

FIRST NATIONS ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SCHOOL PRINCIPAL'S REPORT

School: Saunders Secondary School

PART 1 – Student Achievement

Quantitative achievement data for students from communities (aggregate, as available); review of most recent FNMI Student Success Team Meeting (secondary), date of next meeting (secondary); next steps, other data sources regarding student achievement and well-being for community students

FNMI SST Meetings – The Student Success Team currently meeting to develop a schedule for our FNMI SST meetings this year.

PART 2 – Initiatives to Support First Nations Students

Cultural events, student activities, staff development, parent and community engagement

- 1) **Orange Shirt Day** – The FNMI Planning committee is meeting this month to plan the events for Saunders' Orange Shirt Day.
- 2) **Transitions** – Trish Whiteye has been working to ensure our new grade 9s are making a smooth transition to Saunders. She has also been working with grade 10 -12 students to ensure a successful start.
- 3) **Digital Resource for English Teachers** – At the end of August, a team collaborated to create a digital resource package for English teachers who chose to read the Marrow Thieves by Cherie Dimaline with their classes. This team included; Starr McGahey-Albert, Kerry Day, Charlene Camillo, Adria Killian, Michelle Malone (Literacy coordinators), Kelly Appleton (TVDSB Mental Health) with input from Saunders SS students and Kathleen Doxtator. The story contains many serious and sensitive issues and the resource will provide teachers with accurate historical and cultural reference points to ensure context is provided to students. Resources to allow students to engage with hope and empower them to take action and effect change, are also included in the document.
- 4) **NAC101 - Expressing Aboriginal Voices** - This year we are offering NAC10 Expressing Aboriginal Voices. This class will be pairing with CHV2OF to smudge each day, participate in walk and talk Mondays, and for culturally based field trips. We are in the process of arranging multiple indigenous artists and local elders to host art workshops, including; beading, woodland style painting, drumming, and soapstone sculpture.

PART 3 – School News

School-wide events and updates

Important Dates:

Tuesday September 17th – Grade 9 Family Night 3:30-5:30

Friday September 27th – PD Day

Monday September 30th - Orange Shirt Day

Thursday October 10th – Parent Teacher Interviews 3:30-6:30

Monday October 14th – Thanksgiving – No School

Thursday October 24th – Photo Re-take day

Friday October 25th – PD Day