Mr. Barteaux played three years of Major Jr. Hockey with the Kootenay ICE where he was awarded best defense man for the ICE and was the runner up for the Humanitarian of the year for the league during his 20 year old year. After graduating from the WHL Mr. Barteaux played five years for the University of Alberta for the Golden Bears where he won four conference titles, had four national appearances, was named to the National Allstar team, and one CIS National Title in his last year as a Bear. During his time at the University of Alberta, Mr. Barteaux graduated with two degrees, one in Physical Education and one in Education with a minor in biology. At the time of his practicums, Mr. Barteaux was nominated for excellence in student teaching. After graduating, Mr. Barteaux spent time in the Edmonton Oilers, Colorado Avalanche, and Boston Bruins farm systems before retiring and entering the teaching profession full time. In Mr. Barteaux’s spare time he still enjoys playing competitive hockey at the Sr. AAA level, where he won the Alberta Provincial Championship and was named to the Allen Cup Allstar team as a top defense man. Mr. Barteaux owns an English Bulldog named Ralph who frequents the hallways on the weekends looking for any crumbs students may have dropped.

Mrs. Bloomfield has a B.Ed. from the U of A with a major in Elementary and a minor in Special Education. She first started in Special Education as a volunteer when she was in Grade 11. Between volunteering and becoming a teacher, she raised four children and worked as both a professional photographer and an interior designer. Mrs. Bloomfield returned to her first love of working with children by getting a job in Special Education in 1987. She finds working with her students and being part of their growth the most rewarding part of her career. She is excited to be a part of the Vimy team.

Rick Carriere is excited to return to Vimy, teaching social studies, English and Vimy Hockey after spending the past 7 years with the Edmonton Oilers in their Player Development Department. Carriere previously taught at Vimy from 2004 until 2012 after serving as General Manager of the Western Hockey League’s Medicine Hat Tigers from 2000 to 2004 as well as scouting for the Tigers until 2012.

The Edmonton native was also a Head Coach in the Western Hockey League, as he guided the Red Deer Rebels from 1994 to 1996 and then became the Tigers’ Head Coach and Director of Hockey Operations from 1996 to 2000, prior to moving into the General Manager position. Rick was also an Assistant Coach for the Calgary Flames’ American Hockey League affiliate, St. John Flames from 1992 to 1994. While attending the U of A, Carriere played for the Golden Bears from 1981 to 1985, where he earned his Bachelor of Education degree playing for Clare Drake and Billy Moores. After graduating from the U of A, Carriere returned to NAIT and began his coaching career as an assistant coach to Perry Pearn from 1985 to 1989. In 1989/90 he took over the Head Coaching position for one year before going to coach the SEIBU Bears in the Japan Hockey League from 1990 – 1992.

Mr. Todd Cavanaugh
todd.cavanaugh@epsb.ca

No biography provided.
Mr. Chute is currently in his twenty-second year of teaching, and his twenty-first year at Vimy Ridge Academy. Being one of Vimy Ridge's original staff, he has been part of the evolution of this amazing school. Mr. Chute is one of the assistant principals and oversees high school programming. Aside from his interests in math and music, he also has a strong interest in Animal Assisted Intervention (AAI) research, and has started a pilot AAI program at Vimy in support of student and staff wellness. Mr. Chute is keen to have students succeed in their math classes, as this will have a positive impact in their science classes (particularly in physics) as well as in their future post-secondary endeavors. "Don't be afraid to try...your chance for success improves dramatically!"

Mrs. Chimera is a graduate of the University of Alberta, having earned a degree in Education with a Major in Physical Education and a Minor in French. She graduated from the University of Alberta in 2003 and has since then worked in both the Black Gold Regional School District and the Edmonton Public School District. She has taught both at the junior high and high school level for the last 16 years. This year at Vimy Ridge, she is teaching grade 7, 8, and 9 French as a Second Language, and is helping run the Outdoor Pursuits Program. Alongside teaching, Mrs. Chimera enjoys coaching various sports such as Volleyball, Basketball and Slo-Pitch. When not teaching, you can find her at the soccer field, baseball diamond or the hockey rink watching her son play these sports.

Ms. Chmilar was born and raised in Edmonton. Having two brothers, she started her hockey career in the backyard rink when she was 3. Growing up she played boys hockey for NWZ Hawks and CAC, and switching to female hockey with EGHA in midget before playing for the University of Alberta Pandas from 2000-2005. During her time with the Pandas she was named assistant captain, won three National Championships, was a Canada West All-Star, and top scorer among blue-liners. She earned both an Arts degree in Psychology and an after-degree in Education. When not teaching or on the ice with Vimy Hockey, Ms. Chmilar enjoys playing rec hockey, going to the gym, spending time outdoors and going on adventures with her two children, Riley and Nolan. She is extremely excited to join the Vimy staff and be a part of the Hockey Program.

Mr. Chute is currently in his twenty-second year of teaching, and his twenty-first year at Vimy Ridge Academy. Being one of Vimy Ridge’s original staff, he has been part of the evolution of this amazing school. Mr. Chute is one of the assistant principals and oversees high school programming. Aside from his interests in math and music, he also has a strong interest in Animal Assisted Intervention (AAI) research, and has started a pilot AAI program at Vimy in support of student and staff wellness. Mr. Chute is keen to have students succeed in their math classes, as this will have a positive impact in their science classes (particularly in physics) as well as in their future post-secondary endeavors. “Don't be afraid to try...your chance for success improves dramatically!”

Leah is excited to be back at Vimy Ridge for the upcoming school year. She is excited to teach alongside such a dedicated group of educators here at Vimy Ridge.

Leah completed her Education Degree at the University of Alberta. During her time at the U of A, she was a Varsity Athlete playing for the Pandas Hockey Team for five years. Now that her playing days are behind her, Leah is coaching within the Edmonton hockey community focusing on female hockey. During her free time, she loves to jump on her bike and cycle in and around the Edmonton area.
Mr. Dochuk has a Bachelor of Education and Physical Education, with a specialization in Health and Fitness Promotion. This is his seventh year at Vimy Ridge. He brings a great deal of playing and coaching experience to the Vimy staff. He has played hockey in the WHL and AJHL. He has coached and taught various ages in hockey from Initiation to University. Mr. Dochuk is looking forward to the challenges of working with the students at Vimy and being a part of a dynamic staff in a very unique school and program. When he is not teaching or on the ice with *Vimy Hockey*, you will find him at the rink enjoying watching his three boys playing hockey.

Mr. Copeland is a graduate of the University of Alberta, and has been with Edmonton Public Schools for the last 16 years. He is very excited about teaching with such a wonderful group of staff and students. He hopes to pass on his passion for history and all things social studies to all of his students. Mr. Copeland has taught all high school Social Studies courses including the International Baccalaureate program. When not at school Mr. Copeland spends his free time with his beautiful wife Lorianne and his energetic and handsome son Jackson.

Ms. Cove has returned for another year at Vimy teaching both high school and junior high. A graduate of the University of Alberta, she earned degrees in Education, specializing in English and Social Studies, as well as Arts, studying Anthropology and Comparative Literature. Ms. Cove was born in Edmonton but raised in Kamloops, B.C. and Calgary, Alberta. Moving around and visiting various provinces across Canada as a child, Ms. Cove has always been an avid traveler. She has backpacked through Europe and would like to one day participate in a teaching exchange abroad. Ms. Cove is excited to see the drive to succeed that Vimy students possess and looks forward to encouraging their creativity and love of learning. When not teaching, Ms. Cove can be found renovating her house, or enjoying the nearby River Valley.

Mrs. Covlin-Dewart has been an instructor in Vimy Dance since 1996. She has her B.Ed., B.P.E. (dance), and M.A., focusing on dance injuries. Working with grade 7 and 8 students in social studies is both a challenge and a pleasure, and her students always bring unique perspectives to their learning. Learning with and from students is an important part of her teaching. Mrs. Covlin-Dewart is a strong advocate of the arts and encourages all students to reach their potential through dance, be it artistically, physically, technically, or emotionally. Her favorite parts of the teaching day are interacting with students one on one and seeing them shine. She is the Program Director for Vimy Dance and is a well-known choreographer and teacher in the Edmonton dance community. Her husband and two children help her to bring a family perspective to her teaching.
I am happy to be teaching at Vimy Ridge Academy, where I can combine two of my passions, teaching and soccer. I have two degrees from the University of Alberta, a B.A. and a B.Ed, as well as various coaching qualifications.

I have spent most of my life in Edmonton and am happy to be living and raising a family in what I consider my hometown. I have been lucky enough to travel extensively which I feel adds to my teaching of social studies. Soccer has been very good to me, allowing me to travel and push myself, testing my limits. I am happy to be giving back to the sport that has given me so much.

Mr. M.P. Duxbury
michael.duxbury@epsb.ca

Mr. Dyck has been teaching with Edmonton Public Schools since 2004 and has experience with all levels of Mathematics from grade 7 all the way up to Math 30-1 and Math 31 including International Baccalaureate. In previous positions he has been Mathematics Curriculum Coordinator and Department Head of Mathematics. His focus for this year is improving math results at all levels by putting emphasis on the basics and building student's confidence in their skills. In his free time Mr. Dyck coaches hockey for his son and daughter and finds time to play recreation hockey himself.

Mr. Steven Dyck
steven.dyck@epsb.ca

Mr. Geoffrey Evans
geoffrey.evans@epsb.ca

Mr. Dyck has been teaching with Edmonton Public Schools since 2004 and has experience with all levels of Mathematics from grade 7 all the way up to Math 30-1 and Math 31 including International Baccalaureate. In previous positions he has been Mathematics Curriculum Coordinator and Department Head of Mathematics. His focus for this year is improving math results at all levels by putting emphasis on the basics and building student's confidence in their skills. In his free time Mr. Dyck coaches hockey for his son and daughter and finds time to play recreation hockey himself.

Born in Halifax and raised in Fort Saskatchewan, Mr. Evans has a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Education from the University of Alberta, with a French Major and an English Minor. He also has a Master of Arts in Missiology from Canadian Theological Seminary. Mr. Evans has had the privilege of teaching at Vimy Ridge Academy since it opened in 1999, having taught previously at Bonnie Doon School. He is married with a daughter, Dorothy, and a son, Robbie. This year, he is teaching Junior High language arts, social studies and French as a second language. Mr. Evans hopes that his students will always strive to do their best work as they study and learn this year, and that they will find their studies enjoyable, finding personal meaning in the material that will help them to make the knowledge and skills they learn their own.

Tina completed her degree at the University of Alberta with a major in mathematics and a minor in physical education after doing her practicum at Vimy about two years ago. She loves to coach and play both volleyball and hockey. After school hours, she enjoys spending her time travelling around the world and going to the lake surrounded by family and friends. She enjoys wake surfing and anywhere that will get her out of the cold Alberta winters!

Mrs. Tina Dover
tina.dover@epsb.ca
I was born in Edmonton but attended many schools growing up in northern Alberta, where I eventually made my way to Simon Fraser University on a football scholarship and transferred to the U of A to finish off my football career and obtain a Bachelor of Education degree in 1999. I immediately started teaching in EPSB and after 3 years I took off to teach in Frankfurt, Germany for 2 years of work and travel. Upon my return, I taught for another 4 years when I then became an Athletic Director and filled that role for 4 more years. I then became an assistant principal for one year and returned back to teaching at Vimy the year after. This is now my 7th year at Vimy. Personal accomplishments have been playing Golden Bears Football (1994-1999), being certified as Canadian Athletic Administrator, climbing Kilimanjaro, being a 6 time Ironman finisher and 6 time half Ironman finisher, along with fulfilling my passion for travel to all of Western Europe and parts of Eastern Europe, as well as Africa and most of North America. None of this would be possible without the love and support of my two girls (Nina and Leona) and my wife, Karen.

Ms. Fenton is a graduate of the University of Alberta where she obtained a Bachelor of Kinesiology and Bachelor of Education with a Major in Physical Education and a Minor in Biology. This is Ms. Fenton’s first year at Vimy Ridge Academy. She is excited to be with Vimy’s Sport Fit program as it combines her passion for physical activity and teaching. Ms. Fenton grew up playing on a variety of sports teams and other extracurricular activities. She continues to play ringette, hockey, volleyball, slo-pitch and any other activities that keep her active in her free time.

Mr. Fix was born and raised in the Edmonton area. After pursuing a career in academics at the U of A, Mr. Fix realized his passion for working with youth and quickly changed faculties into Education. Mr. Fix grew up playing many sports, including hockey, lacrosse, volleyball, golf, and water-skiing. Mr. Fix is extremely grateful to work alongside the exceptional staff and students that make up the community of Vimy Ridge Academy.

When not at work, Mr. Fix enjoys spending time with his lovely wife and beautiful daughter as well as his many nieces and nephews. In the winter, he can usually be found at the hockey rink either playing or watching his nephew; in the summer if he is not spending time with his family at the lake, he is likely golfing or riding his motorbike.
Mrs. Ganton is looking forward to a great year at Vimy as Department Head of CTS, LOTE, and Fine Arts. She has a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Education from the University of Alberta. This year she is teaching Foods and French.

Whenever she gets the chance, Mrs. Ganton loves to travel. She has lived in four countries and has travelled to many more as she enjoys learning about and living in different cultures. When she is not teaching, she loves spending time with her husband, children, and friends. She is delighted to be at Vimy Ridge and feels lucky to have the opportunity to share her passion for language, culture, and food with her students.

Heather earned a Bachelor of Arts degree in Political Science and History in 1992. She went on to earn her Bachelor of Education 1997. In between these years she taught in Japan and travelled extensively in Asia. She has been with Edmonton Public School Board since 1998 teaching primarily Physical Education but also Outdoor Education, Language Arts and Social Studies. In 2001-2002 she taught Physical Education and Health in Australia.

Heather enjoys participating in all sports and is an avid supporter in being active for life. Heather has coached, competed and volunteered in many sports such as swimming, XC country running, volleyball, basketball, badminton, track and field and triathlons. For the past 20 years she has competed in marathon running and triathlon; including 6 Ironmans. She is a member of Canadian Sport for Life and interested in teaching Physical Literacy to preschool and school age children.

Heather has been with Vimy since 2015 teaching Sport Fit. Heather believes teaching is the most rewarding and valuable job to have and she is thrilled to be teaching at Vimy Ridge; “The atmosphere is incredibly energetic and positive “

Mr. Giroux is a graduate of the University of Regina where he obtained a Bachelor of Education with a major in Physical Education and a minor in Health. He is excited to join Vimy’s Outdoor Pursuits program as it will give him an opportunity to combine his love of sports and the outdoors. Mr. Giroux has enjoyed a 28 year teaching career where he has taught in Saskatchewan, Manitoba and Alberta. He has taught kindergarten to grade 12 with most of his assignments being in physical education and math. When not teaching, Mr. Giroux enjoys spending time with his wife and two children. He enjoys playing hockey, golfing, skiing, biking and hiking. Whenever he can get away it is usually to warmer climates.

Ms. Fritz is a graduate of the University of Alberta where she obtained a Bachelor of Science in Kinesiology and Bachelor of Education. She played varsity soccer at Grant MacEwan University and has been active in both soccer, and track and field her entire life. Ms. Fritz has been teaching with EPSB since 2013, and has also taught abroad in Germany and China. She is passionate about physical education and academics, and loves that she can be a part of the Vimy community to foster this passion in her students.

When not teaching, Ms. Fritz loves to travel, play soccer, cook, and volunteer within the German Community in Edmonton. She can dance a mean Polka, and has been German folk dancing her whole life.
Mrs. Hansen is a graduate of the University of Alberta with a Bachelor of Physical Education and Bachelor of Education. She is excited to join Vimy’s Sport Fit program as it combines her passion for physical fitness and teaching. Over the last 10 years she has stayed home with her daughters and has been actively involved with coaching volleyball. She has enjoyed watching these athletes not only develop within the sport but embrace a hard work ethic that will benefit them for life. Christy looks forward to coming back into the school system where she can teach a larger range of course material and continue her passion of positively impacting student’s lives.

Mrs. Harris is a graduate of the University of Alberta with a Bachelor of Education degree and a specialization in Physical Education. She has taught many subject areas from grade 7 to 12 and has been with Edmonton Public Schools since 2002. She has coached many sports over the years and has a passion for helping youth develop skills that will last them throughout their lives. Mrs. Harris has always had a special interest in mental health, which is why she is currently taking a masters degree in Counselling Psychology. During her free time, she is often driving her sons to sports, coaching, working with sports organizations or volunteering at the distress line for the Canadian Mental Health Association. Mrs. Harris is excited to help break the stigma surrounding mental health and hopes to be a welcoming counsellor to all students at Vimy!

Mr. Kleinmann is currently the Department Head of Science. Mr. Kleinmann’s teaching assignment involves Biology 20/30 and high school Sport Fit/Sport Studies. Mr. Kleinmann has been involved with coaching many extracurricular activities at Vimy Ridge such as volleyball, golf, and badminton.

Mr. Kleinmann has a strong passion for staying fit by participating in a variety of activities. You can typically find Mr. Kleinmann on the golf course in the summer, the curling rink in the winter, and running through Edmonton's beautiful river valley throughout the year. Mr. Kleinmann is also involved in coaching his children in hockey, basketball, baseball, golf, and ringette. Mr. Kleinmann always enjoys participating in any sport/activity and is always looking for something new to try out.

No biography provided.
Ms. MacKinnon is a graduate of the University of Alberta where she completed Physical Education and Education degrees. She has been teaching with Edmonton Public Schools since 2005. Ms. MacKinnon is new to Vimy Ridge and is very passionate about wellness and active living and is excited to be a part of the Sport Fit team and CTF (Foods) program. She grew up in an active family, skiing, skating, hiking, swimming and biking and was involved in a variety of activities and sports including track and field, volleyball, basketball, soccer, and fastball. Away from school, she enjoys working out, being at the lake, walking her dog, and spending time with her family.

Ms. Brenda MacKinnon  
brenda.mackinnon@epsb.ca

Terra Mahood completed her Education degree at the University of Alberta in December 2008. Although she has taught in Vimy Dance since its inception, she was thrilled to join the VRA staff in January 2009 as an academic teacher as well. Ms. Mahood graduated from the Edmonton School of Ballet Teacher Training program in 1991 and furthered her studies in both ballet and academics. She achieved her Licentiate exam in the Cecchetti Method in 1993 and completed her first university degree, with a major in Psychology, in 1997. Ms. Mahood is excited to be teaching in the classroom as well as in the dance studio, and hopes to offer a unique perspective to both her dance and academic students while inspiring them to achieve their personal bests. She is excited to be teaching Social Studies, French, and dance.

Mrs. MacKay is a graduate of the University of Alberta and has been with Edmonton Public Schools for the last 9 years. She is excited to share her passion and love of language in both junior high Language Arts and senior high English. When not teaching, she enjoys reading and playing a variety of sports. She also enjoys playing a role in helping students grow and develop the skills necessary to be successful-- in school as well as life.

Mrs. Nicole MacKay  
nicole.mackay@epsb.ca

Ms. Loewen joins us this year from British Columbia to teach French and English. In previous classrooms, she taught high school French, English, and Social Studies in the Kootenays and the Fraser Valley.

In 2015 Ms. Loewen graduated from Simon Fraser University with a Bachelor of Education specialized in secondary, international, and outdoor education. Prior to that, Ms. Loewen graduated with a Bachelor of Arts with a Specialization in history and a minor in English from the University of Ottawa. She is a graduate of the French Immersion program and continued a portion of her studies in French throughout university. Her education connected her to four countries, including England, China, Canada and India.

Ms. Loewen loves to travel, both within Canada and abroad. In 2013 she cycled across Canada, from Vancouver to St. John’s. She hopes to cycle across each continent until she has circumnavigated the globe.

Ms. Mary (Alex) Loewen  
mary.loewen@epsb.ca

Ms. MacKinnon is a graduate of the University of Alberta where she completed Physical Education and Education degrees. She has been teaching with Edmonton Public Schools since 2005. Ms. MacKinnon is new to Vimy Ridge and is very passionate about wellness and active living and is excited to be a part of the Sport Fit team and CTF (Foods) program. She grew up in an active family, skiing, skating, hiking, swimming and biking and was involved in a variety of activities and sports including track and field, volleyball, basketball, soccer, and fastball. Away from school, she enjoys working out, being at the lake, walking her dog, and spending time with her family.

Ms. Brenda MacKinnon  
brenda.mackinnon@epsb.ca

Ms. Terra Mahood  
terra.mahood@epsb.ca

Terra Mahood completed her Education degree at the University of Alberta in December 2008. Although she has taught in Vimy Dance since its inception, she was thrilled to join the VRA staff in January 2009 as an academic teacher as well. Ms. Mahood graduated from the Edmonton School of Ballet Teacher Training program in 1991 and furthered her studies in both ballet and academics. She achieved her Licentiate exam in the Cecchetti Method in 1993 and completed her first university degree, with a major in Psychology, in 1997. Ms. Mahood is excited to be teaching in the classroom as well as in the dance studio, and hopes to offer a unique perspective to both her dance and academic students while inspiring them to achieve their personal bests. She is excited to be teaching Social Studies, French, and dance.
Mr. McClain is very excited to join the Vimy staff and be a part of the Hockey program. He completed a Physical Education/Education Combined degree from the University of Alberta in 2003. He is teaching grade 7/8 Social Studies and grade 9 hockey. He was a member of the Goldenbear Hockey program from 1998-2001 and was part of the Back to Back National Championships in 1999-2000. Mr. McClain has spent his summers working with kids in a variety of sports and summer camps. Mr. McClain has taught tennis, waterskiing/wakeboarding, and hockey since graduating from university.

Shannon Maloney-Savage grew up in Edmonton and is a graduate of the University of Alberta with a Bachelor of Physical Education in 1981 and an after degree in Education in 1982. Shannon has taught with Edmonton Public since 1986 holding various positions in the district from physical education teacher, foods teacher, RAP and work experience coordinator, Career Councilor, Department Head of Student activities and Department Head of Student and Career Centre. After retiring from Edmonton Public in 2016, Shannon has had many rewarding contracts within the District on a part time basis. Shannon is thrilled to be back at Vimy working in Student Services. In addition to teaching, Shannon has spent many years coaching basketball and soccer, and still plays soccer. When not working, Shannon loves to spend time with her family at the lake enjoying golfing, wake surfing and waterskiing. Shannon has 2 children: Stephanie who is also a teacher with Edmonton Public and Sean who attended Vimy as student in the Hockey program and is currently working as a medical Doctor in Australia.

Jillian Marino has been with EPSB for 25 years and worked as a teacher at Mary Butterworth, John D. Bracco, Nellie McClung at Oliver, and Queen Elizabeth High School. She began her leadership journey as a Department Head of Social Studies, and then continued in the role of an Assistant Principal at Queen Elizabeth (2001-2005), J. Percy Page (2005 - 2009), Jasper Place (2009 - 2012), and Eastglen (2012-2013) High Schools. She has been the Principal at John D. Bracco Junior High from 2013-2018 and now Principal at Vimy Ridge Academy. She was the captain of the volleyball and basketball teams and played defense on the field hockey team in high school, while attending the International School of Islamabad, in Pakistan. She went on to play volleyball at the University of Victoria until she sustained an ankle injury in her first sky-diving expedition. She completed a Bachelor of Arts with a major in French and a minor in History at UVic and then obtained her post-degree Bachelor of Education at the U of A. She has coached volleyball and basketball at both the Junior High and Senior High levels. She has experience with athletics in Track Cycling and supporting National Team athletes in World Cup events and the Pan Am Games in Winnipeg. She has also cheered on her husband in the World Master's Games in Rugby here in Edmonton. Currently, her favorite role is on the sidelines supporting their 10-year-old son at both indoor and outdoor soccer games, as well as their 8-year-old daughter at gymnastics and on the ice in Figure Skating. As a leader in our district, Jillian believes in building community, supporting students in academic achievement, developing leadership and citizenship in youth, mental health safety and wellness, and ensuring student and staff success in the teaching and learning journey together.
Ms. Melnychuk has a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Education from the University of Alberta. Ms. Melnychuk earned her B.A. with a major in English and a minor in Gender Studies; she earned her B.Ed. with a major in English and a minor in English as a Second Language. This is her fourth year at Vimy Ridge Academy. Ms. Melnychuk is passionate about literacy and hopes to ignite a love of stories in her students. She has played sports all her life, and she comes from a family of basketball players. When Ms. Melnychuk is not at work, she loves walking her dog in the river valley, reading great books, playing music, watching baseball games at Telus field, and spending time with her partner, family, and friends.

Ms. McGinnis is her 9 High Sciences, focusing on Chemistry, since earning her Bachelor of Education Degree from the University of Alberta. Throughout her career, Ms. McGinnis has coached Athletics, including the Vimy Girls Basketball Team to City Champions, traveled internationally with students to participate in Science Fairs, and for the last eight years organized Vimy’s Grade 12 Graduation. Outside of school, Ms. McGinnis spends as much time with her family outdoors travelling in their restored 1964 Shasta, golfing, hiking and enjoying her husband’s culinary expertise!!

Ms. Melnychuk has a Bachelor of Arts and a Bachelor of Education from the University of Alberta. Ms. Melnychuk earned her B.A. with a major in English and a minor in Gender Studies; she earned her B.Ed. with a major in English and a minor in English as a Second Language. This is her fourth year at Vimy Ridge Academy. Ms. Melnychuk is passionate about literacy and hopes to ignite a love of stories in her students. She has played sports all her life, and she comes from a family of basketball players. When Ms. Melnychuk is not at work, she loves walking her dog in the river valley, reading great books, playing music, watching baseball games at Telus field, and spending time with her partner, family, and friends.

Mr. Morgan is a graduate of the University of Alberta, and has been with Edmonton Public Schools since 2001. He has worked as a Teacher, Department Head of Physical Education, Health and the Sports Sciences, PE and Health Consultant, New Teacher Mentor, and is now Vimy's newest Assistant Principal. He also has recently taught a number of classes at the University of Alberta in the Faculty of Education. This is Andrew's first year at Vimy Ridge, and he is thoroughly looking forward to working with a group of very talented and passionate educators. Away from teaching, he enjoys being physically active, running at some events across the province, and playing soccer throughout the year. He also loves spending time with his family: with his wife, who is also a teacher, and his twins Annabel and Gavin.

Mr. Onciul is a graduate of the University of Alberta. He graduated with a Bachelor’s in Kinesiology and Education. Through his experiences in playing sports, recreation, and coaching, he has gained an appreciation for lifelong physical activity and learning. He strongly believes that physical activity and learning through movement are essential to a healthy life. Recently, Mr. Onciul is teaching students about Photography and Design, which he believes helps students express their interests creatively. Outside of school Mr. Onciul spends his time playing hockey, backpacking, skiing, coaching and running.
Mr. Quinlan comes to Vimy Ridge Academy having completed his Bachelor of Education at the University of Alberta. He graduated with a major in Mathematics and a minor in Physical Education. As well as teaching those students enrolled in Vimy Lacrosse, Mr. Quinlan will be teaching junior high mathematics and high school mathematics. Even though his greatest thrill in life is playing each and every sport he can, he chose a major in Mathematics because he just loves numbers. Mr. Quinlan truly believes he can make math applicable to anything at any time. When not in the classroom, Mr. Quinlan can be seen working out in the fitness center, riding his bike or talking someone’s ear off. A former professional lacrosse player and coach, Mr. Quinlan is currently enjoying his second season at home after being a member of the Edmonton/Saskatchewan Rush of the National Lacrosse League for the past 15 years and is very excited for his eleventh year of teaching in the classroom and on the field. Mr. Quinlan is married with two beautiful daughters, Gracie and Sadie, and will be welcoming a third child to his family in early November.

This is Mr. Rolheiser’s second year at Vimy Ridge Academy, where he has taught high school Social Studies and Biology. Prior to Vimy, he spent 4 years teaching at the high school in St. Paul, Alberta, where he was the head coach of the high school football team and the Junior hockey team in the community. Mr. Rolheiser was able to complete his final practicum of his Bachelor of Education degree at Vimy Ridge in 2014, while also playing for the UofA Golden Bears, winning a national championship with three current Vimy Staff members. Prior to attending the UofA, Mr. Rolheiser also played hockey for MacEwan University and York University. He spent four years split between the WHL/AJHL where in his final year, he broke two league records, won the Top Goaltender Award, and won the league championship, all while being coached by four former Vimy staff. Mr. Rolheiser is extremely grateful for the opportunity to be at Vimy and work with the best staff in the city on a daily basis!

I am an extremely proud member of the staff at Vimy Ridge and have been teaching with EPSB for 20 years. My experiences range from grade 6 to grade 12, with a primary focus in math and science for the past 16 years. I have been very involved in coaching school sports for the last 20 years, particularly volleyball. Further, I am excited to be in my 16th year of coaching with the Green and Gold Soccer Academy. I am looking forward to having a phenomenal year at Vimy Ridge and bringing my passion of academics and athletics to the classroom and the field.

Ms. Schellenberg graduated from the University of Alberta with a Bachelor of Arts in Recreation Sport and Tourism and an After Degree in Secondary Education. During her time at the University she played on the Pandas Soccer team from 2011 to 2015 and represented Canada playing for the University National Team at the World University Games in both South Korea and Taiwan. She is very excited to be returning to these halls after graduating from Vimy and the Green and Gold Academy in 2011. Ms. Schellenberg is looking forward to being a part of the community that she valued so much growing up.
I am entering my 11th year of teaching. I have a Bachelor of Phys. Ed Degree with a Sport Performance Major, and Special Populations Minor, to go along with my Bachelor of Education Degree Physical Education Major, and Physical Sciences Minor. I have worked at 3 schools in my career, Edwin Parr Composite in Athabasca Alberta, McNally Composite in Edmonton, and now Vimy Ridge Academy. I moved to Vimy Ridge after spending the last 5 years as the Athletic Director at McNally Composite. Over the course of my teaching career I have had an opportunity to coach multiple teams that include SR Boys Football, SR and JR Boys Basketball, SR Boys and Girls Rugby, along with coaching provincial team and community lacrosse in my spare time. I enjoy working with student athletes outside the classroom to build connections through sports. The teaching of students can happen in many different environments, I really enjoy teaching and coaching through sports, hoping to instill the VIMY CORE values in all our student athletes.

Mr. Philip Smyth
philip.smyth@epsb.ca

This is Mr. Schmidt's first year at Vimy Ridge Academy where he is teaching junior high English and Sport Fit. Prior to Vimy, he spent 15 years teaching in a number of different school environments from grade 5 to grade 12. He is a graduate of the University of Lethbridge and the University of Calgary and played collegiate golf in Texas. When not teaching, he spends the majority of his time coaching ringette, hockey, and lacrosse, and spends as much time as possible with his wife and two children.

Mr. Craig Schmidt
craig.schmidt@epsb.ca

Mr. Schmidt is very excited to be back at Vimy Ridge Academy in the role of Program Director for the Outdoor Pursuits program. He completed a Bachelor of Arts (Psychology) and a Bachelor of Education Degree at the University of Alberta and began working for Edmonton Public Schools in 1999. Mr. Schmidt has been involved in outdoor activities for many years and in his spare time you can find him riding his mountain bike, fishing on a river or enjoying himself on the ski slopes. Mr. Schmidt is an active member of the ski racing community and is the past Alpine Chair for Snow Valley Racing.

Mr. Rob Schmidt
robert.schmidt@epsb.ca

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Mrs. Sherren is a graduate of the University of Alberta. She spent 10 years abroad, travelling and working in many countries. In her travels she gained valuable life experience as well as fluency in both Spanish and Catalan. Mrs. Sherren believes that language learning should be fun and that students should be involved in activities and tasks that reflect the students’ personal interests. In addition to Spanish, Mrs. Sherren also teaches Social Studies and enjoys it very much. Outside of school Mrs. Sherren enjoys spending time with her family, camping, hiking, biking, kayaking and gardening. Mrs. Sherren has wonderful ten year old twins who are also learning Spanish.

Mrs. Madeline Sherren
madeline.sherren@epsb.ca

I am entering my 11th year of teaching. I have a Bachelor of Phys. Ed Degree with a Sport Performance Major, and Special Populations Minor, to go along with my Bachelor of Education Degree Physical Education Major, and Physical Sciences Minor. I have worked at 3 schools in my career, Edwin Parr Composite in Athabasca Alberta, McNally Composite in Edmonton, and now Vimy Ridge Academy. I moved to Vimy Ridge after spending the last 5 years as the Athletic Director at McNally Composite. Over the course of my teaching career I have had an opportunity to coach multiple teams that include SR Boys Football, SR and JR Boys Basketball, SR Boys and Girls Rugby, along with coaching provincial team and community lacrosse in my spare time. I enjoy working with student athletes outside the classroom to build connections through sports. The teaching of students can happen in many different environments, I really enjoy teaching and coaching through sports, hoping to instill the VIMY CORE values in all our student athletes.
Mr. Stewart is excited to join the Vimy team. He began his teaching career in 1998 at Ryley School. In 2001, Mr. Stewart left the small rural school to teach in the bright lights of Edmonton. He spent eight years at Kate Chegwin, followed by ten years at Harry Ainlay. During this time, Mr. Stewart has taught all levels of Mathematics, including IB. No matter where or what he taught, Mr. Stewart’s goal has always been a simple one, to help students meet their goals. Whether a student is strong in math and is looking for a challenge, or struggles in math and needs help to succeed, Mr. Stewart is there for his students. Outside of teaching and math, Mr. Stewart spends as much time as possible with his wife Leslie, and two children, Breanne and Alexander.

Mr. Stretch has been at Vimy since 2004, teaching Physics 20-30, Science 10-20-30, and the odd Chemistry class when required. In his former life, he was an exploration geologist, working in gold, diamonds, and base metals exploration. He holds a M.Sc. (geology) from Queen’s University, and a B.Ed. (science) from UBC. Mr. Stretch continues to stress the importance of “real life” sciences and life skills, applauding Honesty, Integrity, Respect, and Effort.

Erin Spence-Berjian is a graduate of the University of Alberta, majoring in Math and minoring in Physical Education. Since graduating in 2003, she has taught in both Alberta and Saskatchewan. In recent years, she took some time away from teaching to be at home with her two young children (who are now seven and nine years old). This is Erin’s first year with Edmonton Public Schools and with the LearnWrite Program. She is excited to be at Vimy Ridge Academy two days a week to work with students who are completing module-based courses. Erin is a former alpine ski racer. She continues to enjoy skiing (both x-country and downhill), running and fitness. Erin loves to see the world and road trip with her family in their VW camper van.

Mr. Wass graduated from the University of Alberta with a degree in Physical Education and Education. At the U of A he wrestled with the Golden Bears, he was a two-time national medalist and a part of three Conference Team Titles and one National Team Title during his five years with the team. He began studying Brazilian Jiu Jitsu in 2010 during his time outside of the wrestling seasons. After retiring from competition in wrestling he began to train and compete more frequently in Brazilian Jiu Jitsu. In 2017 he competed in the IBJJF World No Gi Championship earning a Bronze medal in his division. Mr. Wass enjoys also spending time with his family outdoors in the river valley as well as camping and hiking in the mountains.
Mr. Wheaton is very excited to join the Vimy staff and be a part of The Hockey Program and as a teacher. He was born in Surrey, British Columbia, and moved to Sherwood Park in 1999. He received his Bachelor of Commerce degree in 2012. He worked as a retail manager for one year before pursuing his passion of education. He completed his Bachelor of Education degree in 2015 at The King's University. Mr. Wheaton grew up playing for the Sherwood Park Titans, including their tier 1 team, the St. Albert Junior Miners, and is currently a member of the Edmonton Senior B Warriors lacrosse team. Mr. Wheaton also grew up playing hockey in Sherwood Park, where he played for the Midget AAA Kings. He is also in his sixth year coaching hockey. He spent four years with the Sherwood Park Kings Athletic Club, where he served as a Head and Assistant Coach, and is currently in his second year as an Assistant Coach with the Fort Saskatchewan Major Midget AAA Rangers. When not at school or the rink, Mr. Wheaton loves spending time with his beautiful wife and family, which usually involves being at the rink.

Mr. Weinberger has taught in Edmonton Public Schools since 1994. He has been a teacher, Department Head and Assistant Principal. Mr. Weinberger has coached numerous co-curricular teams. He has been a part of Student's Union as well as running intramurals. Mr. Weinberger has taught Math, Social, Science, English, CALM and Physical Education. Mr. Weinberger has coached at every level of Minor Hockey as well as 5 years in the WHL. Darryl and his wife Cathy have two children, Kaylynn and Thomas.

Mr. Whaley is a graduate of Grant MacEwan (Jazz Performance) and the University of Alberta. He has previously taught a wide range of music and audio/video technology courses. He believes all students should have opportunities to be creative with hands on learning activities and innovative projects. As well as a passion for music and technology, Mr. Whaley is an avid sports fan and enjoys playing rec-hockey and going snowboarding. During the summer, he loves traveling and riding motorcycles. He is excited to join the team at Vimy Ridge and will be teaching Photography, Design Studies, and Guitar General Music.

Mr. Wheaton very excited to join the Vimy staff and be a part of The Hockey Program and as a teacher. He was born in Surrey, British Columbia, and moved to Sherwood Park in 1999. He received his Bachelor of Commerce degree in 2012. He worked as a retail manager for one year before pursuing his passion of education. He completed his Bachelor of Education degree in 2015 at The King’s University. Mr. Wheaton grew up playing for the Sherwood Park Titans, including their tier 1 team, the St. Albert Junior Miners, and is currently a member of the Edmonton Senior B Warriors lacrosse team. Mr. Wheaton also grew up playing hockey in Sherwood Park, where he played for the Midget AAA Kings. He is also in his sixth year coaching hockey. He spent four years with the Sherwood Park Kings Athletic Club, where he served as a Head and Assistant Coach, and is currently in his second year as an Assistant Coach with the Fort Saskatchewan Major Midget AAA Rangers. When not at school or the rink, Mr. Wheaton loves spending time with his beautiful wife and family, which usually involves being at the rink.

Mrs. Thornton was awarded a Bachelor of Arts Degree (English, History) from Concordia University in 2008 and a Bachelor of Education Degree (Social Studies, English Language Arts) from the University of Alberta in 2011. She has been teaching for Vimy Dance since 2000 and for a number of dance programs around Edmonton and area. She is a choreographer, adjudicator, mock examiner and strong proponent of the arts, in all its many forms. Mrs. Thornton has a diverse background from which she pulls inspiration for her teaching practices in classrooms and studios alike. Having worked for the Government of Alberta (Human Services, Employment and Immigration) and Alberta Health Services in a variety of roles, Mrs. Thornton has a passion herself for life-long learning and looks forward to sharing it with her students. When she’s not at Vimy, she enjoys camping and spending time outdoors with her husband, two dogs and two children.
Ms. Tracy Wright is excited for another year at Vimy Ridge Academy as the Department Head of English. She has been with the district since 1998, teaching at several high schools, as well as completing two exchanges to Australia. Ms. Wright has a Bachelor of Education and Bachelor of Arts from the University of Alberta, and looks forward to sharing her passion for literature with her classes. When not teaching, she travels extensively and pursues activities such as swimming, yoga and completing half-marathons (usually in last place!)

Mr. Whittingham is in his first year at Vimy Ridge Academy, teaching Social Studies and Outdoor Pursuits. He is a graduate of the University of Alberta with a Bachelor of Physical Education and Bachelor of Education. Mr. Whittingham has been with Edmonton Public Schools since 2000, teaching Social Studies, Physical Education, Work Experience, and involved with Student Services working with at risk students. He has enjoyed coaching Basketball and Rugby throughout his career and looks forward to the exciting new opportunities at Vimy. Mr. Whittingham was born and raised in Edmonton competing in hockey, rugby, boxing, baseball, basketball, and a variety of other athletic endeavours. He has also been an avid outdoors enthusiast throughout his life camping, mountain biking, fishing, hunting, water skiing, downhill skiing, cross country skiing and paddling. He hopes to help instill the passion for lifelong learning and an active lifestyle in all his students.

Mr. Wilson is a graduate of the University of Auckland with a Bachelor of Health and Physical Education, and has recently moved from Auckland, New Zealand. Mr. Wilson has been with Edmonton Public School Board since 2017 teaching math, science and grade 6 elementary. Mr. Wilson has worked as a professional baseball coach since 2014. He has worked as a development officer for the New Zealand Baseball Association and the Auckland Baseball Association. Since arriving in Alberta, Mr. Wilson has worked with the South Jasper Place Minor Baseball Association as a technical director as well as working with Baseball Alberta. This is Mr. Wilson's first year at Vimy Ridge Academy, and he is really looking forward to working with a group of high quality colleagues and student athletes to help reach each other's goals. Having recently moved to Alberta, you can expect to find Mr. Wilson in his spare time, exploring around Alberta and the Rocky mountains embarking on a new adventure.
Nancy Youngs graduated with honors and distinction from the University of Alberta in 1992 with her Bachelor of Physical Education and in 1994 with her Bachelor of Education degrees. While attending University she was a team member of the Panda’s Basketball Program from 1990 to 1992. Before transferring to the U of A, Nancy played college volleyball for the Red Deer College Queen’s, as well she was a team member for their golf program and cross country running team. After graduating, Nancy obtained a teaching position at McNally High School teaching physical education, fitness and math. Nancy obtained her level 3 certification in the sport of basketball and went on to coach the girls program at McNally. They had a very successful eight years, making it to provincials three times. Nancy spent four years co-coaching the Midget Girls Alberta Basketball Team. After McNally, Nancy became the Department Head of Physical Education and Athletics at T.D. Baker school for two years; she then completed six years at Ross Sheppard High School, one of those years being the Assistant Department Head of Athletics. During these years Nancy coached high school volleyball, basketball, and track and field. In 2009, Nancy took a leave of absence to start her own business; she is currently teaching part time at Vimy Ridge and running her business.

Nancy is very passionate about sport and athletics. She completed her first Ironman in 2006, and continues to keep sport important for herself and her children. Nancy believes that teaching is getting to know students, staff and parents on a more genuine level. A true measure of teaching comes from the success that lies within the framework of the school and in how each individual within that foundation collaborates to create something that is magical for the students of our future.

She believes we, as teachers, teach for the student’s future and for our own. Teaching is a passion. One must be willing to take a risk in order to have our children reap the true rewards from the profession.
Mr. Martin Andersen
martin.andersen@epsb.ca

I was born and raised in Edmonton, AB and graduated from the University of Alberta with a Bachelor of Arts in 2012 and Master of Coaching in 2016. I played soccer for Edmonton Juventus Soccer Club as a youth and won the U-18 National Championship in 2007. I played for the University of Alberta Golden Bears soccer team for 2 seasons before retiring due to injury. I have coached in The Green and Gold Soccer Academy for since 2010 and in the Vimy Ridge Academy soccer program for the since 2011. I have been an assistant coach with the University of Alberta Golden Bears soccer team since 2013, winning the USports National Championship in 2016. I have also coached teams at Edmonton Juventus since 2010, winning the U-16 National Championship in 2016. This is my sixth year serving as an instructor for The Green and Gold Soccer Academy at Vimy Ridge.

Mr. Stephen Armitage
stephen.armitage@epsb.ca

Stephen Armitage graduated from the University of Alberta in 2007, with a Bachelor of Kinesiology, specializing in Sports Performance. Stephen started with AAD as a U of A practicum student for Vimy Hockey in fall of 2006, and began working full time at the beginning of the 2007 school year. In May 2011, Stephen became the Director of Vimy Sport Fit; he has a passion for sports of all varieties and is always excited to try something new. Stephen has worked with many local and school sports teams as an athletic trainer and coach, including the Spruce Grove Saints, Maple Leafs Athletic Club, Sherwood Park Titans Junior Lacrosse and a variety of Vimy Ridge Raiders teams. Growing up in Dawson Creek, B.C., Stephen kept busy playing volleyball, basketball, baseball, skiing, and hockey. Today he keeps his passion for sports alive playing in two Edmonton men's hockey leagues, baseball and softball during the summer, as well as a variety of other sports and activities with his friends and family.

Mr. Dan Auchenberg
dan.auchenberg@epsb.ca

Dan has been involved with AAD program for the past 17 years, and has done so with a youthful attitude that the student-athletes at both campuses can relate too. Aside from Vimy and Donnan Hockey, Dan has coached for 35 years at all levels of hockey from Novice up to the junior level. Dan has 10 years of AJHL coaching experience and was named coach of the year by the AJHL in 2002, and in 2003 he guided his team to a first overall finish. Currently, Dan is the head coach for the St. Albert Slash female Midget AAA. Previously, Dan was the Head Coach of the Sherwood Park Fury Female Midget AAA, Midget AAA Maple Leaf Athletic Club and the Edmonton Thunder Female Midget AAA team. Last season the Slash won Provincial's and the regionals. Then went to the Esso Cup Canadian National Championships in Morden, Manitoba, where they went undefeated to win the Esso Cup first time ever for Alberta. In 2008 and 2010, the Thunder won provincials and regionals, before competing in 2 consecutive ESSO Cups, the National Female Midget Championship and winning a Bronze Medal. Dan was voted the Top Coach at the prestigious Mac's Cup tournament as well as Coach of the Year within the AMMFHL twice 2009, 2017. Dan also was a coach for the Team Brick for 12 years. Dan has received his advanced coaching certificate from Hockey Canada. No stranger to playing the game as well, Dan last played hockey himself for the Spruce Grove Oil Kings. Away from the rink, Dan enjoys spending time at the lake with his family and spending quality time with his grandchildren.
Mr. Bosch returns to his role as Academy Director and Head Coach after a year’s leave during which time he took a role as head coach with the Aspire Academy and Qatar Football Association in Doha, Qatar. He has been with the University of Alberta’s Green & Gold Soccer Academy and the Vimy Ridge Academy school program since their inceptions in 2001. During this time, he also worked as an assistant coach with the Golden Bears Soccer program winning 3 National Championships in 2003, 2006, and 2016. In a youth capacity, he has coached in the Edmonton Juventus Soccer Club winning multiple provincial championships and 3 national youth championships in 2007, 2009 and 2016. He has worked as a head coach in the Alberta Soccer Association’s Provincial Team Program and the FC Edmonton Academy and holds a National B Coaching License from the Canadian Soccer Association.

Travis is the Academic and Athletic Development (AAD) Communications Director and a born and raised Edmontonian. He has a passion for sports and technology and was fortunate to be offered a position with AAD in 2009 so that he can focus daily on both of those passions while working at Donnan and Vimy. His role consists of promoting all of the AAD programs at Donnan and Vimy, building/repairing all of the AAD computers, designing, developing and administering all of the AAD websites and social media accounts and designing the AAD student-athlete clothing. He is also the support contact for the AAD online registration program. Travis has coached hockey at the PeeWee AA, Bantam AA and AAA levels as well as various spring hockey teams and holds a Coach 1 Hockey certification, as well as certifications in Body Checking, Concussion Training and First Aid. Travis also recently started coaching Baseball where he holds an Initiation Coach certification. When he’s not at work, Travis enjoys reading, video games, music and spending time outside with his family. Travis is married to Stefanie and they live in Sherwood Park with their sons Lincoln and Griffin.

Roger was born in Niagara Falls, Ontario, and graduated from Wilfred Laurier University (geography) and Western University (Education). Following one year of teaching in Ontario he moved to Sherwood Park where he continued his teaching career while earning a Master’s Degree in Education, (U of A) After 28 years of teaching and administration Roger resigned and began his tenure at AAD, formerly The Hockey Program. During this time he also instructed education courses at U of A and Concordia University, Edmonton for two and six years respectively. Roger worked as a linesman at all levels of amateur and professional hockey including national and international competitions. He has held the positions of Director of Education for the AJHL, Education Advisor for the Edmonton Oil Kings and Manager of Education for the WHL. Roger currently manages the AAD Scholarship Program and oversees the preparation for and information related to SAT exams.
This is Mr. Dailey’s second year as an on-ice instructor at Vimy Ridge. He previously attended Vimy Ridge as a student from grades 8-12, graduating in 2008. Mr. Dailey graduated from the University of Alberta in 2015 with a Bachelor of Arts – Sports, Recreation and Tourism degree. While attending school, he was also a member of the Golden Bears hockey team.

He is very excited to be a part of Vimy Hockey. He had instructors from Vimy who he credits a lot of his on-ice success to and hopes to be that mentor for players coming through the Vimy program. Mr. Dailey is looking forward to developing good hockey players and more importantly great citizens in the community.

Born and raised in Spruce Grove, Nathan played his entire minor hockey years in Spruce and then went on to play in the W.H.L for the Regina Pats. He was drafted in the 11th round 245th overall to the Toronto Maple Leafs in 1992. Nathan was team captain of the St. John’s Maple Leafs from 1997-2002 and won the Fred T. Hunt AHL League Memorial Award which honors the player best exemplifying the qualities of sportsmanship, determination and dedication to hockey – 2001/2002. Nathan then went on to play 260 games in the N.H.L with Toronto, Chicago, Los Angeles and Boston. In his career, he has played over 850 games during a 14 year professional career in the N.H.L and A.H.L that spanned Canada, United States, and Europe. Nathan now coaches the PAC Saints Bantam AAA team in Spruce Grove and enjoys watching and coaching his two kids in the multiple sports they play. Nathan is excited to bring his experience, knowledge and enthusiasm of the game to the students at Vimy Hockey.

Ryan started at Vimy as a practicum student while completing a degree in Physical Education at the University of Alberta. Although he left for a few years, he was more than happy to return as a full time hockey instructor.

Ryan grew up in Lloydminster with two brothers, all three playing their minor hockey in Lloyd. He went on to play junior hockey for the hometown Blazers of the AJHL and then one season with the Concordia Thunder of the ACAC before moving on to the U of A to complete his degree. Ryan is not the only Mr. Faulkner roaming the halls at Vimy, his brother Blair is a teacher here as well. Ryan is looking forward to getting more involved in coaching hockey but for now he is spending his time away from work with his wife and two young children.
Mr. Jones is the longest-serving member of the AAD team. He has been with AAD since 1998 and, after doing an exceptional job as a lead hockey instructor at Donnan and Vimy Hockey, has taken on the responsibilities of Executive Director since 2004. His commitment to the belief that “Academic Training” AND “Physical Training” must be equal partners in the development of a student athlete has proven to be true for many students who have walked through the doors of Vimy Ridge and Donnan School.

Cj is thrilled and honoured to take over as the new Director of Baseball at Vimy Ridge Academy School. He is a highly experienced and energetic coach – this being his 19th year serving budding, baseball student-athletes and their families. It all began for him whilst attending University of Auckland studying Psychology and Education. While coaching and building grass roots programs at various club teams as well as spearheading several National Program teams, he developed a curiosity to further understand movement, biomechanics, nutrition, and optimal athlete performance. In 2011, he was offered to bring his talents to Canada and help rebuild a powerhouse of a program in St. Albert Minor Baseball Cardinals. He coached the Midget AAA program into winning a Western Canadian National Championship in 2013, and laid the foundation to consecutive representation at National Championships. Later, he went onto establish and promote competitive baseball programs in Edmonton, in South Jasper Place Minor Baseball Blue Jays. He currently oversees as their Technical Director of Baseball Operations, their Movement coach, and Sports Turf Manager. Concurrently, he took-up coaching under the tutelage of ex-Kansas City Royals MiLB standout, Ray Brown & ex-Boston Red Sox World Series winning Hitting Instructor, Orv Franchuk, in the Western Canadian Baseball (Summer Collegiate) League with the Edmonton Prospects Baseball Club. After 5x seasons, they produced the most winning teams in their club history, all the while showcasing some of the best Canadian born talent from Alberta and British Columbia, as well as attaining their back-to-back West Division Championships and consecutive championship runs in ’07 & ’08. Cj’s love for the game extends him spending time coaching coaches as a NCCP Learning Facilitator, and as a Level 3 Baseball Canada umpire official.


Cj is extremely excited about the opportunity to build the baseball program with his colleagues & staff at Vimy from the ground level and has very high expectations for his student-athletes both in the classroom, on the field and in life. Now he combines his thirst to learn and become better, his compassionate yet holistic-coaching style, guiding and empowering our next generation to attain their own goals and dreams.
Kurtis is in his second year as the Director of Goalie Development at the Vimy Ridge Academy and will be leading all the junior and high school goalie sessions. Kurtis has been working with the OR Sports platform for the past 5+ years under founders Lyle Mast and Dustin Schwartz. The OR Sports platform of Head Trajectory and tracking will continue to be the main priority of goalie training at Vimy Ridge as well as the Donnan hockey programs.

Kurtis grew up in the Sherwood Park Kings Club Association before being drafted into the WHL and moving onto a 5 year career there. Splitting time between the Portland Winterhawks and the Kamloops Blazers, Kurtis enjoyed a successful junior career. During his time in the WHL he was able to attend 2 NHL camps, the Phoenix Coyotes in 2008 and the Edmonton Oilers in 2009. Kurtis got into a few minor pro games and backed up for the Edmonton Oilers in an emergency situation before choosing to attend the University of Alberta and earn his degree. During his time at the U of A, Kurtis played for the Golden Bears Hockey team, a perennial championship contender. His years with the Golden Bears saw a lot of personal success and more importantly team success. Kurtis was named the CIS Goaltender of The Year for the best goalie in Canada’s university hockey in 2012-13. During his tutelage with the Bears, they managed to win the Canada West league 4 out of 5 seasons and win the national championship his last 2 season. Kurtis enjoyed his time at the U of A and attributes a lot of who he is today from his time spent at university. Currently, Kurtis is coaching in the WHL as the Goalie Development Coach for the Edmonton Oil Kings. Kurtis is also coaching with the Spruce Grove Saints and a few other AAA teams around Edmonton.

When Kurtis is not at the rink you will find him fishing on various lakes in Alberta, golfing in the summer, and running year round! Kurtis is very excited to join the exceptional staff at Vimy Ridge and looks forward to developing excellent goalies and more importantly good people.

Heather graduated in 1999 from The University of Alberta with a Bachelor of Kinesiology. She has worked and presented professionally as a personal and team trainer for 17 years and is currently in her thirteenth year acting as the Fitness Director for Vimy Hockey and Vimy Lacrosse. Heather has designed and implemented training programs for countless hockey players from various leagues, including, but not limited to: The NHL, AHL, WHL and AJHL. She has also worked extensively with female hockey players encompassing leagues such as NCAA, CIS and ACAC. Over the past 7 years, Heather has been the Strength and Conditioning Coach for the Women’s U-18 Team that represents Alberta at the U18 National Championships. Many players from these teams have gone on to represent Team Canada in various tournaments around the world. In addition to training hockey players, Heather has worked with many lacrosse athletes. She has provided strength and conditioning programs for The Sherwood Park Outlaws (senior men’s lacrosse team), U-19 Razorbacks and the Junior B Titans.

Donnan/Vimy Hockey are proud to announce our newest hire, Perry Pearn. Coach Pearn has been an NHL Assistant Coach with the Jets, Senators, Rangers and Canucks and will be joining Donnan/Vimy Hockey as a Coach Mentor.

- Assistant Coach - Vancouver Canucks - 3 Years
- Winnipeg Jets Assistant Coach - 3 years
- Montreal Canadiens, Assistant Coach - 3 years
- New York Rangers Assistant Coach - 5 years
- Ottawa Senators Assistant Coach - 8 years
- 3 World Junior Gold Medals
An alumnus of Vimy Ridge Academy, Dallas Smith joins Vimy Lacrosse from the Manitoba Lacrosse Association. It was there where Dallas served as Executive Director, while also leading the technical side of lacrosse operations, including a cross-sector box and field high-performance program.

Dallas also comes to Vimy Ridge Academy with twenty-years of lacrosse experience, including NCAA experience playing for Binghamton University, a Division I school in upstate New York, where he graduated in 2015. In addition to playing experience, Dallas has a strong coaching background serving as the Head Coach for DHC Hannover in Hannover, Germany, and various box and field teams throughout Alberta.
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