

New Staffing Announcement - Administration Changes for Grande Cache



Immediate Release: April 25, 2022 - [Grande Yellowhead Public School Division](#) (GYPSD) is pleased to announce the following school administrative changes for the 2022/2023 school year.

The Division wishes long-time principal of Grande Cache Community High School (GCCHS), Ms. Jackie Mines, all the best as she retires at the end of this school year. She became the principal at GCCHS in 2011, following 21 years of service within the Division. Her career began at St Joe's in Whitecourt, where she taught physical education and science. She taught physical education K-12, science, and a number of options including cosmetology over the years before she accepted the principal position.



Principal John Hammer of Summitview Middle School, will be moving over to GCCHS as their principal for the 2022/2023 school year. John became the principal at Summitview in 2013, following six years of service within GYPSD. His career began at Nimitz High School in Houston, Texas, where he taught Grade 10 and 11 students English Language Arts. He has also taught in North Dakota and Kansas before moving to Grande Cache in the fall of 2008 where he spent the next six years teaching Grade 8. John grew up in Starbuck, Minnesota, and received his undergraduate degree from the University of North Dakota. He has started a Master's Degree in Teaching English as a Second Language out of Fort Hays, Kansas. John views literacy and numeracy as the foundation of academic progress which formed his leadership focus in Summitview School, and which he plans to continue over at the high school. Collaboration among staff, principals, parents, students, and central office supports are key to continuous growth in both of these areas. This team approach is also essential in supporting parent, teacher, and student relationships for the purpose of providing the best possible experience for his students. John believes "Relationships are a key component of student and teacher success because students don't care about what you can teach them until they know how much you care about them."



Summitview's current Assistant Principal, Ms. Trina McKay, will move into the role of acting Principal for the 2022/2023 school year. Trina is originally from Newfoundland but moved with her family to Grande Cache in May 2008. She completed her Bachelor of Science Degree at Saint Mary's University in Halifax, Nova Scotia, in June 2008, and her Bachelor Education Degree in Intermediate/Secondary Education from Memorial University. She began teaching at Summitview Middle School as a Grade 8 Math and Science teacher in September 2010, and then became the Learning Support Teacher in 2011. Trina has been the Assistant Principal at Summitview since September 2017. She is looking forward to the opportunity to expand her leadership skills. "I have appreciated all of the knowledge that I gained in this position as a leader working alongside John Hammer as the Principal. Grande Yellowhead has provided me with enriched professional development and collaborative learning that has inspired me to continue further with leadership."