are in Kindergarten, and the kindergarten students go to school in the mornings. The other 7 students range in Grades from 1 to 5. The students work in centres throughout the day completing as much as they can in the half hour blocks.

Eileen and Kate work alternate months, each do different activities with the students so they are always exposed to something new. The expectations level and discipline in same so the students know what to expect at all times. There are after school activities on Tuesday and Thursday, the students stay for an hour doing activities of their choice. They have had a “Crazy Sock Day” and are planning a “Crazy Hat Day”. They wish everyone a pleasant year.

**Minahik Waskihigan School, Pinehouse
Clint Durocher, ELA - A 30 Student**

*There is an orange glaring sun
A green glowing moon
Yellow sparkling stars
From a world away from you*

*Nevertheless, you are here
On a cloudy, rainy day
I want to stop and shout "Hurrray!"*

**Central Office Staff Host Crazy Week
October 27 -31**

The Social Club planned crazy week for staff members, with a different activity each day.

Monday was Crazy Hat Day!



Tina Roberts, Juanita McGunigal, Sharon Gabrush,
Brenda Bates, Flora Ross, Renalda Roberts, Shari
Ward, Nellie Dumont

Activities Included: Monday (Crazy Hat Day); Tuesday (Orange & Black Day), Wednesday (Pajama Day); Thursday (Backwards Day) and Friday (Halloween Costume Contest).

There were gift certificates given for the costumes. Three individuals receiving \$25.00 gift certificates were Norma-Jean Angus, Yollanda Bear and Tina Roberts.

GETTING TO KNOW ONE ANOTHER

(We will continue to profile a board member and staff member in future newsletters)



Frank Durocher,
Chairperson

Northern Lights
School Division
#113 Board of
Education

Representative for
Subdivision 2

Where are you from originally? I was born in Ile a la Crosse however, moved back and forth between Buffalo Narrows and Ile a la Crosse in my younger years.

How long have you been a staff/ board member of NLSD#113? I was employed for 11 years with the division mainly in the maintenance area. I have served as a board member for 11 years.

What has kept you in Buffalo Narrows all these years? When my mother passed away as a young man I continued to stay in Buffalo Narrows. I got married .raised my family in Buffalo Narrows and maintain my roots and family ties there.

How has NLSD #113 changed since you've been involved with the school division? What are some improvements? There definitely have been a lot of changes the whole world is changing so fast, I find we have a hard time to keep up with improvements. I personally feel in the past few years we've been concentrating on building a good foundation for our students. By that I'm talking about our Math and Reading Program.

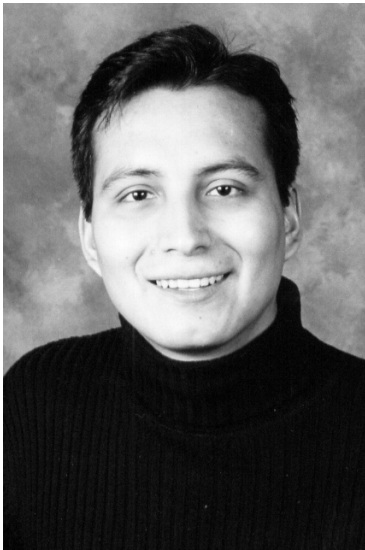
What did you do for work before coming to the school division? I'm a carpenter by trade so previously to my joining the division as a board member; I first worked as an area maintenance man. I worked in the carpenter trades mostly in the mine sites during their construction stages.

Do you serve on other boards/associations? I have always been involved from way back in high school. I started off in sports committees, fund raising, then involved in the Metis Society, Friendship Centres, Home Care and also a couple of times with local government.

Currently I serve on the Provincial Executive for SSBA and other boards as representative for the school divisions in Northern Saskatchewan.

Tell us about your family, your interests? I have been married to a wonderful person, Laura for 36 years. I have five great children, 3 girls and 2 boys. My daughters are all in education, one boy is an airplane engineer and the other a carpenter. I am very proud of my children and also grateful to them for giving us 12 grandchildren.

What do you want people to most remember you by? I think I would like to be remembered as one who cared, one who was respectful and a friend to many.



Jason Young

Superintendent of Education for Cole Bay, Jans Bay, Brabant Lake, Pinehouse, La Ronge/Air Ronge

Where are you from originally? I am originally from Cumberland House. I did most of my schooling in Cumberland House at Charlebois School with the exception of two years which I did in Prince Albert. My post secondary education includes two years Religious Studies in Alberta and the U.S. A Youth Care Worker certificate from SIAST, a Bachelor of Education Degree from the University of Saskatchewan and a Masters Degree from the University of Saskatchewan in Educational Administration.

How long have you been a staff member of NLSD #113? I am currently on my ninth year with the division.

How has NLSD #113 changed since you've worked with the school division? What are some improvements?

When I think of some of the positive changes in Northern Lights School Division #113 I think of our current initiative in numeracy and literacy and the need to ensure that our students are achieving at their fullest potential. I think teachers in the field are doing a good job in this respect and have the students' best interests at heart. I am also pleased to see the Ministry of Education providing leadership by mandating the need to teach Treaties in the classroom

utilizing a resource developed by the Office of the Treaty Commissioner which will need to be implemented in the next school year. Finally, I am excited to report that our Board of Education is working on reviving the Elders Program.

Tell us about your family, your interests?

I am married with two children, my beautiful wife is a Special Education Teacher at Valleyview School in Beauval. My daughters' names are Kate and Kelli. Kate is in Grade 3 and Kelli is in Kindergarten. I marvel at how these two children can be two completely different human beings considering that they are being raised in virtually the same way. I am told that Kate is more like me and Kelli is more like her mother.

What do you want people to most remember you by?

I want people to remember that I work from a strength based perspective. I am here to make this about students and staff, I gave staff all the credit in the world for all the hard work they do. I want to be remembered as someone who is caring, encouraging, optimistic, approachable and a life long learner. I want to be remembered for putting family first and striving for balance.

FOOD FOR THOUGHT

I SHALL PASS THROUGH THIS WORLD BUT ONCE. ANY GOOD THAT I CAN DO OR ANY KINDNESS THAT I CAN SHOW TO MY FELLOW HUMAN BEING, LET ME DO IT NOW.

LET ME NOT DEFER NOR NEGLECT IT, FOR I SHALL NOT PASS THIS WAY AGAIN.

