

## update

## West Ridge School

Principal Update

Mar. 17, 2016



Hello again parents. We have a name for the new school ! The trustees have approved the name “West Ridge School” for the new middle school serving West Springs and Cougar Ridge. This was the number one choice offered by students on feedback forms I received so I am glad their choice was granted! I encourage all students to now begin thinking of a mascot name for our school teams!

### **New Assistant Principal Announced**

I would like to take this opportunity to welcome Tammy Jeffrey to the West Ridge School staff. Tammy brings a wealth of experience that will benefit our new school and the students of West Springs and Cougar Ridge.

*Dear Parents,*

*It is with great pride and excitement that I write this letter of introduction to you as the Assistant Principal of the new school for West Springs/Cougar Ridge. I have over 18 years of educational experience spanning grades K-9 with a specific concentration in Language Arts, Social Studies, Humanities and a multitude of complimentary classes. My most recent administrative experience has been shaped by three years of leadership as an Assistant Principal at Dr. Gladys Egbert School. I have also worked for five years as a Learning Leader. This time was spent at Arbour Lake School, H.D. Cartwright School, and in a system leadership role working with a variety of teachers in northeast Calgary. I am elated to bring my skills as an educational leader to your child’s school and to work with you as a partner in education to ensure your child’s success.*

*During the course of the year, it is my hope that we will work together to provide the students of West Spring/Cougar Ridge the best possible*

*opportunities in preparing them to be world-class citizens ready to master the challenges of the 21<sup>st</sup> Century with a solid foundation created here at our school. As an Assistant Principal, my door is always open and I welcome your input. I look forward to meeting you and creating a vibrant middle school for your communities.*

*Respectfully,*

*Tammy Jeffrey*

### **Administrative Secretary Announced**

It is with great pleasure that we welcome Susan Moore as the Administrative Secretary of West Ridge School. Susan is currently Administrative Secretary at Thomas B. Riley School. She has been working there for the past three and a half years. Before that Susan served as Administrative Secretary at Glamorgan School. Susan brings a wealth of experience and an ability to form great relationships with parents and students.

### **Teacher Positions Posted**

Half of the positions for the new school were posted early in March. There are amazing applicants that will be interviewed during the first week of April.

### **Locating to West Springs School**

On April 6<sup>th</sup>, I will begin working out of West Springs School. On May 2<sup>nd</sup>, Tammy Jeffrey and Susan Moore will join me. We will remain working out of West Springs School until the new school is ready. We will let you know when we have a phone number that we can be reached at.

### **Start and End Times**

I attended a meeting with Rhonda Morrison, Transportation representatives, and our area director to discuss possible start and end times for the new school. These were presented for feedback at the Wildwood, West Springs and Vincent Massey School Council meetings this week. We will be looking to engage with our communities after spring break to get input into the possible scenarios. The discussion has been around whether it is best to 1) have the schools start ten minutes apart and find some way to deal with traffic issues or 2) have them start forty minutes apart to alleviate traffic issues but not be as convenient for parents with children in both schools.

## **Grade Configurations**

West Ridge School is planning to open as a grade five through eight school in January of 2017. There has been feedback from parents and students about grade eight students possibly staying at Vincent Massey for the rest of grade eight and the following year in grade nine. Parents need to be aware that busing will not be provided to Vincent Massey School for the 2017- 2018 school year. A separate letter from the CBE planning department was sent home on March 17<sup>th</sup> which addressed this issue. A meeting in regards to grade configuration will take place at the Vincent Massey School library at 6:30pm on Thursday, April 7<sup>th</sup>.

## **School Council Visitations**

Tammy Jeffrey and I had the pleasure to meet some of our Cougar Ridge parents at the Wildwood School Council meeting on March 14<sup>th</sup>. I was also able to meet with a small group at the Vincent Massey School Council meeting on March 16<sup>th</sup>. I thank these councils for allowing us to be a part of their agenda. I look forward to joining the Rosscarrock School Council meeting in April.

## **Contact Information**

If you have any feedback you would like to give or just want to say hi please feel free to send an e-mail to the address below. Thanks and have a great spring break!

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