

# update | West Ridge School

Principal Update

May 31, 2016



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## I. Meet the New Staff

We are pleased to announce the hiring of five new staff members!

### **Jeremy Braynen**

Previous Schools: Colonel MacLeod

Subject: Physical Education



I couldn't be more excited to be a part of opening a new school with new people, ideas, and students. I look forward to wearing new school colors and representing the West Ridge Raptors with pride. My educational background stems from the University of Lethbridge where I graduated with a Kinesiology and Physical Education degree.

When I'm not teaching, you can usually find me playing some kind of sport, or writing music. I play piano and write lyrics for my band in my spare time, and my favorite sports include basketball, football, and golf.

I look forward to working with the students of West Ridge School in hopes of creating a collaborative, supportive learning environment rich with athletics, social groups, and student collaboration. My first goal as a teacher is to create positive and long lasting relationships with all of my students, as I truly believe this is the most important building block to producing life-long learners. My teaching philosophy can be summed up by the Latin quote "Non Scolae Sed Vitae" which translates to "We learn not for school, but for life".

**Deborah Janke**

Previous Schools: Fairview, Queen Elizabeth, Woodman, Belvedere Parkway, TB Riley

Subject: Humanities, Division 2



I am excited to join West Ridge School to work with parents, students and educators to explore a new set of possibilities! I am passionate about bringing creativity to learning in the classroom. I believe that critical thinking and problem solving skills developed through visual thinking strengthen student learning across the curriculum.

I look forward to working with West Ridge students to develop meaningful perspectives and understandings of the world they live in.

**Nancy Kopperud**

Previous Schools: Vincent Massey, Midsun

Subject: Math / Science, Division 2



I am most excited about building relationships with the students and parents of the West Springs and Cougar Ridge communities and the opportunity to work alongside the exceptional educators who are part of the West Ridge School staff.

I am passionate about CREATING!! I especially love to create with fabrics and textiles. My personal areas of interest include sewing, gardening, reading, yoga and connecting with my beloved family.

**Natasha Lall**

Previous Schools: Wildwood

Subject: Math / Science, Division 2



I am most excited to have the opportunity to be part of building a new school community - meeting new staff, students and parents! The prospect of collaborating and sharing ideas with a group of people I haven't worked with previously, each with a unique skill set, is highly motivating. I look forward to getting to know a new community of learners and to continue to search for intellectually engaging learning opportunities to challenge them and help them grow.

I have always been passionate about sports and being active. I am a runner and triathlete and enjoy the many challenges and joys these sports bring. I also enjoy hiking and scuba diving. I look forward to sharing these passions with the students at West Ridge.

**Nicholle Morrison**

Previous Schools: Wildwood, United Kingdom

Subject: Humanities, Division 2



It is with great joy and excitement that I will be joining West Ridge School. This will be a unique opportunity for me as I start my position with a brand new team. I look forward to getting to know the new school staff and collaborate with them. One of the greatest gifts as a teacher is working with other talented individuals who can push my professional limits and introduce me to new approaches and philosophies of teaching. I am very much looking forward to this fresh start and can't wait to begin this fall with a wonderful and enthusiastic group of students.

As an introduction, I'd like to share a few things about myself. I am a voracious reader and love books of all genres. I love to travel and expose myself to new cultures. I had the good fortune to spend some time overseas and teach in Bristol, England for a year which opened my eyes to a whole new educational setting. I love spending as much time as possible outdoors in the mountains, enjoying the summer weather. I plan on doing many hikes and discovering new trails over the summer holiday.

## **II. First Full Staff Meeting**

On Monday, May 30<sup>th</sup>, the staff of West Ridge was able to get together as a group for the first time. It was great for staff to get to know one another and to start planning for the upcoming year.

The staff spent time working on our school vision, mission and values. These were determined through staff discussion, analysis of parent feedback collected through the CBE surveys, and integration of the most current research on effective middle schools.

Staff were able to spend time with their teaching partner and grade teams and begin looking at ways to create an amazing middle school. We look forward to sharing some of that work with you at the Meet the Parent evening on June 14<sup>th</sup>.

### **III. School Mascot and Team Colours**

We are pleased to announce that the new school mascot will be the Raptor! There was close voting but in the end Raptors beat out the other 19 candidates. Thanks to all students for being a part of the selection!

Our school colours will be a blackberry (a very dark purple) with electric blue, black and silver. Here is a sample of some ideas for jerseys and gym strips for the future! We have begun working on the logo and will share that once it is complete. If there are any artists out there who would like to help out please let us know!





#### **IV. Transportation**

All parents should have received transportation registration information for the next school year. When completing these forms, please write West Ridge School as your next year school (even though your child will be in a different location for the beginning of the school year). If you have already completed the form with the host school named, don't worry, we will clear this up with the transportation department. Please complete this form as soon as possible so that the CBE can have accurate information regarding the number of riders and their residence locations.

From September through December students will ride the same buses as the host school's students (Vincent Massey, Wildwood or West Springs). Students will begin school at the same time as the host school. Beginning in January, students will ride different buses designated to West Ridge School. New pick up times will be issued late in the calendar year to prepare students for the change.

## **V. Start and End Times**

The start and end times for West Ridge School will be as follows:

	Start Time	End Time	Lunch
Monday to Thursday	8:50 am	3:25 pm	12:14 – 1:04
Friday	8:50 am	1:35 pm	11:20 – 11:50

These start and end times begin in January at the new school. From September through December students have the same start and end times as their host school.

## **VI. Meet the Teacher Night**

Please join us at West Springs School on Tuesday, June 14<sup>th</sup> to meet the West Ridge School staff. The evening will run from 6:30 to 8:00 pm. We will introduce the staff at 6:45 pm. The rest of the evening is a “meet and greet”. We hope to see you there!

## **VII. School Council Establishment Meeting**

Please reserve the evening of Thursday, September 29<sup>th</sup> from 6pm to 9pm. At this time the Alberta School Council Association will be meeting with West Ridge School parents and administration to establish our school council. Guiding principles, bylaws, the council governance model, and the council executive will all be discussed and chosen during this evening. This will be an important evening for our school council and we hope to see all interested parents there!



## **VIII. Updated Contact Information**

If you have any questions, please feel free to contact us. There are numerous ways to do so.

Principal e-mail: [rgoshaughnes@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:rgoshaughnes@cbe.ab.ca)

Assistant Principal e-mail: [tjeffrey@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:tjeffrey@cbe.ab.ca)

School e-mail: [WestRidge@cbe.ab.ca](mailto:WestRidge@cbe.ab.ca)

**\*\*NEW\*\* Phone Number: (403) 817-3552**

(This still rings through West Springs School but will still be the West Ridge number once we make the move).

ext. 2059 (principal, Ryan O'Shaughnessy)

ext. 2600 (secretary, Susan Moore)

ext. 2235 (assistant principal, Tammy Jeffrey)

Twitter: @West\_Ridge\_CBE

**\*\*New\*\* School Web-Site: [www.cbe.ab.ca/westr ridge](http://www.cbe.ab.ca/westr ridge)**

(same web-site but easier address!)

