



# Warner School



Warner.horizon.ab.ca  
September 2025 News

Horizon School Division  
Principal: Brian Bergsma

## Principal's Report

I am excited to be the new principal at Warner School and look forward to working with the community to make this a great year. I truly enjoy working in rural schools and value the close relationships that can be built. My goal is to continue strengthening the strong sense of community that already exists here in Warner.

I was born in Edmonton and lived there until junior high, when my family moved to Lethbridge. After high school, I played college football in Calgary, and I now coach my son's football team. Family keeps me busy, as I have two boys and two girls—my oldest is in Grade 12 and my youngest is in Grade 4. In my free time, I enjoy watching and talking about sports, and I'm always open to trying new activities.

I have been a teacher for 14 years and am excited to begin my new role as principal at Warner School. Over the years, I have taught many subjects, primarily high school math, science, and CTS courses, including welding, woodworking, and mechanics. While I love being in the classroom and sharing new skills with students, my main focus is on building positive relationships and fostering a safe, caring school environment. This year, our schoolwide focus is on *Respect and Kindness. By respecting ourselves and others, and by treating everyone with kindness, I believe we can make this a successful and rewarding year for all.*

We are also excited to welcome four new staff members including myself this year:

- **Jessica Anderson** – Grade 2/3 teacher
- **Amanda Salicco** – Grade 4/5 and 6/7 Humanities teacher
- **Nathan Lockwood** – Junior and Senior High Math teacher (Nathan completed his student teaching with us last year, and we are thrilled to have him back as part of our team)

Our first Parent Advisory Council meeting will be held on **September 16, 2025, at 5:00 p.m.** We invite all parents who are interested in getting involved to join us. We are also looking for fresh ideas for our hot lunch program and welcome volunteers to help coach our school teams. If you have a passion for sports or would like to get involved in another way, your support would be greatly appreciated.

I look forward to meeting many of you around the school and throughout the community in the coming year.

Brian Bergsma

Warner School Principal

# Around our School

## Upcoming events:

**No School**– September 1,2025– Labour Day, Monday, September 29th-PD Day, and Tuesday, September 30th-Day of Truth and Reconciliation

**Next PAC Meeting** - September 16,2025 @ 5:00pm Everyone welcome to attend

**Grad 2025-26 Meeting** - September 9, 2025 @ 5:00pm

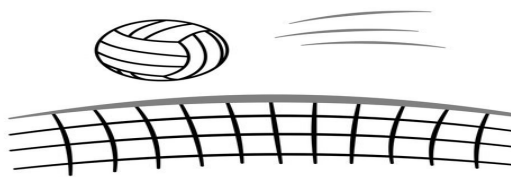
**Terry Fox Run** - Will be held at the school on September 26,2025. We will meet in the gym at 11:00am and leave from there. Please bring in your “Toonies for Terry!”

**Running Club** - We will be practicing various skills, such as stretching, warm up/cool down exercises, and (of course) running. This club is open to Grades 4-12 and we encourage students who are interested in running to sign up at the office. More details will be sent out once we have kids signed up. Looking like it will be Mondays after school till 4:30.

**National Truth and Reconciliation Day** - No School Monday, September 29th– PD Day and Tuesday September 30th—National Day of Truth and Reconciliation. We will recognize this on Thursday, September 25th by wearing Orange Shirts.

**Senior High Volleyball**– looks like we will have a senior high volleyball team this year. Please stay tuned for more information as our season gets finalized. A special thanks goes out to Kamryn Yancie for volunteering again this year to coach our team, your time and dedication to our program is very much appreciated. First practice is Monday Sept. 9/2025 after school.

**Elementary Soccer:** We will be offering Elementary Soccer for grades 3-6 this year. Please sign up at the office if you are interested in playing.



**Warner is offering CTF/CTS class this fall... first round options are Stained Glass, Foods, Workout, Cross Stitch, Media & Entrepreneur, and Podcasting. Looking forward to a great first round of options!!**

# Around our School

## Clarification on Classroom Snacks

We've heard there's been some confusion about our classroom snack policy, so we want to clarify the new process.

Previously, we scheduled a specific snack time after afternoon recess. However, we found that many students weren't eating during this time, and it was taking away from valuable learning time.

To address this, we are now asking that students eat their snacks while they are outside for afternoon recess. This change allows us to maximize instructional time in the classroom. Teachers still have the discretion to add a snack time if they feel students need it, especially when it's too cold to eat outside.

We want to assure you that we are committed to making sure every student has the nutrition they need to learn and thrive. We provide a daily morning snack for all students that students eat in the classroom, as we know proper nutrition is crucial for keeping our students' brains awake and focused.

With that in mind, elementary students are always welcome to take a quick, non-disruptive snack break in the classroom whenever they need one.

We appreciate your partnership in making this new system a success. If you have any questions or concerns, please feel free to reach out to the school. We appreciate your input as we work together to make this a great place for our students.

Brian Bergsma



# Around our School

## *Please Welcome our New Staff*



Brian Bergsma



Warner School

### About me

Hello, I am excited and honored to be joining Warner School as the new Principal. I have been teaching for 14 years and am currently completing a Master of Education in Educational Leadership. For the past 10 years, I have taught high school Science, Math, and CTS courses at Picture Butte High School. I am passionate about helping students learn through hands-on experiences and look forward to bringing some of those approaches to Warner. My partner is also a teacher, and together we have four children—two boys and two girls. I am truly looking forward to meeting and working with everyone as we start what I know will be a great year.

### My Favorites & Hobbies

I was born in Edmonton, so I'm a big Oilers fan. I also played college football in Calgary, and my favorite NFL team is the Green Bay Packers. I'm always up for chatting about sports—whether it's hockey, football, F1 racing, Blue Jays or pretty much anything else. Outside of sports, I really enjoy being involved in the arts and often help build sets for local plays in Lethbridge, including *Newsies* this past summer. I also love spending time outdoors—whether it's going for walks, hiking, or mountain biking.



Jessica Anderson



Warner School

### About me

My name is Jessica Anderson, and I am excited to be teaching Grade  $\frac{2}{3}$  and serving as the LST at Warner School this year. I grew up on a farm in Taber, and after high school, I moved to Saskatoon to attend University. I am thrilled to be joining the Warner School community.

### My Favorites & Hobbies

Outside the classroom, I enjoy exploring nature, spending time with my family, and reading. I also love learning new things about teaching and child development, and finding creative ways to support all students in their learning.

I look forward to a year filled with curiosity, and growth with my students at Warner School!



# Around our School



Amanda Salicco

## MEET THE Teacher



Warner School

### About me

I am excited to join Warner School this year. I began life in Canada but grew up in the golden state of California. I've been back in Canada for just over a decade now and have enjoyed getting to know this great country better! And now I can include getting to know the Warner Community.

### My Favorites & Hobbies

I've recently become fascinated with watching live court cases in the US on YouTube, and I also love reading fiction books and watching documentaries. Music is always part of my day, lately I've been listening to a lot of 80s rock, though I enjoy all kinds of genres. And if you ask my favorite flower, it's definitely daisies!



Nathan Lockwood

## MEET THE Teacher



Warner School

### About me

Having completed my PSIII at Warner School in 24/25 I'm very excited to be returning and continuing teaching! I was born and raised in Coaldale and attended the University of Lethbridge for my Undergraduate Degrees in Mathematics as well as Education. I am looking forward to my 2nd year at Warner School, and my 1st year of Teaching!

### My Favorites & Hobbies

I spend most of my free time listening to my vinyl record collection and reading Fantasy novels. Otherwise, I enjoy board games, playing piano and guitar, or visiting Cafes.

Most recently, I have been busy 3D Modelling, Printing and painting miniatures for dioramas and strategy games.

# Around our School

## Meet our PSIII Student teachers:



**Sara Gateman**



**Warner School**

### About me

I am a PSIII student with the University of Lethbridge, and I am lucky enough to get to teach at Warner School for my PSIII internship. I will be teaching in Warner until Christmas break. Before I came back to school for teaching, I completed a degree in Biochemistry and worked as an agricultural research scientist for many years.

### My Favorites & Hobbies

In my free time, I love reading, gardening, and hiking. I currently live in Lethbridge with my partner, Liam, and our two cats, Bean and Alfie.



**Alexander Kwan**



**Warner School**

### About me

I am super ecstatic to join Warner for my PSIII internship! I am with the University of Lethbridge currently in my last year in a combined education and history degree. I grew up in Calgary before moving down to Lethbridge for school. I keep busy during the school year aside from university classes by leading a project within the history department and working at the Galt Museum in a myriad of ways which I hope will transfer skills over to teaching!

### My Favorites & Hobbies

Outside of classes, I do enjoy reading books with a recent interest in ecology, writing short stories that I will hopefully finish one day, starting to play piano again, baking, as well as hiking whenever I get the chance to!

# In Our School

RIGHT-CLICK  
AND CHOOSE  
"CHANGE  
PICTURE"

## MEET OUR Staff Member



Desiree Jespersen



Warner School

### About me

Hi my name is Desiree Jespersen. I have been a Child and Youth Care worker for the past 16 years in a variety of roles and am excited to have joined the Horizon team this year. I am passionate about working with children and youth, supporting them as they grow and learn.

### My Favorites & Hobbies

In my spare time I am usually hanging out with my wonderful husband, 2 kids and our dog. I love to spend time in nature, relaxing with a good book.



Christina Blake



Warner School

## MEET OUR Staff Member



### About me

Hello, my name is Christina Blake, and I'm honoured to have this opportunity to serve as the Family School Liaison Counsellor at Warner and Milk River Schools beginning in the 2025-2026 school year.

With a Bachelor of Social Work from the University of Calgary and a diploma in Psychology and Sociology from Lethbridge College, I bring a strong foundation in mental health, trauma-informed practice, and family support. My professional journey has allowed me to work across school, healthcare, and community settings—supporting children, youth, families, and seniors facing a wide range of challenges.

In my role, I offer emotional support, early intervention, and connection to community resources to help students succeed socially, emotionally, and academically. I believe in building strong, trusting relationships and working collaboratively with families, educators, and community partners. My approach is strengths-based, culturally responsive, and grounded in compassion.

Previously, I've supported students as a Student Wellness Access Guide, worked as a mental health therapist and social worker with Alberta Health Services, and provided system navigation and advocacy in both non-profit and healthcare environments. These experiences continue to shape my understanding of how to meet students and families where they are—with care, respect, and empathy.

### My Favorites & Hobbies

Outside of work, I enjoy spending time with my family, exploring nature, and finding opportunities to give back to my community.

I look forward to working alongside students, caregivers, and school staff in Warner and Milk River. Please feel free to reach out—I'm here to help.



# Around our School

## Congratulations Tryan VanLoon

Over the summer Tryan won Riding on Stone Rodeo which we consider our hometown rodeo. He also won his home reserve rodeo in Brocket (Piikani Nation is the Van Loon original band) In the FCA (foothills cowboy association) he squeaked into first place by the skin of his teeth making him season leader. Finals are Sept 26-28 in High River. In the Crooked Horn Association, Tryan also won Season Leader for this season and earned himself the only spot in his event and age division to the Junior NFR (national finals rodeo) held in Las Vegas Dec 4-8 in conjunction with the NFR. This is THE world's largest rodeo around. Their Alberta finals are held in Olds, AB Oct. 17-19. The last association he ran this summer was the Blood Tribe Society Series which he ended up placing 2nd in the season with. Their finals are held in Stand Off Sept 19-21. He has achieved more this early in his career than most do in their entire careers. It's quite rare in roughstock events to be this consistent. He smashed some pretty major personal goals he set for himself. This has all brought him to now being able to ride steers at the pro level in the spring of 2026. He was approached and since partnered with, Rob Scharl of CPJS Contracting out of Lethbridge, AB to sponsor Tryan for his pro season.





# Around our School

## Early Learning

We are looking forward to a new school year with the Early Learning children. Our classes will be on Mondays. We will start on Monday, September 8, 2025. In September we will be getting to know each other and becoming familiar with the school routines.

Warner Early Learning Program is still accepting registrations. Forms are available at the office or on our Website @ <https://warner.horizon.ab.ca/>

## Terry Fox

*This September 26th, 2024, we continue the Annual Terry Fox Run surrounded by messages of love, hope and inspiration from Canadians everywhere. Parents and community members, please join us with donating a Toonie for Terry, and join us for Warner School's Terry Fox Run, beginning at 11:00am in the school gymnasium. Our goal this year is to raise \$300.00.*



**Marathon  
of Hope**



# Around our Community



Dear Students and Families,

Mrs. Nagy is planning another exciting EF Tour trip for Easter 2027!

If you will be in **Grade 10, 11, or 12** during the **2026-2027 school year** and like traveling, meeting new people, exploring history, and experiencing new cultures, this is an adventure you won't want to miss.

Stay tuned for more details coming soon — I can't wait to share all the exciting plans with you!



## Warner Learn-to-Skate School ·

**Follow**

Aug 21 · 🌐



**Warner Learn-to-Skate is Back for the Season!** 

**We're gearing up for another great year on the ice — with a few exciting updates!**



**New This Year: Intro to Figure Skating!**  
If your child is in figure skates, has completed Level 2 or higher, and wants to learn the basics of figure skating, this is the program for them!



With minor hockey back in Warner, we're seeing more young skaters joining to prep for hockey — so we've adjusted our structure to better fit the needs of our skaters and ensure there is enough ice time and space for our larger levels.

**This year's registration includes:**

### Learn to Skate

**Levels 1–3** (we'll assess skill levels after registration)

### Intro to Figure Skating



**Thursdays between 4:30–6:00 PM**



**Early Bird (before Sept 15): \$75/skater**



**Regular (after Sept 15): \$80/skater**



**All registrations due by Oct 1**



**Registrations must be completed through Google Forms.**

**Questions? Reach out — we're happy to help!**

[https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1RP\\_yHQRhq4boWyEPPhwdKSQNqAi0meFRZTk0d\\_G\\_dpzY/edit?usp=drivesdk](https://docs.google.com/forms/d/1RP_yHQRhq4boWyEPPhwdKSQNqAi0meFRZTk0d_G_dpzY/edit?usp=drivesdk)



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 **Send message**





# September 2025

Sunday	Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday	Saturday
	1 <b>No School-</b> Labour Day	2 First Day of Kindergarten 	3	4	5	6
7	8 First Day of Early Learning	9 JV Girls Volleyball Practice 5:30pm Grad Meeting @ 5:00pm	10	11 JV Girls Volleyball Practice 5:30pm	12	13
14	15	16 PAC Meeting @ 5:00pm JV Girls Volleyball Practice 5:30pm	17	18  JV Girls Volleyball Practice 5:30pm	19	20
21	22	23 Booster Juice – Hot Lunch JV Girls Volleyball Practice 5:30pm	24	25 <i>Orange Shirt Day</i> JV Girls Volleyball Practice 5:30pm	26 	27
28	29 <b>No School</b>	30 <b>No School-</b> Day of Truth and Reconciliation JV Girls Volleyball Practice 5:30pm				



