



Nomination for Premier's Award
for Innovation and Excellence in Education:

Innovative music programming in Prairie Spirit School Division

*In Prairie Spirit School Division, music matters and
music is for everyone! In fact, music makes it better!*

Prairie Spirit School Division

Prairie Spirit School Division is the learning-centered rural and urban school division surrounding the City of Saskatoon. Prairie Spirit covers a wide geographic area: north to Leask, south to Hanley, east to Colonsay and west to Perdue. The school division includes nine Hutterite colonies and two First Nations communities. Prairie Spirit includes towns, villages and the new cities of Warman and Martensville.

The Division's 11,000 students are served by a team of over 1,200 professionals and support staff. Led by our dedicated staff, our students are achieving at high levels and our graduation rates are among the highest in the province.

Prairie Spirit is focusing on preparing students for the world after school, by exploring learning as it relates to a real world context.

Our mission and vision statements support and reflect the Division's purpose and beliefs about learning. The mission statement captures the spirit of innovation, creativity and a global society.

Vision: Learners for Life

Mission: Learning without limits in a world of possibilities

Board Chair: Sam Dyck

Director of Education: Lori Jeschke

Website: www.spiritsd.ca

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Prairie Spirit’s innovative music programming *resonates* with students, teachers, musicians and communities!

Introduction

In Prairie Spirit School Division, music matters and music is for everyone! In fact, music makes it better! A culture of music is growing throughout Prairie Spirit School Division and this brings us great pride and joy.

The Division’s commitment to music education is evident in the creation of a unique teaching position called the “Music Education Facilitator”. This role, created in 2013, is designed to encourage the growth of music education opportunities for students and to serve as a critical support to classroom music teachers throughout the Division.

With the Music Education Facilitator, a culture of music has grown in the school division, building on the good work already being done. This role has helped make music more accessible throughout our school division, while building capacity for classroom teachers who teach music.

With the leadership of the Music Education Facilitator and with the strong support of the Board, a new approach to music programming called *Resonate* was initiated in the school division in 2015. *Resonate* is designed to be an inclusive approach to music programming in the Division and involves a number of channels or outlets, including a student music conference, teacher professional development, performances and other events.

Resonate Student Music Conference

The annual *Resonate Student Music Conference* encourages students in grades 7 through 12 from around the Division to become more engaged in music and to provide students with access to music opportunities not available in their own schools and communities.

The inaugural two-day conference in 2015 had 170 Prairie Spirit students registered from 19 different schools; 216 students registered for 2016. In 2017, *Resonate* expanded to become a three-day event to allow more students to attend, which drew 310 registrations. Registration for 2018 was 265.

The three-day conference provides students with the opportunity to choose their sessions from a variety of options, based on their musical interests. These sessions are presented by music industry professionals, designed for students with a range of ability and knowledge. Session topics have included: song writing, guitar, drumming, digital recording, instrument repair, hip hop, jamming, and many others.

Resonate was developed by a team of energetic classroom teachers and music teachers from around the Division, led by Kendra Worman, the Division’s Music Education Facilitator. These educators—including classroom teachers, administrators and band teachers—shared the vision for this outreach and

worked tirelessly to move the vision along. This small team has a healthy mix of perspectives, with a diverse background in music.

Resonate encourages students to explore musical genres, styles and instruments, for both students with music experience and for those who have not had any musical training or experience. Through Resonate, students are finding their passion for music and the Division is providing authentic opportunities for students to perform.

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Resonate is designed for students in Prairie Spirit schools with some spaces for students from outside the Division. Generally, approximately 70% of students who attend Resonate are in the middle years.

Founding principles of Resonate:

Acceptance of:

- People
- Culture
- Musical genre preferences
- Skill level
- Student voices

Accessibility

- Music is for everyone
- Minimal (if any) cost barriers to students
- Reach the unreached

Engagement

- Professional musicians modeling their passion
- Lifelong learners of music
- Performance (the “doing” of music)
- Increase student skill and knowledge levels

Environment

- Live music performances (amateur and professional)
- Venue conducive to creativity and inspiration
- Fun!

Community

- Transfer Resonate ideas back into schools
- Develop communities of young musicians
- Develop positive relationships and good citizenship
- Inspire a *Pay It Forward* attitude in students



Acceptance, Accessibility, Engagement, Environment, Community



Resonate expands

Resonate began as a single event, intended to have lasting and meaningful impacts on students. With the success of the inaugural Resonate Student Music Conference and the highly successful conferences over the past four years, Resonate has become a brand (trademarked in 2018) representing several initiatives that build upon and support one another.

The Resonate brand now includes:

- Resonate Student Music Conference
- Resonate for Teachers Conference
- Resonate Roadshow
- Resonate Live Music Monday celebration
- Resonate Gala
- Resonate Showcase; and
- Resonate Junior (K-6) conference

Resonate for Teachers Conference

After the successful first years of the Resonate Student Music Conference, a day-long professional development opportunity for teachers was added to the Resonate schedule. The Resonate for Teachers Conference is designed for both specialist and non-specialist teachers who teach music.

This is also very innovative as most music professional development is designed for music specialist teachers. There is a culture for music specialist teachers to attend music conferences, but it is not as common for classroom music teachers who are not specialists.

During this day-long conference, music specialists and classroom teachers from around the province come together to learn more about leading and facilitating music in their classrooms and schools. Instructors are professional musicians from around North America.

Teachers who have attended this conference say this has been a positive learning experience for them in their role as a teacher of music.

Resonate Roadshow

Because the overall goal of Resonate is to see more music education happening in schools, it is important that Resonate not simply be an annual event, but that it also has a direct impact on classrooms. The Resonate Roadshow was developed in 2016 as a follow-up to the Resonate conference to reinforce and develop concepts, ideas, and activities experienced at Resonate back into classrooms.

Each year, the first Resonate Roadshow follow-up opportunity comes on Music Monday, an annual international day to celebrate and advocate for music education. The Music Monday Roadshow rotates to a different school in the Division each year and music workshops are held throughout the day with classroom groups rotating through each workshop.

In addition, the Resonate Roadshow is available to go out to schools by request. The Music Education Facilitator position is key to ensuring learnings gained from Resonate continue in the classroom.

Resonate Student Gala

The Resonate brand also includes the Resonate Student Gala (started in 2015) which has become an annual event in November to showcase student and staff musical skills in a variety of genres. The gala brings Prairie Spirit students and local community musicians together for joint performances and also raises funds for the Resonate Student Music Conference.

we want students to see themselves as musicians

We want students to see themselves as musicians and to also see their knowledge and abilities as a skill set that is marketable, valuable and worth paying for. The Resonate Student Gala provides an authentic performing experience where students are using their skills to raise funds rather than by selling chocolates or other typical fundraising strategies.

The performance lineup is not auditioned but is open to any student groups interested in performing. The Gala gives students the experience of authentic performing. This is an opportunity they might not otherwise have. Students get to hear and learn from other student groups from around the Division. The Gala also provides an opportunity for students to perform in a professional acoustical environment designed specifically for live music performance, which is much different than performing in school gymnasiums.

Resonate Junior (K-6)

Resonate Junior started in 2017 and was designed to provide a tailored version of the Resonate Student Music Conference for elementary students. Resonate Junior began as a one-day event with hands-on, interactive music making sessions presented by guest musicians. Students and teachers have opportunity to learn about drumming, composing, jamming, instrument building, singing and all kinds of music-making fun.

In its inaugural year, 100 spaces for students and their teachers were made available. Within 48 hours, Resonate Junior was full. As a result, in 2018, Resonate Junior expanded to two days to create space for 200 participants and it filled within 48 hours. Resonate Junior is designed to be free for students and their teachers, and is sponsored by the Saskatchewan Music Educators' Association, St. John's Music and

Prairie Spirit School Division. Resonate Junior takes place annually in February at Bethany College in Hepburn.

MUSIC MATTERS

- Music, and music learning, have intrinsic value
- Music is a required curriculum in grades K - 9
- Playing music gives children a sense of purpose and belonging
- Music defines our history and culture

MUSIC IS FOR EVERYONE

- Everyone can be a musician
- Music is inclusive of all languages and cultures
- All teachers can learn to teach music
- Learning music can be: singing, playing an instrument, using technology, playing in the band, participating as DJ, composing and songwriting

MUSIC HAS MANY BENEFITS

- Music enhances cognitive learning and facilitates growth in many areas of human development, e.g., motivation, social skills, time management, reasoning, creative thinking, decision making and problem solving
- Musicians consistently use both sides of their brain
- Musical involvement promotes better math scores
- Playing a musical instrument in a group has many benefits to physical and mental health
- Children who learn music have better self-regulation and ability to learn
- Music learning promotes engaged citizens who give back to their communities

Innovative nature of the program or project

As a music conference for students, Resonate Student Music Conference represents a unique and innovative approach in our province. Resonate is designed to increase student engagement and develop communities of young musicians. In addition, Resonate provides opportunities for music teachers to network and build a culture of music in all Prairie Spirit schools.

Resonate aims to support the learning of our students so that positive relationships, lifelong learning, good citizenship, and a "pay it forward" attitude emerges back in their home schools and communities.

Resonate is designed to increase student engagement and develop communities of young musicians

Since it started in 2015, capacity has now doubled and Resonate has received recognition through the [Canadian Coalition for Music Education](#).

There is a growing awareness of the importance of music education and the Resonate approach throughout the Division and the province.

Evidence of improved student achievement

In 2017, the impact of Resonate was featured in *The Teacher Project*, the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation video series.

When Kendra Worman, the Division's Music Education Facilitator, learned about a student who wanted to join a bluegrass band, she created one. Austin (a banjo player) is the only student in *The Mountain Ridge Band*; the rest are teachers and musicians who volunteer their time to support his love of music.

The video is called "[Austin's Story](#)"; the STF produced an accompanying guide [document](#) as well. This is a compelling story that reflects the heart of Resonate!



The Mountain Ridge Band

We have students who have auditioned and been selected to be part of the Saskatchewan Honour Choir despite not having a choir at their school. These students have used opportunities at Resonate to learn and develop their musical passion when they did not have access to such experiences through their school.

Due to the structure of the Resonate model, students with exceptional needs not only attend Resonate but are able to find sessions and activities that highlight their abilities rather than their disabilities. Resonate has connected with some students who struggle to succeed in mainstream schooling.

Resonate contributes to student learning within the Arts Education curriculum by introducing and developing required outcomes. In particular, Resonate acts as a support to teachers assigned to teach Arts Education but who have limited knowledge and training to do so.

The number of high school music credits available to students in Prairie Spirit School Division has been increasing since 2015. In addition, the number of students receiving music credits has been steadily rising since 2015. Student hours at Resonate contribute toward Special Project credit work.

Resonate encourages authentic, practical application of music education. At Martensville High School, "Jamming Fridays," is a classroom model inspired by Resonate where students spend an hour a week performing together. Jamming Fridays aim to put learning into practice and foster life-long learning.

Austin's story

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Since September 2016, a guitar class, a band class, and a Music 10, 20, 30 class have been added to course options available at Martensville High School.

Band programs have started in Warman and Martensville in a very organic way. Our established band programs have restructured and expanded throughout the Division. A Guitar club has started in Dalmeny High School.

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Guitar, Choir, Drumming, and Jazz/Rock options have been integrated into the Prairie Spirit itinerant band programming, allowing students to acquire more music credits and a broader music education experience through their band classes.

Students participating in Resonate have received more opportunities to perform and put their skills and knowledge into practice than before Resonate existed. These performances are learning experiences in themselves and allow students to develop as musicians beyond the classroom.

Student feedback:

- "Resonate has been amazing during my high school career, thanks a lot for incorporating music into people's lives. It's truly motivated me and helped me to grow as a musician and move forward in my music career." *(Student comment, 2018)*
- "The part that I liked about was how I felt scared at first then I felt normal as soon as I was playing." *(Student comment, 2018)*
- "It was the most fun I ever had in years. Thank you!" *(Student comment, 2018)*
- "Performance!!! Dave C randomly asked L and I to play the fiddle in front of a hundred people it was scary but fun at the same time, and we played Rubber Dolly with double stop, it was really successful." *(Student comment, 2018)*
- "Resonate this year was radical!!! And I would gladly go again next year." *(Student comment, 2018)*
- "I would like to thank the Resonate team for creating a program that allows children such as myself to go to a place where they can open up and get a few hours away from the outside world." *(Student comment, 2018)*



Resonate Junior, 2018

Evidence of direct board influence and participation in the innovation

The Prairie Spirit Board of Education has approved the budget for the Music Education Facilitator role and provided funds to start the Resonate program. The Board supports a new approach to providing access to music education across the Division. The Board is very supportive of taking this innovative approach and supports equitable access to music education.

Members of the Board have attended the Resonate Music Conference and have supported the work by attending the Resonate Student Gala.



Resonate Student Music Conference, 2016

Cost of the innovation related to benefits achieved

With the support of local, community and provincial partners, the costs of the conference have been carefully managed, allowing students to attend with no fees.

The Resonate program has been very well received by teachers and students throughout the Division. This is evidenced by the growing enrolment in the Resonate student and teacher conferences. Other school divisions have shown interest in Resonate initiatives.

Student feedback about Resonate has been positive. Consistently in the post-Resonate feedback survey, students tell us they think Resonate should continue to be offered. Respondents also indicate that having performance opportunities available is very valuable and 100% of respondents in the 2018 survey indicated they would recommend Resonate to their friends.

Teachers and administrators from other school divisions have visited our school division to observe the Martensville High School classroom model, which reflects Resonate ideas.

a culture of music is growing in our school division, along with the confidence of our classroom teachers who teach music

The Resonate program has provided exposure for music education opportunities in the Division. This has increased the number of requests for classroom consultations from the Division's Music Education Facilitator. As a result, a culture of music is growing in our school division, along with the confidence of our classroom teachers who teach music.



Resonate Student Music Conference, 2016

Sustainability of the innovation within the present system or school

With the ongoing support of a few committed sponsors, the program will continue to flourish. To maintain accessibility, it is our goal that Resonate be provided without cost to students. The Resonate program consistently works within its prescribed budget for the year. Grants and other funding are used to expand program offerings.

Resonate has established partnerships with:

- Saskatchewan Music Educators' Association (SMEA)
- St. John's Music
- Prairie Spirit School Division

Saskatchewan Music Educators' Association (SMEA) is a strong partner in this work as this aligns with their mandate. The SMEA matches the school division's contributions to the Resonate program and provides on-site staff during the conference. The SMEA is one of the professional growth networks of the Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation.

The annual Resonate Gala provides an authentic opportunity for students to perform while raising funds for the Resonate Student Music Conference.



Resonate Student Music Conference, 2016

Client support for the innovation

The Resonate program has been very well received by students and teachers throughout the Division. This is evidenced by the growing enrolment in the Resonate student and teacher conferences. The Resonate Junior program involves even more students and classroom teachers to the music opportunities in our Division.

The Resonate program has provided exposure for music education opportunities in the Division. This has increased the number of requests for classroom consultations with the Music Education Facilitator.

The Saskatchewan Middle Years' Association invited the Music Education Facilitator to present about Resonate at its conferences in 2017 and 2018. In November of 2018, The Mountain Ridge Band (one of the Resonate performance groups), will perform for the delegates of the Saskatchewan Music Conference.

An upcoming tour is planned for students involved in the performance stream of Resonate. The tour will serve to provide performance and workshop opportunities to develop student learning and will promote Resonate to other schools.

With interest in Resonate initiatives coming from beyond Prairie Spirit School Division, it is our hope that other school divisions will develop Resonate hubs in their regions and appoint staff (such as a music education facilitator) to create Resonate opportunities for teachers and students and then help teachers to implement and build on these learnings back in classrooms.

To protect the Resonate brand and the principles it stands for, Prairie Spirit School Division had the name trademarked in Canada in 2018. This will ensure that any music education opportunities represented with this name will be true to the values and principles for which it was created.

"This was my first experience and it was wonderful. I would recommend that many of my colleagues send their students." *(Teacher comment, 2018)*



Teachers participating in Resonate for Teachers Conference, 2016



Resonate presenting at the Rural Education Congress, 2017

Supporting resources:

Resonate website: <http://www.resonatelive.ca>

Link to **The Teacher Project** (Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation)

- <https://www.stf.sk.ca/education-today/theteacherproject-season2>
- https://www.stf.sk.ca/sites/default/files/companion_guide_austin.pdf (attached)

Conn Selmer [media release](#)

Music Education in PSSD (newsletters, attached)

Twitter: [@resonatemusicon](#)



Students and staff participating in Resonote Roadshow, 2018

Developing a music program that “Resonates”

Austin’s Story

Kendra Worman is a “roving” music teacher within the Prairie Spirit School Division. She believes all students should have an opportunity to learn music, no matter where they live or go to school. She travels throughout the division helping music teachers and their students meet curriculum goals. In 2015, she created the Resonate music program to provide students with access to music opportunities not available in their schools and communities. Resonate encourages students to experiment with different musical genres and styles. The program brings students together periodically to learn from one another and to connect with professional musicians throughout North America. Resonate began as a single music conference for high school students and has expanded to include student conferences, road shows, galas, tours and performance opportunities. Resonate has programming available for kindergarten to Grade 12. Budding artists get to participate in activities they never thought possible. When Kendra learned about a student who wanted to join a bluegrass band, she created one. Austin, a talented banjo player, is the only student in The Mountain Ridge Band; the rest are teachers and musicians who volunteer their time to support his love of music.

[View Austin’s #theteacherproject video.](#)

Read more about Kendra’s dream is to see Resonate spread throughout the province. She invites music teachers with a passion for music and art education to connect to share ideas.

1. How did Resonate come about?

The idea to create Resonate had been rolling around in my head for several years. I had taught band for many years and was very passionate about that. I was seeing students with multiple interests and was trying to think of ways to expand their learning, and how to reach students not attached to any music program. While at a teacher conference a few years ago, I went to a session on jazz guitar for beginners because I wanted to learn how to help a student of mine back home. As I was sitting in that session, I remember thinking, “this student is relying on me to get this right. Wouldn’t it make more sense if the student was sitting here himself? Why don’t students get to go to conferences?” That’s how the idea

for the Resonate Student Music Conference came about. It grew from there, but took about four years from the initial idea until the first conference.

Sometimes, I hear about Resonate being used as a reward for students who are demonstrating good behaviour, but we really encourage schools to send students who are struggling in school, but show an interest. It's difficult to be at a Resonate event and not engage. We want to bring all students together, so we accept all students.

2. What do you do as a music support facilitator within Prairie Spirit?

I work out of central office and can end up working anywhere in the school division. My work largely involves three areas: teaching students, supporting teachers and organizing Resonate programming. My teaching assignment includes a music class at Martensville High School, as well as brass and jazz classes in Asquith and Allan. The support I provide to teachers involves bringing ideas, resources and strategies they can use and develop in their music classes, which is a big part of my job. In Saskatchewan, the arts education curriculum is one of the core subject areas for Kindergarten to Grade 9. Within arts education, there are four strands to be taught: dance, visual art, drama and music, but not all teachers feel equipped to teach each of these. My job is to alleviate barriers and challenges for teachers in the music strand of the arts education curriculum. Accessing my support is completely voluntary for teachers. I'm not here to tell teachers how to teach; I'm here to help them access the tools they need to teach. My support is specific to each teacher, their interests and skill level. All a teacher has to do is phone or email me.

3. Tell me about Resonate and your role?

The Resonate conference in April 2018 is a three-day event with about 300 students attending. My role is to lead the work involved in making it happen. Resonate involves a year-long planning process. During May and June, I lock in dates and venues for the following year and start booking clinicians we hope to work with. I do all the communication with schools, teachers and our staff team. Resonate is not something that can be carried out by one person. I have a team of several teachers from different schools around the school division who help. They are all teachers with various music backgrounds. When we host an event, such as the three-day conference, our staff team is there after school setting things up and they are onsite to help carry out the event. Throughout the year, the team provides input and feedback as decisions are made and take on tasks in preparation for Resonate events. I put the pieces together. I do the scheduling

and finalize clinician planning and equipment logistics. I set up the registration system and provide social media updates. When a Resonate event is over, I write all the financial and program reports. The Resonate staff team communicates a lot by email, but we do try to meet occasionally after work to finalize things.

4. What are some challenges in running a program like this?

Finances are the biggest challenge because I'm really committed to eliminating cost as a barrier for students to attend. You often hear that opportunities in music education are only available to the kids who can afford it, but I think every student should have the opportunity to be at Resonate. When building Resonate I took the field of dreams approach: "if you build it, they will come." I dreamed big. Prairie Spirit School Division provides some funding, but Resonate isn't something our school division can pay for on its own; the rest comes from grants, sponsorship, and performance-based fundraising. You have to be strategic, and really know your budget and the areas you can reduce if you need to. Within Resonate, we have built performance opportunities for students, which also helps with fundraising. We teach students they have marketable skills as musicians and encourage them to get involved in things, such as the Resonate Gala, for both the performance experience and to help generate revenue for the program in a musical way, which gets us out of selling chocolates. The students also think it's pretty cool when people pay to hear them play.

Another challenge is time. Even though this is a part of my job, I still end up spending a lot of late nights, weekends and holidays preparing for Resonate. And the communication piece is huge. Once I've got clinicians booked, there's a lot of back and forth communication about what sessions they'll prepare and topics to cover, plus lots of communication back and forth with parents and teachers. I've gotten better at taking frequently asked questions and incorporating these into the information packages.

Equipment is also a significant logistical challenge. I make a huge equipment list. We talk to our clinicians and find out what they need, everything from projectors to drums. We load up a trailer with equipment from three different schools. It takes a day to pick up all the equipment we need and to set up onsite in the six different buildings at the camp. I make a master equipment list that itemizes things down to which equipment belongs in each room. That's a big tedious piece that takes a lot of time.

Originally I thought transportation would be an issue. We don't charge a fee for students to attend Resonate events, but students have to find a way to get there on their own. It hasn't been a significant barrier because we've seen teachers and schools take that on themselves.

5. Why is music and arts education important for students?

There's a movement happening. People are realizing that arts education is about more than becoming a well-rounded person. The thinking strategies and parts of the brain you use when you're studying arts education are significant pieces that contribute to all other areas in life. Author Daniel Pink used to be a lawyer, but now he's an arts advocate. He does presentations about how in today's world when people are looking to hire, they're looking for people who have creative and problem-solving skills. He has one presentation I really like entitled [Abundance, Asia and Automation](#). If we reduce job skills down to things computers can do, we're in trouble. We used to talk about how the arts help students do better in math and science. That's a fact, there's lots of research and evidence that shows that, but students should have an opportunity to learn music simply for the joy of it. It shouldn't be done solely for the sake of something else. What's the first thing we do when we get in the car? We turn on the radio to listen to music. You can't go to a movie without hearing music. It's everywhere in society. All of that will disappear if we stop teaching music in our schools.

6. What do you love about what you do, and how do you know you're making a difference?

I love the variety. I have learned so much. If someone told me three or four years ago I'd be playing in a country bluegrass band at work, I wouldn't even have thought I would have the skills and ability to do that. This job continually puts me in scenarios where I have to learn something new. That's really exciting and challenging. I can grow professionally, and then I can draw on that when going out to schools to support teachers. But the real passion comes from seeing students get opportunities they would not have had if we didn't do this work. It bothers me to see students interested in learning music, who want to learn an instrument or to play with other people, but they can't. That seems so unfair. With Resonate, we're seeing a lot of returning students. If we look back three years ago, we can definitely say there's more music education happening in our classrooms since we started this work. And there's nothing greater than to see a student light up over something they've never experienced before. This work has made me appreciate the opportunities I had growing up. When you see what other students and schools don't have, you can't un-see that. How can I look at myself and say I'm doing a good job when I see so many students who don't have the tools and resources they need? Of course, I can't solve every problem, but I can try to balance the barriers with more opportunities.

7. How can other teachers learn more and get involved?

We have the conference for high school students in April, and we've got 50 spaces for students outside of our school division. In the future, we'd love to see Resonate pods pop up throughout the province. I'd love to see other school divisions pick it up in their regions. Our team would be more than happy to work alongside another school divisions to support them in getting started. We can share our resources, documentation and planning process. Someone, such as myself, could even come onsite to help them carry it out the first time. Teachers can email me at kendra.worman@spiritsd.ca. I'd also suggest teachers connect with the Saskatchewan Music Education Association (SMEA). The SMEA has been one of our financial partners and a great resource; I know they'd be interested in helping other regions get started. Don't let barriers stand in the way. If we had let budget limitations stop us, Resonate would not be what it is today. Dream big!



“Music makes it better”

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- Music is a required curriculum in grades K - 9
- Playing music gives children a sense of purpose and belonging
- Music defines our history and culture

“Music expresses that which cannot be said and on which it is impossible to be silent.”

Victor Hugo

MUSIC IS FOR EVERYONE

- Everyone can be a musician
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- Learning music can be: singing, playing an instrument, using technology, playing in the band, participating as DJ, composing and songwriting

“Music teaches us emotionally, where words alone cannot.”

Johnny Depp

MUSIC HAS MANY BENEFITS

- Music enhances cognitive learning and facilitates growth in many areas of human development, e.g., motivation, social skills, time management, reasoning, creative thinking, decision making and problem solving
- Musicians consistently use both sides of their brain
- Musical involvement promotes better math scores
- Playing a musical instrument in a group has many benefits to physical and mental health
- Children who learn music have better self-regulation and ability to learn
- Music learning promotes engaged citizens who give back to their communities

Music Education results in improved language abilities, increased emotional resilience, increased empathy, increased attention span and focus and increased self-confidence.

Heath, 1999



Music Monday 2017

RESONATE LIVE concert

Celebrating music education in Prairie Spirit School Division!

Monday, May 1

7 - 8:30 p.m.

Warman Community Middle School (WCMS) Theatre

Free admission, with donations accepted for the Resonate Music Conference

Featuring:

- Brad Bellegarde, aka InfoRed, hip hop artist
- Prairie Spirit East and West band students
- WCMS students
- Prairie Spirit Staff House Band
- Surprise guest performers



Music Education

in Prairie Spirit School Division

In Prairie Spirit School Division, we are committed to providing students with comprehensive Arts Education which includes high quality experiences in music education. In addition to providing classroom-based music in Kindergarten to Grade 9, we also offer music enrichment through the East and West band programs, along with a wide range of music experiences, such as digital music production, through our Prairie Spirit Music Support Facilitator. Schools also offer a wide range of high school credits, including instrumental jazz, guitar and choral music.

Musical involvement promotes better math scores.

Asbury & Rich, 2008

Music education in Prairie Spirit continues to evolve, based on the skills and resources available, as well as the feedback from students and parents.

Prairie Spirit offers:

- Band and Jazz Program in West and East schools
- [Kendra Worman](#), Music Support Facilitator, provides support to build teacher capacity (306 683 2921)
- Music Resources: print, recordings and instruments
- Individual instrumental coaching
- Consulting on purchase of instruments, technology and sound equipment
- Performance opportunities
- Clinics
- Resonate Music Conference
- Choral music
- Instrumental music – guitar
- [Prairie Spirit Music Education blog](#)

Leadership in Music Education

Role of the in-school administrator:

The school principal has a key role in supporting music education. Some of the ways administrators support music education are:

- **Creative scheduling:** Enabling music specialist teachers to work with their colleagues. Avoiding scheduling conflicts that make music or band less accessible.
- **Promoting Music Education:** Creating the culture and conditions where the arts are a valued part of the curriculum.
- **Staff professional development:** Providing the encouragement and resources for teachers to learn more about teaching music.

"The theory of relativity occurred to me by intuition, and music is the driving force behind this intuition. My parents had me study the violin from the time I was six. My new discovery is the result of musical perception."
Albert Einstein

Upcoming Events

Resonate Fundraising Gala

Friday, December 4

East Band Concert

Monday, December 7

PD - Arts Grants workshop

February 5 (p.m.)

PD – Integrated visual art and music

March 4

Resonate Music Conference

April 13 - 15

PD – Introduction to Elementary Music

April 29 (a.m.)

Band Concerts

Various dates

Music Monday

May 2

Supports for teachers:

Kendra Worman, Prairie Spirit Music Support Facilitator

- Demonstration lessons and co-teaching
- Co-planning
- Resource Development

PD opportunities

- Combining music and fine art
- Resonate music conference - teacher PD
- Music mentors: Leading school-based music education
Bringing together teachers with an interest in teaching music (and not necessarily with musical expertise) to share approaches and develop supports for the school-based music program.

Dates:

- Friday, December 11 (a.m.)
- Friday, February 5 (p.m.)
- Friday, April 29 (a.m.)

For more information, or to register, contact [Dave Carter](#),
Coordinator of Schools and Learning.

The Prairie Spirit Music Education Team

Kendra Worman

Kendra is currently in her seventeenth year of teaching and her fourteenth year with Prairie Spirit School Division. She holds a Bachelor of Music Education degree and a Master of Education degree in Curriculum Studies from the University of Saskatchewan.

She has taught instrumental music to Grades 5 - 12, as well as computer literacy. She has coached basketball for 10 years. Now as a Music Support Facilitator, Kendra works to help teachers implement a variety of music education strategies in their classrooms. As part of this work, Kendra is interested in finding ways to integrate music education with math, science and other subject areas.

Kendra is an active musician in Saskatoon, performing regularly with the Stone Frigate Big Band, the Bridge City Brass Band, and the Howlin' Huskies Pep Band.

Adam Streisel

Adam Streisel graduated from the University of Saskatchewan with a degree in Music and Education and has been teaching for the past five years. His first three years of teaching were in North Battleford at the Comprehensive High School before he moved to Prairie Spirit School Division to teach band in an itinerant position. He currently teaches Grades 5 - 12 in Asquith, Perdue, Delisle, Vanscoy, Borden and Langham.

Outside of school, Adam is involved as an active board member on the Saskatchewan Band Association and he also enjoys playing all types of music with various musical ensembles around the province.

Will Martin

Will Martin grew up in a musical family on the South Coast of England, learning trumpet from the age of eight and later also taking up percussion. He completed a B.A. Hons degree in music at the University of Salford in Manchester and, after moving to Canada, a Bachelor of Education at the University of Saskatchewan. Will has been a member and played with some of the finest bands in the world and has won numerous honours. He has toured extensively across the UK and Europe.

Will is currently the Band Director for the Prairie Spirit East Band and teaches students in Clavet, Aberdeen, Colonsay, Allan and South Corman Park. Will has led clinics and adjudicated at festivals across the province. He also conducts the Saskatoon Brass Band and Bridge City Brass.

Benefits of Music Education:

- Improved language abilities
- Increased emotional resilience
- Increased empathy
- Increased attention span and focus
- Increased self-confidence

Heath, 1999

Alexander (A.J.) Ward

A.J. Ward graduated from the University of Saskatchewan in 2012 with combined Bachelor of Music and Bachelor of Education degrees. Since that time, he has taught band and music within the Saskatoon Public School Division and Sun West School Division, and is currently teaching band in Hanley, Dundurn, Dalmeny, Clavet and Asquith.

A.J. is a member of the Salvation Army Brass Band, the Bridge City Brass Band, and has been a member of the Saskatoon Brass Band and the Howlin' Huskies Pep Band.

Resonate 2016: Student Music Conference

April 14 + 15

Cedar Lodge, near Blackstrap Lake, south of Saskatoon

Resonate is a music conference for students in Prairie Spirit School Division. Sessions will be presented by professional musicians and will be designed to accommodate a range in ability/knowledge level from first timers to advanced music students. Session topics include: Song writing, Guitar, Drumming, Digital Recording, Instrument Repair & Building, Music Industry Panel Q & A, Jamming, Wind & Percussion, Hip Hop, First Nations culture and Radio. In addition, some of our guests will present keynote performances and stories from their musical career path for the students. Through sponsorship and fundraising, PSSD aims to provide this unique learning experience to PSSD students without cost to them. Stay tuned for more information.

"Resonate 2015 was amazing. My child was inspired by the experience."
Prairie Spirit parent

Resonate 2016: Teacher Music Conference

April 13

Resonate 2016 will be expanding to include the addition of a PD day designed for teachers. Join teachers from all over Saskatchewan for music education sessions designed specifically for teachers with a variety of musical knowledge level backgrounds. Session topics will include some or all of the following: Song writing, guitar, ukulele, drumming, digital recording, instrument building, music industry, jamming, wind & percussion, Hip Hop, First Nations culture, radio, and cross-curricular project based learning. Stay tuned for more information.



Students participating in the 2015 Resonate Student Music conference