

RAQUEL OBERKIRSCH

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EDUCATION

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| 2020 – Present | Master of Education in Curriculum and Instruction
University of Regina, Regina, SK |
| 2012 – 2016 | Bachelor of Education with Great Distinction (Elementary)
University of Regina, Regina, SK
April 2016
Overall GPA of 88.92% |
| 2014 | Early Childhood Educator Level II
Government of Saskatchewan |

TEACHING EXPERIENCE

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| Curriculum Consultant | September 2019 – Present |
| Division: | South East Cornerstone Public School Division |
| Coordinator: | Michael Graham |
| Assignment: | Curriculum Consultant for Indigenous Education & Treaty Education |

Responsibilities:

- Support teachers in teaching about Treaties, Residential Schools, and Indigenous peoples' historical and contemporary contributions to Canada
- Support teachers to integrate Treaty Education into multiple subject areas
- Develop partnerships with First Nations and Métis Elders, Knowledge Keepers, First Nations schools, and education authorities
- Share ways to authentically embed Indigenous ways of knowing in the classroom
- Build capacity of teachers by team teaching, modelling, mentoring, providing resources, and presenting at professional development events

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| Teacher | October 2018 – June 2019 |
| School: | 33 Central School, South East Cornerstone Public School Division |
| Principal: | Kylee Carver |
| Assignment: | High School Math and Science |

Responsibilities:

- Taught subjects including: Foundations 30, Health Science 20, Environmental Science 20, Workplace & Apprenticeship Math 10, Science 10, Math 9, and Grade 7/8/9 Health, Career Ed, Arts Ed, and PAA
- Supported high school students and monitored their progress in various online courses in collaboration with teachers at Cyber Stone Virtual School
- Co-facilitated the Gay-Straight Alliance Club

Teacher January – June 2018
School: Ruth M. Buck School, Regina Public School Division
Principal: Angie Balkwill
Assignment: Grade 2/3

Responsibilities:

- Implemented guided reading groups regularly as a part of my balanced literacy program
- Assessed students' reading levels using Fountas and Pinnell and used data to drive instruction
- Consistently communicated with families regarding student interventions and plans for success
- Taught subject areas including: English Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, Health, Physical Education, and Arts Education
- Completed playground and lunchroom supervision

Teacher September – December 2017
School: Ruth M. Buck School, Regina Public School Division
Principal: Angie Balkwill
Assignment: Grade 7

Responsibilities:

- Established consistent balanced literacy routines using an Essential Question framework
- Participated in a Community of Practice focused on Essential Question Unit/Outcome Based Planning to help students develop critical thinking and problem solving skills
- Planned for and facilitated student-led conferences
- Planned and facilitated various field trips, including attending Treaty 4 Gathering and participating in the Blanket Exercise on Treaty 4 Grounds
- Taught subject areas including: English Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, Health, Physical Education, and Arts Education
- Completed playground and lunchroom supervision

Teacher September 2016 – June 2017
School: W. F. Ready School, Regina Public School Division
Principal: Angie Balkwill
Assignment: Grade 6/7

Responsibilities:

- Participated in professional learning around Saskatchewan Reads, gradual release, balanced literacy and the four instructional approaches
- Acted as a leader within Equity Council, which focused on ways to implement TRC Calls to Action
- Adapted and adjusted planning to provide challenging learning opportunities for all students
- Worked with EAL teacher, LRT, teacher librarian, and principal to further develop instructional skills
- Taught subject areas including: English Language Arts, Math, Science, Social Studies, Health, Physical Education, and Arts Education
- Completed playground and lunchroom supervision

Internship **September – December 2015**
School: **Centennial School, Regina, SK**
Cooperating Teacher: **Michael Knoll**
Assignment: **Grades 5/6**

Responsibilities:

- Co-led parent/teacher interviews with cooperating teacher
- Integrated digital citizenship education through use of a class Twitter account
- Facilitated the “Blanket Exercise,” an experiential activity that helps participants understand the relationship between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Canada
- Worked with the LRT to assess students’ reading levels using Fountas and Pinnell
- Volunteered at open house, cross country running events, and the Christmas Concert
- Collaboratively planned various field trips, including an overnight “camp-in” to the Saskatchewan Science Centre

LEADERSHIP

2018 – Present **Member of Truth and Reconciliation PLC**
South East Cornerstone Public School Division

- Worked with PLC members to promote Truth and Reconciliation work in our schools, including developing land acknowledgement scripts in partnership with local First Nations and a division wide plan for celebrating National Indigenous Peoples Day

October 2018 **Organizer of Treaty Ed Camp 4.0 Event**
University of Regina, Regina, SK

- Co-planned and facilitated a full-day professional development event open to teachers, pre-service teachers, and the general public
- Over 400 people attended to learn about Treaty Education, the legacy of residential schools, historical and contemporary implications of Treaty, and possibilities for decolonization and reconciliation

Sept. 2014 – July 2016 **UR S.T.A.R.S. (Student Teachers Anti-Racist/Anti-Oppressive Society) Executive Director, University of Regina**

- Worked with a team to start an undergraduate student group to promote anti-oppressive education and facilitate professional development events for teachers/pre-service teachers across SK
 - #TreatyEdCamp PD Event for Saskatchewan teachers
 - UR S.T.A.R.S. Events including: Resistance and Reconciliation, Gender and Sexual Diversity – Storytelling with Laura Budd, and Treaty Education in ELA Workshop
 - UR S.T.A.R.S. and Muslim Student Association Event: Supporting our Muslim Students

Dec. 2015 – April 2016 **Facilitated the ‘Blanket Exercise’ PD Sessions for Teachers**

- Apr. 16, 2016: Treaty Ed Camp Participants, Moose Jaw
- Mar. 10, 2016: Saskatchewan Polytechnic, Moose Jaw Campus
- Feb. 10, 2016: Greenall School Staff, Balgonie
- Dec. 4, 2015: Winston Knoll Staff, Regina

ACADEMIC CONFERENCE PRESENTATIONS

- May 2017** Katia Hildebrandt, Meagan Dobson, and **Raquel Oberkirsch**, “You mean I spent all day here and I’m not leaving with a single lesson plan?” Reflections on planning #TreatyEdCamp,” Paper presentation for the Canadian Society for Studies in Education, Congress of the Humanities and Social Sciences, Toronto, ON, May 2017
- Feb. 27, 2016** Meagan Dobson and **Raquel Oberkirsch**, “Witness Not Tourist: Our Journey in Working Toward Reconciliation,” Discussion session, Investigating Our Practices Conference, Regina, SK, February 2016
- April 15-17, 2015** Katia Hildebrandt and **Raquel Bellefleur**, “Becoming (a) subject: Tracing narratives of performance and privilege in the development of anti-oppressive educators,” Paper presentation, Discourse, Power, Resistance Conference, London, England, April 2015

PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT

- 2020** **Learning from Practice Conference**
An annual exchange of teacher knowledge and research hosted by the McDowell Foundation. Included a keynote from Chris Scribe.
- 2019** **National Gathering for Indigenous Education Conference**
Pre-Gathering Workshop – *Truth and Reconciliation: An Educator’s Guide*, presented by Dr. Niigaan Sinclair. Conference days included workshops and presentations focused on best practices in Indigenous Education.
- Visible Learning Conference**
Conference featured John Hattie and Peter DeWitt and focused on the key takeaways from the Visible Learning research and the five strands of Visible Learning.
- Whose Settlement? A Conference**
Conference hosted by First Nations University of Canada and the University of Regina to increase awareness about the Independent Assessment Process (IAP) and the '60s Scoop settlement agreement. Included a keynote by Dr. Cindy Blackstock entitled, *Is it genocide: A history of First Nations child welfare in Canada*.
- ASIST (Applied Suicide Intervention Skills Training)**
- 2018** **Woodrow Lloyd Lecture by Pam Palmater**
Truth and Reconciliation in Canada: If It Feels Good, It’s Not Reconciliation by Pam Palmater, Mi’kmaw lawyer, author, social justice advocate, and Chair in Indigenous Governance at Ryerson University

- 2017** **Regina Public Schools PD Sessions**
Professional learning focused on Saskatchewan Reads, gradual release model, balanced literacy and the four instructional approaches (modelled, shared, guided/scaffolded, and independent)
- 2016** **Ed Camp YQR**
UR Pride Centre Positive Space Training
- 2015** **Laboratory Safety Training Certificate**
RPIRG Anti-Oppression Training
Ed Camp YQR
ESS Technology in the Classroom

TEACHING/INSTRUCTING SKILLS

- Advocate for anti-oppressive education approach
- Develop strong supportive relationships with students using RAP training strategies
- Enhance positive self-image in students through coaching sports and teaching music
- Model digital citizenship for students using my professional Twitter account and digital portfolio
- Experience with a variety of digital tools for the classroom, including Google Drive, Google Plus Communities, Google Classroom, Twitter, and Wordpress
- Employ backwards planning with a strength and interest-based approach
- Differentiate instruction by adapting content, process, product, and the learning environment
- Involve students in the learning process using inquiry, project based learning, and co-created criteria

RELATED EXPERIENCE

Aug 2018 – Present
Weyburn, SK

Little Kicks Coach

Nike Junior Soccer Program
Weyburn Soccer Association

- Coach 8-week toddler soccer sessions for players 2-3 years old
- Plan drills and activities focused on physical literacy, soccer skills, and play

July – Aug. 2016
Regina, SK

E.Y.E.S. Instructor

E.Y.E.S. Camp
University of Regina

- Educating Youth in Engineering and Science Camp
- Developed, planned, and facilitated camp activities related to science and engineering
- Worked with youth from grades 2-9 in a variety of camp groups

Nov. 2014 – April 2016
Regina, SK

Library Assistant

Teacher Preparation Centre
University of Regina

- Maintained library and circulation desk
- Became familiar with a variety of children's literature, including books by Indigenous authors

May – Aug. 2015
Regina, SK

E.Y.E.S. Instructor

E.Y.E.S. Camp
University of Regina

- Facilitated engaging workshops in schools across Saskatchewan
- Developed, planned, and facilitated camp activities related to science and engineering
- Worked with youth from grades 2-9 in a variety of camp groups
- Organized mentorship sessions facilitated by women who work in science or engineering related fields for All-Girls Camp

July – Aug. 2014
Weyburn, SK

Program Leader

Fun in the Sun Day Camp

- Collaboratively planned engaging activities for groups of 30 campers
- Adapted activities to ensure they met the needs and abilities of all participants (ages 6-12)

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

May – June 2019
Weyburn, SK

U13 Girls Soccer Coach

Weyburn Soccer Association

April 13-14, 2016
Regina, SK

Student Volunteer

Day of Education for Reconciliation

Jan. 2014 – Nov. 2014
Regina, SK

Student Volunteer

Regina Women's Transition House

ACTIVITIES AND INTERESTS

Sept. 2018 – Present

Kickboxing Classes at Weyburn MMA

2011 – Present

Competent Piano Accompanist (Grade 8 Piano Certificate)

Sept. 2012 – April 2018

Co-ed Rec. Soccer Team

Sept. 2014 – April 2015

University of Regina Intramural Ultimate Frisbee

AWARDS AND ACHIEVEMENTS

2015-16

STF Prize for the Most Distinguished Graduate of the Faculty of Education, Academic Silver Scholarship, Children on the Move Scholarship, Dr. Mary Cronin Literacy Scholarship, Muriel Welwood Scholarship for Women in Education

2014-15

Academic Silver Scholarship, Canadian Federation of University Women Regina Scholarship, Children on the Move Scholarship, Helen Marguerite Fuller Prize for Teaching, SK Teachers' Federation Scholarship

2013-14

Academic Gold Scholarship, SK Teachers' Federation Scholarship

2012-13

Centennial Merit Plus Scholarship

REFERENCES

Michael Graham
Curriculum Coordinator
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ELA Instructional Coach
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Kylee Carver
Principal – 33 Central School
South East Cornerstone Public School Division

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Angie Balkwill
Principal – Ruth M. Buck School
Regina Public Schools

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