

## Woodworking Workshop Report 2008

The Woodworking Tool & Hobby Show was attended on Sept. 27 th. in Saskatoon at Prairie Land Park. This year's show was somewhat smaller than usual, but for me still contained much of what is needed to stay abreast of the latest ideas and technologies in my subject area.

During the day I attended the following seminars and demonstrations:

Mark Eaton considered to be Canada's foremost expert on routers did a seminar on different router techniques and how versatile this piece of woodworking equipment is. He continually stressed the importance of correct speed of feed and control of material.

Sheldon Smith of Cut-N-Crown did a presentation on how to correctly cut crown molding using a special cutting jig that he developed. It was learned that crown molding comes in three different angles 38,45,and52 degrees.

Graham Wray of the Kreg Tool Company demonstrated how wood joinery has moved to another level with the use of pocket screw joinery. This type of joinery is amazingly fast, makes glue optional and has exceptional strength.

I continue to strongly recommend this show to all Woodshop Teachers in NLSD.

The Sawstop technology was well displayed at this show and it is hoped that in the future NLSD will consider this for our schools.

Joe Brown  
LLCS

**2007/2008 Professional Development for Meghan Buckle**  
**(PreCam Community School, La Ronge, SK - Gr. 6)**

**Module One: Working with People**

**Saskatchewan School-Based Administrators' Professional Development  
Program**

**Saskatoon, SK July 14-17, 2008**

In July 2008, I began taking the Saskatchewan School-Based Administrators' Professional Development Program. This program is delivered in the form of six modules. Over the span of four days, I completed the first module. In this module, titled *Working with People*, we examined our own leadership style and characteristics, as well as the leadership styles of other individuals. I found this session to be extremely interactive. There was a lot of hands on learning and small group work and discussion. This module was very informative and centered on self-reflection and self-awareness. I learned a lot about myself during these four days and how I can be an effective leader. I also realized that many of my coworkers already view me as a positive leader in the school community. This experience was very rewarding and reaffirming for me. I have always had the desire to pursue being an administrator in a school, and beginning the six module program has made me realize even more how much I hope that this will one day happen.

The Driver Education Conference started early on Sept. 4. After opening remarks Bert Yakichuk spoke on becoming a great Instructor. The afternoon sessions were all concerning the changes that we going to be made in early November. These included sessions on Driver Policy & Procedure, Driver Improvement Program changes, and logging Practice hours.

Friday started with Lou Gervino explaining how they run Parent Nights in Mantoba and the a session on Driver Ed Jeopardy including a power-point for us to us with our parent nights. The final session was on driver assessment and what we can do to help the older customers.

This was an essential conference as there were so many changes coming is such a short time.

Ron Chatterson  
Charlebois School

## **Module One: Working With People**

From July 14-17 I attended Module One for school based administrators. This was an excellent session providing me with the opportunity to learn more about myself and my leadership skills. During these four days we discussed some key topics such as: Adult Growth and Development, Personal Balance, Leadership Practices, Communication, Collaborative Cultures, Meetings, Shared Leadership, and Community Relations. At the end of the four days I left with a much better understanding about people and developed a network of contacts with the people in the group.

Ryan Kuppenbender  
Pre Cam School

I participated in the principal short course this summer at the travelodge inn, Saskatoon from July 7-11th.

This principal short course provided me with very useful information and insight. I learned all of the ins and outs of being an administrator in Saskatchewan schools. The sessions on law, finance and data based decision making were most interesting. We had small group discussions to discuss our personal views and receive practical advice on administrative issues that were discussed in the large seminars. I would recommend this seminar to anyone interested in becoming an administrator.

Jeff Lobb  
Resource teacher  
La Loche community school Ducharme

## NATA Professional Development Assistance Application

To: Ms. Greschner

From: Mrs. Bertha McKay

Re: Angel Software Training

Date: 10 November 2008

The Angel Software Training Workshop I attended was geared for teachers. It helped me, since I teach in specialized (Cree bilingual language program). I was interested in on-line programming overview that was presented, in terms of delivering a Cree language program to online learners. The information was helpful for me and I can share it with other students who want to take on-line learning in general or in take Cree classes online. The workshop was of benefit to me because of my interest in the revitalization of the Cree language. It helped me understand ways to use software that can be integrated into computer programs. I am interested in taking additional training in the area of computers and Cree language and hope to utilize the NATA PD program in the future.

## NATA Professional Development Assistance Application

To: Ms. Greschner

From: Ms. Helen Sayies

Re: Total Physical Response (TPR) Training with Todd McKay

Date: 13 November 2008

This workshop was very interesting and I am already applying what I learned into the classroom setting. The presenter took us through the TPR steps of the second language acquisition methodology. Learning another language can be so much fun and Todd McKay presented new ways of teaching in any language. In my case, it is the Cree language and I am finding that the TPR techniques are being enjoyed by the learners and like the presenter said, it does not put stress on the student. I would recommend this workshop to all teachers. It was a worthwhile workshop to attend.

Send to [greschner@cableronge.sk.ca](mailto:greschner@cableronge.sk.ca)

## Professional Development Report

I attended a workshop titled **Response to Intervention in the Classroom: Tier 1 Proactive Strategies for ALL Students** in Prince Albert on December 11, 2008. It was delivered by Brenda Whittam-Neary, a Speech Language Pathologist. She presented information to critically assess the classroom environment for barriers to attention and learning. The goal is to consider the environmental challenges and create ones which are more conducive to engaging students. Included were the **physical room set up** which can cause students to be overwhelmed and experience difficulty focusing: walls, lighting, chalkboards, storage, zones, desk placement, seating and desk size can be considered to reduce stimulation. **Self regulation** including movement in a structured way: body strategies, seating options, heavy work. **Self regulation** with emphasis on creating procedures in manageable portions: daily routines, transitions, time chunking, task chunking. **Self regulation** including the instruction of organizational systems: organization of locker, desk and classroom materials. Strategies which allow students to minimize distractions, focus better during lessons and to increase student productivity were discussed. Essential is to prepare students by teaching them how to self regulate and find out what works for each student. School teams can engage in further reflection of solutions and strategies specific to each learner. Often it is by watching the students closely that we will get our answers. Students behave the way they do because it fulfills a need in them. Perhaps they may be off task moving because they have to, therefore incorporating movement into their day in a structured way will increase their ability to exert more cognitive energy into their tasks when needed.

Penny Settee  
Charlebois School

On sept. 16th, I went to PA with around 30 K to 10 teachers all from French Immersion Schools from throughout the province of Saskatchewan.

Holy Cross school allowed us to stay there for the day. We had a presentation on the new curriculum orientation. Now, the emphasis is made on students. Instead of saying that at the end of the year: "the student must know...", now we have to say: "the student should read..."

The inservice was really beneficial especially the time spent on exchanging methods, (e) the kind of book to read with the students and the kinds of activities to use etc...

We all agreed to meet for a second meeting at the same place on Nov. 25th.

*André* **SIRIEIX**

Churchill Community School

October 22, 2008

Report on the Saskatchewan Home Economics Teacher's Association (SHETA)

Conference Oct 2-4

Submitted to: Elaine Greschner

By: Joni Stephens CCHS Art/PAA teacher

I attended the SHETA conference on October 2-4, 2008 in Regina. The first workshop I attended was titled "Good Governance". When I arrived I thought the workshop I signed up for was called "Food Governance" and dealt with food safety etc. It turned out that there was a typo and so the presenter spoke of her experience as a delegate in establishing a democracy in South Africa.

This was probably the farthest away from Home Economics you could get but the session was interesting and informative none the less.

The second workshop was titled "Design Tips and Trends" and was presented by Shannon Houff. She owns a furniture store in Wawota and is an interior designer. She demonstrated how to transform an outdated wall easily and affordably. Mostly answered home renovation questions from the audience like kitchen cabinet refinishing; counter top replacement; spray painting old hardware to update it. She also spoke of buying items from garage sales and flea markets and spraying them to give them an updated look. She brought binders of samples of trending wallpaper finishes and plastic backsplashes.

Unfortunately she did not touch on the principles of design as related to interior design which was part of the workshop's description and the element to which I was most looking forward.

I attended the Beginning Teachers Conference in Saskatoon on October 23,24, 2008. I found this conference to be very helpful and informative. There were sessions on classroom management that gave helpful tips to achieve a calmer and more productive classroom.

The assessment and evaluation session was by far the best session. The beginning teachers got to ask questions on what should be used for assesment for both formative and summative assesment. We were able to voice our concerns and have them answered. We were also given a range of ideas of how we can assess other than just pencil and paper tests.

The conference was very well organized, the food was amazing, the venue was very accessible and easy to get to, and most of the sessions were useful to me as a beginning teacher.

Andrea Wiens  
LLCS Ducharme