

ÉCOLE ARTHUR PECHEY PUBLIC SCHOOL

STUDENT ACHIEVEMENT THROUGH RELATIONSHIPS AND LITERACY



Principal: Mme Brandi Sparboe

Vice Principal: Mme Kara Cantin

Welcome to École Arthur Pechey Public School!

Our school opened in September, 1960. Since then, through many changes and much growth, we have developed a reputation for being a first-rate school with passionate and dedicated educators; high-quality, culturally relevant and inclusive programming; as well as rich and engaging educational and extra-curricular opportunities. This reputation is enhanced by a community of supportive parents and caregivers. What a combination!

Our entire staff is proud of this tradition and is committed to maintaining and continually enhancing this reputation. We fully support the Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division motto that “Every Child Matters” and we also support the extensive research telling us that nothing does more to support student success in school than family engagement. We want you to know that we want every single parent and caregiver to understand that they are a key part of our team. Students, families, staff, we are all a part of the École Arthur Pechey Public School community.

Arthur Pechey is a diverse community and our staff is committed to creating an inclusive school environment for all. Leaders in the Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division participate in ongoing anti-racist, anti-oppressive education and are supported in leading this work in their schools. Arthur Pechey is proud to be a Following Their Voices school. Following Their Voices is a provincial initiative designed to raise the educational achievement and participation of Saskatchewan's First Nations, Metis, and Inuit students. FTV focuses on enhancing relationships between students and teachers, creating structures and supports for teachers and school administrators to co-construct teaching and learning interactions with students and creating safe, well-managed learning environments. Our Guiding Vision with FTV is to provide an education that promotes accelerated learning for First Nations, Métis and Inuit students where learning is joyful, culture is affirmed and students are given real choice for their future. The evidence is clear, schools involved with FTV are not only seeing a decrease in the achievement gap between our Indigenous and non-Indigenous youth, but are also seeing accelerated learning achievement for all of our students. If you would like to learn more about Following Their Voices, please don't hesitate to reach out. We would love to share what we are learning and doing with you. Also, look in the school newsletter for more information about what FTV is and why we our school team believes it is imperative to do this work. You can also look forward to several opportunities over the course of the year to share your voice with us through FTV and SRPSD Parent Surveys.

*"Every **child** in our classrooms and in our schools is someone else's whole world." ~ Thomas C. Murray*

We know that our students are your everything. We are honoured and grateful to spend this time with them. Please trust that our team will do everything we can to ensure that they are seen, heard, and develop the sense of belonging they need in order to achieve all that they are capable of.

We are looking forward to learning and working with you each of you to make 2022-2023 the best year yet at École Arthur Pechey Public School!

École Arthur Pechey Public School Staff

General Information

École Arthur Pechey Public School is a Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 8 public elementary school. We have a population of approximately 430 students. We are a dual track school meaning that we have students following either an English or a French Immersion program.

The school facilities consist of the following: Twenty-two classrooms, a Music/Band room, a sensory room, a large library space including a Makerspace area, a small and large gymnasium with a stage, and a school canteen. We believe in providing students with access to technology to enhance their educational programs; students have access to laptops, Chromebooks, iPads, as well as SmartBoards and Sound Field Systems in each classroom.

In addition to providing a quality education, École Arthur Pechey Public School provides many opportunities for students to participate in extra-curricular activities. Students may choose to participate in sports teams such as Cross-Country Running, Volleyball, Basketball, Badminton, and Track and Field. Other opportunities to get involved include, but are not limited to, the Student Leadership Council, Drama Club, Art Club, and Kids Club.

Bell Schedule

8:35	Supervision Begins
8:50	Welcome Bell
10:20	Recess: Grades 1, 3, 5, 5/6, 7
11:05	Recess: Grades K, 2, 4, 6, 7/8, 8
12:05	Lunch In Classrooms: Grades K, 2, 4 & Outdoor Recess: Grades 1, 3, 5-8
12:25	Lunch In Classrooms: Grades 1, 3, 5-8 & Outdoor Recess: Grades K, 2, 4
12:45	Period 5
1:30	Recess: Grades 1, 3, 5, 5/6, 7
2:15	Recess: Grades K, 2, 4, 6, 7/8, 8
3:10	Dismissal

École Arthur Pechey Public School Staff 2022-2023

Administration

Principal – Brandi Sparboe	Vice-Principal – Kara Cantin
Secretary - Sharon Kaponyas	Secretary - Caylee Guidinger

French Immersion

Kindergarten – Lorelei Clifford
Grade 1 – Marie-Pier Blodeau
Grade 1 Intern - Brianne McLennan
Grade 2 – Shelley Mitchell
Grade 3 – Carissa Borthwick
Grade 4 – Chantal Ntibategera
Grade 5 – Janelle Meyers
Grade 6 – Amanda Szeszorak
Grade 6 Intern - Sarah Szell
Grade 7/8 – Dawn Krohn

Educational Associates

Celina Arpia	Jason Baliski
Chelsey Honch	Lisa Howden
Keagan Johnstone	Dawn Kowalski
Mona Lafond	Crystal McKenna
Tessa Moore	Ann Praud
Brianne Reich	Linda Wozniak

English

Pre-Kindergarten - Lisa Barlow

Kindergarten - Morgan Ripplinger

Grade 1 – Stacy Craig

Grade 2 - Liz Lavoie

Grade 3 – Courtney Ward

Grade 4 –Brittany Billay/Myriam Fortier

Grade 5 - Ashley Smith

Grade 5/6 - Taylor Sayers

Grade 6 - Molly Johnson

Grade 7 – Justin Dinney

Grade 7 - Lynn Splawinski

Grade 8 – Amanda Adams

K-Grade 5 Physical Education, ELA - Casey Preston

Grade 5-8 Physical Education – Tim Strom

Intern - Jordan Gabriel-Cannon

Dreamcatcher/Following Their Voices Facilitator - Lacey Primeau, Brittany Billay

Following Their Voices Lead Teacher - Ashley Smith

Grade 5-8 Band/Arts Ed. - Carleah Gotchia

K-4 Music/PE/Classroom Support - Carol-Lynn Belyea

Student Support

Grade 2/3 Literacy/Math Support - Myriam Fortier

Grade 6-8 Math/Support - Meirah Bender

English K-5 Ed Support - Cassandra Kalika

French Immersion K-8 & English 6-8 Ed Support - Nicole Villeneuve

Literacy Support Teacher - Jenn Henry

EAL Teacher – Alana Banman

School Social Worker – Aryn Peterson

School Mentor - Kyle Fiddler

School Mentor - Rayna Ahenakew

Library Technician - Lezlie Isbister

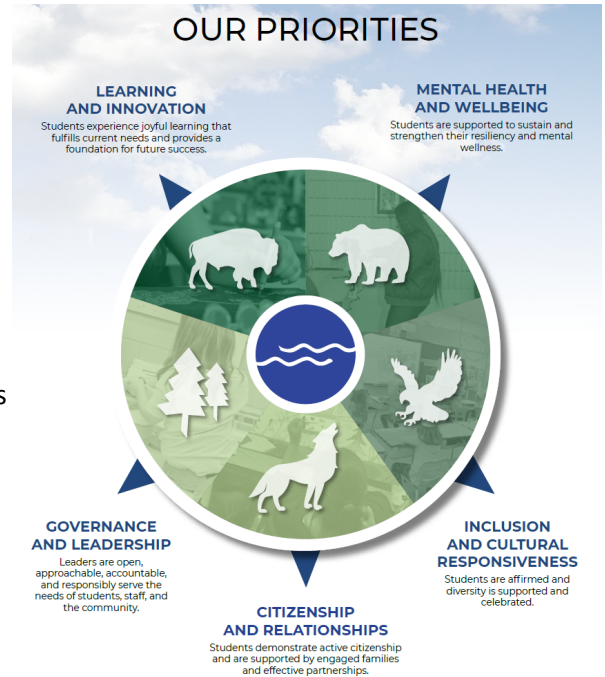
Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division Strategic Plan - 2021-2024

● OUR CORE VALUES

- Educational Excellence
- Human Diversity
- Community Engagement
- Responsible Governance
- Effective Infrastructure and Facilities

● OUR PRIORITIES

- **Learning and Innovation**
 - Students experience joyful learning that fulfills current needs and provides a foundation for future success.
- **Mental Health and Well-Being**
 - Students are supported to sustain and strengthen their resiliency and mental wellness.
- **Governance and Leadership**
 - Leaders are open, approachable, accountable, and responsibly serve the needs of students, staff, and the community.
- **Citizenship and Relationships**
 - Students demonstrate active citizenship and are supported by engaged families and effective partnerships.
- **Inclusion and Cultural Responsiveness**
 - Students are affirmed and diversity is supported and celebrated.



School Goal-LILAC: Goals, Indicators, and Strategies

EARLY LEARNING

By June 2023, 100% of our students exiting Kindergarten will be ready for learning in the primary grades as measured by the EYE-TA; or achieving an individualized goal

Literacy

By June 2023, 100% of our students will be achieving at exemplary or meeting standards, 50% catch up growth, or will reach their individual benchmark level in reading.

FTV Lead Indicators in each of our priority areas (What we will focus on in order to achieve our goal)

ACADEMICS

5.1.1 Purposefully and strategically selecting teaching strategies and learning activities that promote student construction of knowledge aligned with specific lesson/unit outcomes.

CULTURE (RELATIONSHIPS)

1.3.3 Regularly consulting with students, other teachers, Elders, and/or Traditional Knowledge Keepers, parents, community members to authentically and meaningfully incorporate First Nations, Metis, and Inuit:

- ceremonies;
- culture and language; and
- First Nations, Metis and Inuit people, contexts and iconography (visuals) in teaching and learning.

ENVIRONMENT

3.2.4 Co-constructing and promoting a welcoming environment full of joy, laughter and openness in the classroom; students demonstrate a strong sense of belonging and feel safe to come as who they are to learn, share and grow.

Activity Fees

Kindergarten students pay \$10.75 and students in Grades 1-8 pay an annual fee of \$21.00. This money is used to cover a wide range of expenses such as outdoor education, field trips, and extra items necessary to support your child's classroom. It is sometimes necessary to charge an additional nominal fee to cover extra field trips or special project costs. We will try to minimize extra costs as much as possible.

Allergies: Nuts, Fish, and Scents

We have students and staff in our school with severe life-threatening allergies (anaphylaxis) to fish, nuts, peanuts and products containing nuts or peanuts. Exposure to even a tiny amount, such as peanut butter on the hands of someone who then touches a doorknob, computer, water faucet, water fountain or other article that is then touched by an individual severely allergic to fish or nuts, could be enough to cause a severe reaction.

The school has established emergency plans for the students. Part of this plan is to establish a safe environment for all. Therefore, we ask parent, students, and staff to avoid including fish, nuts, peanuts and products containing nuts or peanuts in lunches or snacks to the school.

Assemblies

Assembly presentations provide a special opportunity for our school community. The school will arrange assemblies throughout the school year. All assemblies and times will be communicated to our school community via the monthly newsletter, notes home, and/or the school Remind messaging system.

Assemblies allow us to showcase our learning and to celebrate our identity and growth as individuals. Assemblies are connected to learning outcomes and highlight student development in areas such as reading, writing and speaking which are directly linked to the English Language Arts Curriculum. Students also have a chance to perform music, dance and drama which are part of our Arts Education Curriculum. Parents and Guardians are encouraged to attend as often as possible. Please come!

Attendance & Phone-in Policy

Regular attendance is very important. **You can use Edsby, the communication tool and learning management system used by SRPSD, to quickly and easily report a student absence in advance.** Learn more about Edsby below. **You can also call the school at 306-922-9229 or use our attendance email/text: apattendance@srsd119.ca.** If your child does not arrive at school, and you have not notified the school through a note or phone call, we will attempt to reach a guardian at home or at work to ensure that your child is safe. This is a time-consuming process for the office team so we really appreciate all you do to let us know.

Thank you in advance for notifying us when your child will be late or absent.

Edsby

Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division is using Edsby as a communication tool and learning management system. Edsby keeps everything safe and secure within the confines of our school division. If you would like to learn more about Edsby security, there is a lot of information here: <https://www.edsby.com/privacy-policy/>

Edsby makes it easy for parents to observe all of the wonderful things that are happening in our classroom. From time to time, we will post grades, notes, pictures, videos, or audio clips of your child learning at school. This will help you see the progress your child is making in their learning journey.

Use Edsby to report student absences, communicate with your child's teacher, receive communication from the school, and view information about your child's classes such as grades and assignments.

What are the benefits of using Edsby?

Edsby is a great way to support your child at school. Edsby pulls together information about each of your children and presents it in a clear, easy-to-understand format. Parents are an important part of the school's family. For each of your children – even if they go to different schools – you'll see all their teachers and classes. Some teachers will assign work through Edsby and if they do, you will be able to see academic progress, upcoming assessments, and current assessments. Each child has a calendar that will display tests and events from their classes and groups, if the teachers are entering the information. Parents may also see what teachers are posting in a class to support their child.

Do I have to use a computer to use Edsby?

Edsby works on all browsers, iOS, and Android devices. For more information on using Edsby on smartphones and tablets: <https://tinyurl.com/2tx3dam4>

If you download the Edsby app for your mobile device, you will need to enter the code 'srsd119' to connect to our Saskatchewan Rivers School Division server.

What do I do if I forget my password? Where do I get help or support on how to use Edsby?

On the Edsby login screen, there is a link for Can't Log In. Click on this and enter your email address that you used when you registered for Edsby. An email will be sent with instructions to follow. For more help with forgotten passwords: <https://tinyurl.com/2p936exd>

Please watch this 2-minute video: <https://tinyurl.com/mr26cv4b>

- If you have not received an Edsby invitation email, please contact the school.
- You will receive an invite for each child that is enrolled in our school division.
- You will only need to create one account.

Submitting Student Absences - 1 min 30 second video and written instructions: <https://tinyurl.com/mv3nth8k>

Managing Your Notifications - You decide when you receive emails or alerts as updates are made within Edsby. Instructions: <https://tinyurl.com/29uehnwf>

[Communicating with Your Child's Teachers](https://tinyurl.com/yc7cjws3) - How to message your child's teachers through Edsby. Instructions: <https://tinyurl.com/yc7cjws3>

[Viewing Your Child's Grades and Assignments through My Work](https://tinyurl.com/3744e424) - Edsby enables parents to stay up-to-date on their child's homework and assignments, as well as monitor how they are doing in each class. Instructions: <https://tinyurl.com/3744e424>

Edsby Privacy Policy: <https://edsby.com/privacy-policy/>

Band Program

The École Arthur Pechey Public School Band program begins in Grade 5 with instruction by a specialized Band Teacher, Mrs. Gotchia. All students in Grades 5 and 6 take Band classes as part of their music curriculum. Grade 7 and 8 students may choose between an Arts Ed. program that includes Band, in addition to the strands of Visual Art, Dance, and Drama, or on that does not. The bands perform throughout the school year at concerts, assemblies and festivals. The school bands traditionally participate in the local Music Festival and depending on finances and ability may choose to undertake certain road trips to other festivals and concerts in other schools. École Arthur Pechey Public School has a long history of a strong band program, encouraging students in the performing arts.

Bikes, Skateboards & Scooters

Students bringing bicycles to school must lock them in the bike racks. Storage cannot be provided inside the school building. Bikes cannot be ridden on the school property between 8:30 a.m. and 3:45 p.m. on school days. Skateboards and scooters also may not be ridden on school property. Students who deliberately disregard these rules will have the privilege of bringing their bikes, skateboards & scooters to school revoked for a period of time. Thank you to our students for their cooperation.

Bikes without locks must be left at home. **The school does not accept responsibility for lost, stolen or damaged bikes.**

Busing

Busing is provided for all students in Kindergarten as well as for students living a distance greater than 200 metres from the school. All students need to be registered for school bus transportation. This can be done online at www.srsd119.ca under "Transportation Department".

French Immersion and PreK, Kindergarten Busing: students will be provided transportation to and from a location as a close as possible to their home.

Students living at a distance greater than 200 metres from the school: designated bus stops have been established. Please ensure that you know where your child will be picked up and dropped off. A map is available at the school office which also includes approximate pick-up times. If students should miss the bus, parents are responsible to ensure the child gets to school by some other means.

Students will be dropped off and picked up in front of the school. **Please do not park in the bus unloading zone on 28th Street West.** This unloading zone between the signs must remain clear of cars as there are at least four buses needing to park. Please be aware of the bus zones and avoid parking in these areas. Your cooperation is appreciated.

Any students needing the school bus this fall must be registered. It only takes 2 to 3 minutes and is very easy to do! Registering your child for busing is necessary, but doesn't have to be done every year. Please only re-register if the student's information (such as school, address or contact info) is changing. Please register if you are not sure if you already have.

Registering online is quick and easy. Doing so now will ensure your child is placed on the proper bus for the first day of school. Not registering on time could delay having your child assigned a bus several days into the new school year. The direct link to register is <https://www3.srsd119.ca/busgarage/transport/request.php> or you can simply type "Sask Rivers School Division" or "SRSD119" in a search engine (we recommend Google) and we will surely pop up. Look for "Transportation Requests" in the green band towards the bottom of any of our web pages.

Communication for SRPSD Buses: Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division school bus notifications using **Remind** is the easiest and fastest way to get important information about your child's school bus. This is used to quickly communicate important information that affects the entire school division. This could include things such as mass cancellations or important updates on rules, school reminders and possible rule/regulation changes.

Remind is a free service that will enable you to receive our notifications by app or by text.

How To: First sign up for our school division wide notifications following the link below. Now sign up for your home school area for the proper notifications. <https://www.srsd119.ca/bus-notification-sign-up/>

If you have any questions, please call the Transportation Department at 306 763-2323 for assistance.

Please note: Busing is only provided to those students living in the designated attendance area for our school.

Extra-Curricular Activities

Extra-curricular activities are a priority at our school. We provide activities aimed primarily at Grade 5 to 8 students. Special events and theme days are organized for students Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 8.

Activities are conducted before school, during the noon hour, recess, and after school from 3:15 to 5:30 p.m. These opportunities include but aren't limited to sports teams such as Cross-Country Running, Volleyball, Basketball, Badminton, and Track and Field, Student Leadership Council, Drama, and Kids Club.

We strongly encourage students to become involved in the many rich opportunities that will be available to them.

Fire Drills/Lockdown Drills

Fire drills will be held several times in the fall and again in the spring to familiarize students with this aspect of fire safety. Students are expected to have indoor footwear in the event that a fire drill occurs during inclement weather.

École Arthur Pechey Public School has a process for preparing students for other potential emergencies by doing lockdown drills. This process will be taught to the students ahead of time and practiced throughout the year. Essentially, this is a drill in which the student would be the safest if they remained in their classroom. Communication will be sent home when Lockdown Drills are completed.

Fundraising

The students of École Arthur Pechey Public School – either on a classroom basis or on a school-wide basis – occasionally conduct fundraising activities. The school will only conduct one large scale fundraiser – the annual FunScript gift card fundraiser- so that families do not feel that they are constantly fundraising throughout the year. The School Band will also have some fundraising events. Thank you for your ongoing support. All fundraising opportunities are optional; families should never feel any pressure to participate.

Home-School Communication

Our school has a webpage: <https://ap.srsd119.ca/>. Check it out for copies of our newsletter, information about the school and staff, student links to great learning resources online, and much more.

A detailed newsletter will be sent out near the beginning of each month to inform you of upcoming events, school closures, special activities, etc. It is helpful to keep the newsletter and use it to help plan your month.

Embracing the digital world – and saving paper too!

We will be making an effort to send home fewer messages with paper, choosing to communicate digitally instead. Without updating your email address or signing up to receive messages through Edsby, you risk missing school communication. If you want to get started but aren't sure how, please contact the school for help. It is fast, free, easy, safe, and an excellent way to stay informed about important events at our school.

Regular communication between home and school is so important – it can help students to get the most out of their school experience and can make life easier for everyone!

Insurance

All children at École Arthur Pechey Public School are insured on a 24-hour basis on any school day or while taking part in a school sponsored activity and related travel. Accident Insurance information is sent home with all students in the fall of each year.

Lunch Program

All students are welcome to stay for lunch at École Arthur Pechey Public School. With this privilege comes the responsibility to behave in a respectable manner. If students abuse the privilege through lack of cooperation, parents will be contacted and appropriate action will be taken. Ongoing issues with any one student may lead to lunch hour privileges being revoked.

Students in grades 7 and 8 will receive a note at the beginning of the school year on which they will indicate whether students have permission to leave the school to go home or out for lunch. Please return this note so that noon supervisors are aware of which students may leave at lunch and which students stay. Further communication is always possible in the form of an email or note, for example, to indicate that a student will be leaving the school for lunch that day. If your child is in a younger grade and goes home for lunch, please communicate this with their teacher so that we can support this safely.

Microwaves: Please note, microwaves are **not** available to heat student lunches.

Canteen: We have a canteen available at the school, open from 12:05-12:45 where students can purchase items such as pizza, pizza pops, corn dogs, frozen yogurt cups, crackers, juice, and other snack items. Proceeds from the canteen support the entire school community. Students in Kindergarten and Grade 1 can fill out a canteen order form to facilitate appropriate purchasing from the canteen. Guardians are able to purchase canteen cards for \$20 or more through SchoolCash Online. See section on SchoolCash Online for more information.

Library

École Arthur Pechey Public School library consists of nearly 15,000 books, magazines, and other related materials which the students are encouraged to make use of in their studies. Teachers may also schedule their classes to visit the library to use the materials available within the Makerspace over the course of the year.

Each class has a scheduled library book exchange period every week. Full replacement cost is charged for any lost or damaged new books.

Makerspace

This year École Arthur Pechey Public School continues the process of creating a Makerspace in the school library. A makerspace is a unique learning environment that encourages tinkering, play, and open-ended exploration for all. Why build a Makerspace? Makerspace Educator Brooke Brown answers that question in the following way: "The purpose of a Makerspace is to tap into as many different interests, passions, and strengths in our students as possible. As educators, we are tasked with the most important job in the world...Creating the next generation of problem solvers, innovators, and earth-shakers. In a Makerspace, children have opportunities to discover, assemble, construct, test, and explore using divergent, "outside the box" thinking. Through creative exploration and purposeful play, students become critical thinkers and inventors while collaborating with their peers." Our hope is to create a space where students are inspired and empowered to create and design, to solve problems, to have fun learning!

Physical Education Program

Fitness, fundamentals, and fun are very important aspects of any physical education program. To have fun and become physically fit, total participation is very important. There are certain requirements that should be met by all students. These requirements are that each child has a pair of gym runners with non-marking soles. Students in grades 5-8 also need some type of gym clothing (usually shorts and t-shirt). Kindergarten to Grade 4 students should try to wear suitable clothing on the days of their gym class. Gym wear is extremely important because of our concern for each child's health and safety. It is much easier and safer to move around in gym clothes than in jeans or a dress.

Since physical education is a mandated part of the Saskatchewan Curriculum, it is expected that all students will participate in class unless the teacher has been informed of health problems which will restrict activity.

Reporting and Communicating with Caregivers Regarding Student Progress - Division & School

Open and consistent communication with caregivers is critical to student success. While our division is moving from three terms to two and will therefore only have two formal report cards, the understanding is that teachers and caregivers will maintain communication throughout the year. Progress Conferences, what we used to refer to and Parent-Teacher Interviews, are an important touch point for sharing student strengths and progress. Teachers will also make it a priority to communicate with caregivers regarding concerns as well as opportunities for growth throughout the term. Caregivers should never hesitate to communicate with teachers if they have concerns regarding a student's academic progress or any other concerns that are affecting the success of your child in any area, be it academic, social, or emotional and teachers will do the same. The development of a positive working relationship with caregivers, one that creates a sense of teamwork and mutual support, will not only make it easier to work together, but will have a powerful impact on our ability to support our students.

Arthur Pechey Reporting Periods - 2022-2023

Term 1 - September 2 - February 1, Report Cards Home - February 2

Term 2 - February 2 - June 28, Report Cards Home - June 28

Progress Conferences

November 9 and March 17

Online Cash System: SchoolCash Online

A new approach to paying for your child's school items and activity fees.

One of the measures we are taking as a division is to establish our online payment system to minimize cash and check payments at our schools and so we encourage parents to make online payments from home. Through School Cash Online, parents can pay registration fees, course fees, field trips, yearbooks, school clothing, and more. Families can set up an account by going to the SRPSD website: <http://www.srsd119.ca/>

Key benefits:

- Receive email notifications of new fees or items available for purchase.
- Check your account history and view and print receipts.
- Pay for school fees anytime, anywhere, with a simple click, using the contactless solution.
- Keep track of your child's school items and activity fees and manage all students in your household from one location.

How to register:

1. Go to <https://srsd119.schoolcashonline.com> and click Register.
 - a. Type your first name, last name, and email address, and create a password.
 - b. Select a security question.
 - c. Select YES to receive email notifications. You will not receive any marketing emails. Selecting YES enables the system to send you fee notifications.
2. SchoolCash Online will send you a confirmation email. If you don't receive it, check your Spam folder.
3. Use your email address and password to log in.

How to add students to your account:

1. Sign in to SchoolCash Online: <https://srsd119.schoolcashonline.com>
2. At the top of the page, navigate to MY ACCOUNT.
3. From the dropdown menu, select My Students.
4. Click to add a student:
 - a. Type in your School Board Name.
 - b. Select your school name from the list.
 - c. Enter student details. The system is fully secure, with PCI certification.
 - d. Click Confirm.

You may add up to eight students on your profile.

How to make a payment:

1. You will be able to view any available items attached to your students that are set up on your account.
2. Select the item which you would like to purchase and click "Add to Cart."
3. Once you have finished adding items to your cart, select "Check Out" to make a payment.

School Community Council

Parents are a wonderful asset to any school and have a positive impact on students and performance. An active parent group is one indicator of a successful school, and our parent group is no exception! Our monthly newsletter will inform you of the opportunities at École Arthur Pechey Public School and within the larger school division. Please do not hesitate to call the school (306 922-9229) if you missed some of the information or are interested in becoming more involved. Get involved for your child's sake and for your own. It is fun and rewarding. Give it a try; we'd love to have your input.

School Social Worker

Our School Social Worker, Aryn Peterson, is a liaison between the school, the home, and the community. She assists families with concerns regarding their children and helps new students and families to adjust to the new school environment and neighbourhood. She is available for home visits, and can be reached at the school, (306) 922-9229.

Staff Parking Lot/Pedestrian Safety

For student safety, we ask parents **NOT** to use the staff parking lot to drop off students. The staff parking lot is not a pick-up or drop-off point. Thank you in advance for reviewing with your child how and where to use the marked crosswalks on 26th Street and 4th Avenue and for helping to keep our children safe!

Telephone/Cell Phone

We have 2 phone lines at the school. Our phones are often busy. We try to keep a line free for calls from parents, etc. If you get our answering machine, and choose to leave a message, please indicate the date and time so we can get back to you as soon as possible.

Students who do choose to bring a cell phone to school must have it turned off and stored in a safe place, such as their locker. Cell phones are not to be in use or turned on during the school day. If students are found using their cell phone, they will be asked to leave their phone at the office until the end of the day. Should this happen a second time the phone will again be kept at the office until the end of the day and the student's parent/guardian will be informed. If a third incident occurs, the parent/guardian will be contacted and the phone will be kept until the parent/guardian is able to come in to pick up the phone.

Tipi Teachings – Character and Values Education, Social Emotional Learning

When we first heard about the character and values education program that Muskoday First Nation Community School had developed, we knew that we wanted to share it with the staff and students of École Arthur Pechey Public School. We knew that teaching character education and developing the moral intelligence of our students would serve several purposes including helping to improve social skills, helping students to develop strong internal control, help to build thinking skills necessary for making positive choices to solve problems, and ultimately build skills to live a positive life-style. We also know and appreciate that this program is culturally relevant to many of our students.

The Tipi Teachings themselves are not a new idea. To the Indigenous peoples, the tipi was much more than simply a shelter. The tipi was a sacred connection with family, nature, and the Creator. The Cree people use 15 poles to make the structure of the tipi. For every pole in that tipi, there is a teaching. It follows that there are 15 teachings that hold up the tipi. Over the course of the school year, we will focus as a school on a new teaching every couple of weeks.

The Tipi Teaching model supports our efforts in encouraging kindness, empathy, and compassion within our school community. It is a way to teach our students how to develop successful friendships and establish healthy life-long relationships. Through the teachings, the students are taught to care for and respect each other. This year, we are working with the division's Mental Health and Wellness team to include Social Emotional Learning into our Tipi Teaching program. We know that explicitly teaching these skills to our students will benefit them individually and our school community as a whole.

At École Arthur Pechey Public School, we have taken the Tipi Teachings in the spirit of those who created this model and use it on a regular basis in order to help establish and maintain a successful character education program; a program that is culturally relevant and meaningful to our students.

Please see our bulletin board by the office for more information about the Tipi Teachings and what we are currently focused on as a school.

Violent Threat Risk Assessment: Letter of Fair Notice

As per our Prince Albert Community VTRA Protocol, parents/guardians have to be informed of the VTRA process and the possible sharing of information among protocol partners.

LETTER OF FAIR NOTICE – Violence, Threat and Risk Assessment Protocol:

Dear Parents/Guardians:

The Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division Board (SRPSD) is committed to providing safe learning environments for all students, staff, school visitors and community members. We believe that by working together with students, their families, and the community we can support young people to be healthy and happy.

Our principals, vice-principals and school social workers have received Level One and/or Two training in Violence Threat/Risk Assessment (VTRA). This training has led to the development of a community protocol to help principals protect students from potential threats to safety or serious harm. The protocol helps schools respond quickly to threatening incidents.

The Prince Albert Community VTRA Protocol outlines how schools will respond to threatening or worrisome behavior. Principals will convene a School Threat Assessment Team, which typically will include the principal/vice-principal, a school counselor and a police officer. Depending on the severity of the potential threat, principals may also consult with the Superintendent of Schools and call in members of the Community Threat Assessment Team. This Community Team may include representatives of community agencies such as local Police, Mental Health and Addiction Services, or Child and Family Services.

Parents and guardians will be notified as soon as possible in the VTRA process. If parents/guardians cannot be reached or if they choose not to provide consent, the threat assessment may still proceed. Personal information shared throughout this process will respect and balance each individual's right to privacy with the need to ensure the safety of all.

This letter is to serve fair notice that SRPSD will take decisive action when a serious threat has been made. Our goal, as always, is to ensure student safety in a caring learning environment.

Sincerely,

Tom Michaud
Superintendent of Schools
Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division