

Media Release



Saskatoon Public Schools
Inspiring Learning

January 16, 2012 – Saskatoon Public Schools chooses New Director of Education

The Saskatoon Board of Education today announced the appointment of Mrs. Avon Whittles to the position of Director of Education, effective August 1, 2012. Mrs. Whittles currently serves as Deputy Director of Education for Saskatoon Public Schools.

“I extend sincere congratulations to Mrs. Whittles on behalf of all members of our Board,” said Mr. Ray Morrison, Board Chairperson. “In addition to her proven leadership ability within Saskatoon Public Schools, Avon brings to the position of director an abiding passion, and I don’t think passion is too strong a word, for the education of our children and youth. She is truly someone who is passionate about inspiring learning.”

As Deputy Director of Education for the past five years, Mrs. Whittles has played a key role in implementing the Board’s *Literacy for Life* and *Collegiate Renewal* strategic learning priorities, and in developing the Board’s Strategic Plan. She is an enthusiastic champion for early learning and literacy and has worked tirelessly to help the students at Saskatoon Public be the best they can be.

“I am deeply honoured to lead a vibrant Saskatoon Public Schools’ team at what is a very exciting time for public education in Saskatchewan,” said Avon Whittles. “It is the care and compassion at Saskatoon Public that sets our Division apart. We consider it an honour to care for, and learn with, so many young people and to shape the future with our students. I am looking forward to continuing the strong relationships among our staff, families and community partners as we focus upon improving learning outcomes and creating inspiring learning environments for our students.”

Mrs. Whittles began her career in rural Saskatchewan at the elementary level. She has taught in Alberta, and spent time as a teacher librarian and as a program coordinator. A graduate of Saskatoon Public Schools, she began her career with the division as a teacher at Walter Murray Collegiate. Mrs. Whittles has worked as a Kindergarten to Grade 12 English Language Arts consultant, a Vice Principal, Principal, and a Superintendent of Education.

Current Director, Mr. George Rathwell, retires from his duties effective July 31, 2012.

Saskatoon Public Schools is the largest school division in the province. We operate 43 elementary schools, 10 secondary schools, and two associate schools. We serve almost 21,300 students and employ approximately 2,300 professional and support staff. Learn more at www.saskatoonpublicschools.ca

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