



École Robert H. Smith School

The Communiqué

The “Last Day of School” Edition

Message from the Admin Team

The last day of school is upon us. I think that it is safe to finally say – we've made it through the year! With your help, we have managed to remain “Covid-free” at school – I believe that we are the only, or one of the only, schools in the division without a case all year. The team here has worked tirelessly to keep us all safe and you are to be thanked for your support of our strict protocols and procedures.

As we prepare to sign off for the year, Warren and I would like to thank you once more for your incredible support over the past several years. We have thoroughly enjoyed our time serving this community and hope that you can enjoy your summers with your beautiful children.

We have some farewells to share with you – some just coming in the last few days. Two of our teachers have been at RHS for over 10 years and are seeking opportunities to extend their own learning. Francine Maynard and Amanda Huang have accepted positions as Early Years Support Teachers with the division. They will be serving schools in the WSD, working to partner with and support classroom teachers focusing on instructional practice. We wish them well! We also bid adieu to Sara Tham, who is moving into a resource/guidance position at École William Osler. Félicitations!

We have several staff members who have been with us all year. We share our appreciation and gratitude to Ms. Kowalchuk in Grade 6, Madame Byron in sixième année, Madame Saunders in deuxième année and Madame Funk in première année. Thank you for your dedicated service.

We welcome Mr. Kyle Collins from River Heights and Ms. June Chau, who is coming from Sister MacNamara School. We know that they will love our RHS community.

Our staff list for the coming year can be found in the coming pages. We have held off on finalizing it, hoping that we would be able to have staffing completed by today. It is difficult for children to go into the summer not knowing who their teacher will be, and we have worked to avoid that. While many teachers have video “welcomes” prepared for their new students, we have not sent them out, as we would like all children to receive something from their new teacher. If we are able to do this over the coming weeks, we will. At time of writing we are still waiting to hear about interviewing for our open positions. The unprecedented personnel shifts at the end of the school year have made it very difficult for our board office to follow our usual timelines. As we have more information, it will be shared with you.

NOTE:

We missed two clips in our Grade 6 Farewell Video and didn't want the teacher and the student not to be included. We've recompiled and reposted the video here: <https://youtu.be/zNzO-h7DP3Y>

Your New RHS Admin Team

Principal Adam Dyck

Adam Dyck may be a familiar face to many River Heights community members as he spent 15 years teaching at Kelvin High School prior to becoming a school administrator. In his time at Kelvin, he taught all of the core courses across multiple grades as well as teaching in the alternative program for several years. He coached boys' soccer and girls' hockey throughout his time at Kelvin and was heavily involved in various other co-curricular activities such as leading Spirit Week and the yearly Rocky Mountain hiking trip.

Adam was long-running chair of the professional development committee and was a leader in the area of content and disciplinary literacy, supporting literacy development in both the English and French Immersion tracks at Kelvin. Adam also brings experience in elementary programming as a teacher, consultant and administrator. He taught grades 5-8 in Airdrie, AB prior to moving to Winnipeg, and provided professional development training to N-9 teachers in Canadian-based bilingual schools in Brazil from 2013-2017 in the areas of classroom management, assessment and planning. He was vice principal of Cecil Rhodes School (N-9) from 2018-2020 and acting Vice Principal at Tec-Voc High School this past year. Adam is experienced in leading in a dual/multi-track environment and has provided professional development training in incorporating language learning in bilingual classrooms during his time in Brazil. Further, he has experience teaching English as an additional language as an English teacher in Japan.

Adam believes that curricular and co-curricular activities such as sports and the performing arts provide opportunities for deeper, authentic learning connected to and supporting academic learning. While Adam is not bilingual in French, he is originally from Ontario and studied French throughout his childhood and is looking forward to brushing up on his French language skills.

He is very excited to come back to his roots in the River Heights community as principal of Ecole Robert H. Smith School.

Sarah Arnold, Directrice adjointe

Sarah spent 20 years as a classroom teacher, at the primary level, at École Sacré Coeur. In 2007, she was part of the French Reading Recovery (IPLÉ) pilot project in Manitoba. The following five years, she taught IPLÉ half time and grade 1 the other half. During her time at Sacré Coeur, she was a member of the literacy, professional development, wellness and workplace health and safety committees as well as the staff representative to the parent council.

In 2012, she trained to become a Reading Recovery Teacher Leader through the Canadian Institute of Reading Recovery (Western Division). She has been a Reading Recovery Teacher Leader for the last eight years, working in both English and French. As part of the Teacher Leader role, she continued to work with students, doing Reading Recovery and/or IPLÉ, and has done so at Isaac Brock, George V and the last three years at Robert H Smith. As a member of the Manitoba Teacher leader team, she has developed and lead frequent professional development sessions for training and continuing Reading Recovery/IPLÉ teachers from the Winnipeg School Division as well as Pembina Trails SD, River East-

Transcona SD, Seine River SD, Lord Selkirk SD, Red River Valley SD, Evergreen SD, Sunrise SD and Brandon SD.

In addition to her role as a Teacher Leader, she has provided professional development at some WSD schools around assessment and early French literacy, in the classroom. She has worked on the WSD Divisional Literacy Committee and the French Curriculum Implementation committee. She has been an executive member of the Manitoba Early Literacy Intervention Teachers (MELIT) SAGE group since 2014. In this role, she has participated in the planning of the annual MTS PD Day and after-school professional development sessions.

She looks forward to her new role as Directrice-adjointe at Robert H Smith and getting to know the community.

Classroom RHS Staffing for 2021-2022

As mentioned earlier, we will update you as we can when hiring is done for our vacant positions.

Principal Mr. A. Dyck
Vice Principal Mme S. Arnold

Room 128 AM	Nursery & Kindergarten English	Mrs. T. Daniels
Room 128 PM	Nursery & Kindergarten English	Mrs. T. Daniels
Room 123 AM	Kindergarten French Immersion	Mme O. Copetti
Room 123 PM	Kindergarten French Immersion	Mme O. Copetti
Room P2	Grades 1 & 2 English	TBD
Room P6	Grade 1 French Immersion	Mme A. Graff
Room P5	Grade 1 French Immersion	Mme L. Mondor
Room P3	Grade 2 French Immersion	Mme F. Greco
Room P4	Grade 2 French Immersion	TBD
Room 113	Grade 3 French Immersion	Mme H. Tucker
Room 114	Grade 3 French Immersion	Mme B. Brunel
Room P1	Grades 3 & 4 English	Ms. J. Mignone
Room 117	Grade 4 French Immersion	Mme S. Carstens
Room 120	Grade 4 French Immersion	Mme M. Tollenaar
		(Mme A. Edgar returns April/22)
Room 201	Grades 5 & 6 French Immersion	TBD
		Mme J. Major (Returns Oct/21)
Room 202	Grades 5 & 6 French Immersion	Mme M. Champagne
Room 203	Grades 5 & 6 French Immersion	Mme K. Bishop-Malapad
Room 210	Grades 5 & 6 English	Mr. K. Collins
Room 212	Grades 5 & 6 English	Ms. J. Chau
Support Staff:		
Resource/Special Education Resource Teacher		Ms. J. Beer
Performing Arts/Music Teacher		Mr. J. Ossachuk
Physical Education Teacher		Mr. C. Donato

Classroom Supplies

Classroom supply list and lunch program information will be emailed out to parents **AFTER** August 23rd (Anita's first week back). The school office will be open as of August 23rd.

Congratulations!

This year marked the 25th year that Anita Gomes has worked in the Winnipeg School Division. Anita has dedicated 22 years of service to the school community of RHS. Anita's exceptional organization and work ethic has benefitted all of us over the years – many thanks, Anita!



Farewell Message

Follow this link to view a fond farewell from Mme Powell: <https://youtu.be/ToSosadJ7v8>