

**RETIREMENT IS THE DOOR TO START GREAT THINGS
TO EMBRACE A NEW BEGINNING
TO ENTER A NEW CHAPTER IN YOUR LIFE**

**CONGRATULATIONS
TO
THE WILD ROSE SCHOOL DIVISION'S
2015 RETIREES**





Brian Celli

Born and raised in Burnaby, B.C., Brian earned his B.Ed at U.B.C. After spending 4 years in publishing with Harcourt, Brace, Jovanovich (HBJ) and Psychological Corporation, he began his teaching career as a Social Studies teacher in Fox Creek, Alberta in 1988. After 4 years, he took a 1 year sabbatical to pursue his M.Ed. in Leadership and Administration before returning to Fox Creek where he spent 2 more years as a teacher-counsellor in the school.

In 1995, he took a 1 year Vice-Principal assignment at Hillside Jr-Sr Secondary School in Valleyview, AB, which subsequently turned into 2 additional years as Principal of the school. This was followed by a principalship at H.W. Pickup Jr High School in Drayton Valley and 3 years as Principal at HJ Cody School in Sylvan Lake. In 2002, Brian became the Deputy Superintendent in Clearview School Division where he also served as Acting Superintendent before moving to Penticton, BC, as an Assistant Superintendent. In 2009, Brian returned to Alberta as the Superintendent of Wild Rose School Division and has spent the past 6 years in the gratifying work of helping WRSD get ready for the world of Inspiring Education. Throughout his career, Brian has been guided by the firmly held belief that public education must serve the needs of ALL students.

He considers himself extremely fortunate to have been able to spend a lifetime working in education and very lucky in the (too many to list) exemplary people he has met over the course of his career. He would like to thank his wife, Charlotte and family (Tricia, Shannon, Danielle, Kristina, and Catherine) for their unfailing support over the past 27 years. Retirement plans include returning to their house in Okanagan Falls, stepping back from education for a year, and taking some time to travel. Life after that is TBD. He would like to wish all the great people in WRSD the very best in the upcoming years!



Russ Hickman

Russ received his Alberta teaching certificate in 1983 and in 1984 began teaching Grade 2 at Red Earth, Saskatchewan. After moving to Marcelin School in the Blaine Lake School Division, Russ received his B.Ed. from Calgary in 1987. He then began teaching Div. II and III with Parkland County at Tomahawk in 1988.

In 1981 Russ married Erin. The Hickman's, with their two children, Emily (1984) and Catherine (1986), moved to Drayton Valley where Erin taught SPED at H.W. Pickup Junior High School. Leah was born in 1991 and in 1992 they moved from the Town of Drayton Valley to an acreage in Brazeau County.

Russ taught at H.W. Pickup Junior High School from 1999 to 2015, finishing as a grade 7 English Language Arts teacher. Russ coached badminton, XC running, basketball, volleyball, track and field and taught parliamentary procedure. He was active in the ATA at the local and provincial level.

In the recent Wild Rose School Division Ward 1 by-election Russ was elected as a Trustee.

Plans for retirement include shortening the house to-do list and spending time with his 3 year old grandson Corbin, planning trips and buying gear.



Shellie Jones

Shellie has always wanted to be a teacher. She knew that was her goal since she was in Grade 8. After high school, Shellie went to Grant MacEwan Community College to take training as an E.A. She went to Grande Prairie where she worked as an E.A. for seven years. During that time, she took night classes towards her first year of university. Shellie moved to Calgary to complete her Bachelor of Education, specializing in Early Childhood and Special Education.

Shellie has been working in a school setting for 32 years, finishing her career in Breton Elementary. She believes that the Leader in Me program is one of the best programs she has ever seen for schools. It lets the students shine and reduces bullying.

Shellie would like to let everyone know it has been awesome to work at Breton Elementary over the years.



Gordon Majeran

After a long, enjoyable and rewarding career working in the K-12 Education System, I am looking forward to retirement.

I began my career in October of 1977 working as a Secretary-Treasurer for the Eston-Elros School Division in Saskatchewan. After some time, I moved to Melville, Saskatchewan and served four boards over a time span of 10 years. In 1999, I moved to Alberta and was employed by Clearview School Division for 9 years. Since 2008 I have been employed with Wild Rose School Division.

As well as having more time to spend with my lovely wife, Joan, three children and nine grandchildren, I look forward to having the time to do the things I enjoy such as golfing, skiing and travelling.



Barb McNair

Barb McNair began her teaching career in 1990 at Langley Secondary School in Langley, B.C., teaching English and E.S.L to students in grades 8 - 12. Missing her home province of Alberta, she found her way back and, in 2000, accepted a position as the first teacher of the division's then-new Outreach School. Barb has loved the excitement and diversity of teaching a variety of subject areas at Visions West for the past 15 years.

Barb now resides on 2.5 acres just out of town. She loves training her dogs in agility and flyball and has a brand new border collie puppy that will be ready to come home in early June. Barb loves adventure and looks forward to spending time with her family, travelling, gardening, camping, hiking, and fishing. With all of these activities, retirement definitely sounds sweet!



Barb's new puppy – Born April 8, 2015 (6 days old)



Gloria Overguard

Work History

1972 - 2015

1972-1974	-	Manyberries	Grade 1 & 2
1975-1981	-	Strome	Grade 1 or Grade 1 & 2
1983-1984	-	Rocky Christian School	Grade 3 & 4
1987-1995	-	Rocky Christian School	Grade 3 (1/2 time)
1996-2003	-	Rocky Christian School	Grade 1
2006-2012	-	Rocky Christian School	Grade 1 & 2
2013-2015	-	Rocky Christian School	Grade 1

After 32 years in the classroom, Gloria is looking forward to putting in her flower gardens and yard and then sewing and quilting in the cold winter months. She hopes to do some travelling and become more involved in her community. Gloria is very much looking forward to having more time to spend with her family and grandchildren as well as her church family.



Mark Smith

Mark has taught in the Wild Rose School Division in its various incarnations for 30 years. He has taught continuously at Frank Maddock High School for those 30 years where he taught Social Studies, English, Phys Ed, Work Experience and coached basketball. Teaching has been a wonderful profession that has brought many rich rewards.

As the newly elected MLA for Drayton Valley – Devon, Mark is looking forward to new challenges but knows that leaving teaching is going to leave a big hole in his life. Thank you to all of those teachers, students, parents and administrators that have made the past 30 years so rewarding.



Mary Tourneur

I moved to the Drayton Valley area in 1980 after completing my degree in recreation and worked as a Recreation Director for the County of Parkland. I have been married for 34 years, have four grown children and two delightful grandchildren. My husband and I have been farming since 1981, established a successful breeding program for German Shepherd dogs for twelve years and have been raising bison for almost twenty years. After earning my Education Degree early in the 1990s, while raising our four children, I returned to the work force as a substitute teacher for the Wild Rose School Division. I have had a part time teaching position at the Drayton Valley Community Outreach School for the last ten plus years and feel honored to have had the opportunity to work with the most amazing young people during this time. My life has been made richer with the love of my family, good friends, good health and a rewarding teaching career.



Bettie Van't Bosch

My teaching career began with the Wild Rose School Division in 1979-1983 at the Leslieville School. I greatly appreciated the leadership of Mrs. Elsa Seigle, our principal, in those first years out of University. Following this I took several years off of teaching to enjoy the role of parenthood, although I did dive into a one year commitment to get the Kindergarten program going at Rocky Christian School in the 1984-1985 school year. Throughout the following years I filled in for a variety of part time teaching positions at Rocky Christian School as the needs arose, becoming a permanent half time staff member from 1995-2015. It has brought me great pleasure to work with children and see them develop into inquisitive, engaged young adults. I have developed a unique teaching style which is a blend of years of innovative developments in teaching strategies and discovering what works to stimulate young minds. Now I have reached yet another stage of life and am excited to enter the years of retirement with its new adventures. I plan to have time for a variety of hobbies including gardening, reading, quilting, knitting and spend quality time with family - especially the grandkids! I also look forward to giving back to society in a variety of Mission opportunities, some of which I had the privilege of trying out for the short term.

**CONGRATULATIONS AS WELL TO THE FOLLOWING
RETIREEES**

Judy Cochrane – West Central High School

Terry Zuber – West Central High School

Go well...

*As you move into a future bright with
possibility...*

*A future of challenges to conquer and of
dreams to aspire to - our best wishes travel
with you!*

IMPROVING LIFE CHANCES

