

2023 PSTA Executive and Committee Election

Nominee Biographies

Brett Berry – STF Councillor

Hi, my name is Brett Berry. I'm a teacher (for the past 20 years) and Principal at Hague High (for the past 3 years). Earlier in my career I served as an STF councillor for several years (sorry I can't remember how many, but I think the answer is 4) and this past year I returned as a councillor and served as councillor chair. I believe that I bring a variety of experiences and a passion to support teachers and the teaching profession, as well as a desire to create space for many voices - even the ones I disagree with. If you think that makes me a good candidate for the position then I hope you would consider supporting me in this endeavour. Thank you.

Jason Brose – STF Councillor

- PSTA Councillor (2011-present)
- Interim PSTA Vice President (April 2023-Present)
- PSTA Vice President (2020-2022)
- LINC (2019-Present)
- PSTA Councillor Chair (2015-2017)
- Member of PSTA/PSSD Ad Hoc of "Teacher Time and Intensification" (2015-2017)
- SACL's "Inclusive Teacher of the Year" (2017)
- Learning Facilitator (2017-2021)
- Member of the PSTA Grading and Reporting Committee (2008-2014)
- Master of Education-Educational Administration (2011)
- Bachelor of Education (1996)

It was in small schools and communities where I found the importance of giving oneself for the betterment of a greater good. This realization has made me a better person and a better educator. It was Lori Jescke who helped me realize the powerful potential of "Lead from Where You Are" and I have made this idea a cornerstone of my educational philosophy.

All my teaching experience has been focused on Rural Education in several different communities. The majority of my experiences were in K-12 schools where I taught multiple grades and curricula. Recently I have taken on the Principalship at Lost River Colony School teaching EAL students.

My personal philosophy of education is based on relationships and particularly "Servant Leadership". I firmly believe that as educators, one of our core responsibilities is to support our fellow teachers, so that they can grow as leaders and role models for publicly funded education. By doing this, our students are supported and grow as citizens and learners to help our communities prosper.

One of my strengths is building strong connections with people or groups through positive, collaborative interactions. An example of this was working with the PSSD Admin Council on the "Teacher Time and Intensification Study". The PSTA was able to rebuild a collaborative

relationship with the PSSD that, at the time, was very fractured. This collaborative venture was one of the most positive undertakings that I have ever experienced outside of the classroom. We are hoping to revisit this study this coming year with the Admin Council and I hope to have the privilege of being a part of this exciting work.

I believe my experience as a Vice President, Councillor, Councillor Chair, and LINC member that I can help mentor new members as well as collaborate and innovate with returning PSTA Executives. It is important to me to help ensure that the PSTA continues to thrive and advocate for all teachers in the Prairie Spirit School Division.

Dustin Chahley – STF Councillor

This is my 11th year of teaching. I started teaching in 2012 at Warman High School, where I worked for a year teaching mostly math. I was then at Stobart Community School for 7 years teaching mostly math, but also some humanities courses. Over the last 3 years I have been teaching at Spirit eLearning School teaching senior math. I have been an SSL for most of my career. I look forward to serving on the PSTA council and executive team if I am elected!

Carmen Kingsbury – LINC

My name is Carmen Kingsbury, and I teach at Valley Manor in Martensville. I am seeking a role on the LINC Committee. I have been teaching for 25+ years. Within PSSD, I have served many years as an SSL and as part of the PD Committee. I also served as a counsellor for one year, but enjoyed PD more, so I switched back. I am eager to be a member of the LINC Committee as negotiations should be happening next year. I am passionate about equity and fairness, so as a member of this committee, I will do my best to represent your needs.

Amy Korver – STF Councillor & PD Committee

I am excited at the opportunity to continue to serve on the PSTA. This year, I served as Vice-President (currently on maternity leave) and was recently re-elected to the Provincial Executive at the Annual Meeting of Council. In the past I have served as an SSL, Councillor chair, and was on the LINC Committee for our last round of negotiations.

As a PSTA Councillor, I will continue to:

- be committed to making sure that the decisions we make locally take into account everyone's voice, all possible outcomes, and that we continue to advance the collective interests of our teachers.
- make sure that we are best prepared for our LOCAL negotiations by ensuring that we have collected the voice of teachers as we enter into bargaining with our school board.
- ensure that our members are knowledgeable and prepared for PROVINCIAL bargaining. As a local we must continue to ensure our members understand the process and importance of bargaining.
- advocate for member engagement. This year, we started initial conversations around building engagement and capacity in our local. We need to explore ways to reduce barriers for member participation and build capacity in our membership.

Throughout my career, I have always been involved in teacher organizations. I believe that my experience and passion for teacher advocacy make me ready to serve the teachers of Prairie Spirit. I am ready to continue to do this work on your behalf.

Amy Orth – STF Councillor & LINC

I have been a teacher, vice-principal and principal for almost 20 years. I have been involved in local associations since 2006 serving in various capacities and I've been an STF councillor since 2012.

I have served the membership through work on various committees over the years including:

- STF Women in Leadership Policy Implementation Committee (2020-2023)
- STF Local Associations' Working Committee (2018-2021)
- STF Principal and Vice Principal Advisory Committee (2018-2019)
- STF Professional Ethics and Competency Committee (2015-2016)
- PSTA Teacher Time Committee (2015 – 2016)
- PSTA Calendar Committee (present)

This work has helped me develop a deep understanding of the Federation and the different ways in which it supports teachers. My role as a facilitator with the STFPL has allowed me to connect with teachers across the province and gain a better understanding of the unique needs and demands of all STF members.

I have always been passionate about serving teachers and advancing our collective interests, which has led me to seek a new position on our LINC team this year and to continue in my role as councillor.

I have two small children, so I am also currently passionate about early bedtimes and endless snacks.

Thank you for considering me for these important positions.

Cary Pepper-Martens - LINC

Greetings! I have been a teacher for the past 24 years first with Sask. West and then with Prairie Spirit. From my first year in Sask. West I was encouraged to become an SSL for my school and immerse myself in both learning about and advocating for our profession. In the years since I have sat on the Communication Committee, sat on and then led the Professional Development Committee, been a PSTA Councillor and Councillor Chair, sat as the PSTA Vice President, and most recently a member of the LINC Committee. My learning has deepened my understanding of why it is important to have teachers involved and engaged in all levels of the PSTA and STF, and of the influence engaged teachers can have. My legacy knowledge can also be an asset to the team. I am thankful to have had the chance to learn about interest-based bargaining and am enthusiastic to continue in this position.

Craig Reinhardt – LINC

Hello PSTA members! I have been working in Prairie Spirit School Division for the past 16 years. I have worked in elementary schools, in K-12 schools, small schools and large schools. During this time, I have been an athletic director for 12 years, I have served 8 years on our Central Valley

Athletic executive committee and spent 9 years representing Prairie Spirit on the Saskatoon Health Region's Youth Wellness Committee. I have also served as an in-school administrator for the past 10 years.

I value opportunities to meet as a team and learn alongside other educators. I see being part of the Local Implementation and Negotiation Committee as an opportunity to provide a strong voice for Prairie Spirit Teachers. This also lends the chance to build deeper professional relationships with other PSTA members. I look forward to representing all of you on this committee.

Chad Williams – STF Councillor & LINC

My name is Chad Williams and I currently teach grade two/three at Venture Heights. I am eager and excited to accept the nomination for Prairie Spirit Teachers' Association Councillor, and LINC committee and I am seeking your support.

I am currently in my 15th year of teaching, and in my 13th year with Prairie Spirit School Division where I have taught elementary, middle years and high school. I have been fortunate to be a part of K-8, K-12, and 9-12 schools.

In addition to my role as a classroom teacher with PSSD, I have held the following positions:

- PSTA councillor
- Member of the last LINC negotiations
- Member of the PD committee
- Chair of the LGBTQ2S ad hoc committee

I currently sit on the following Saskatchewan Teachers' Federation / Canadian Teachers' Federation committees:

- Curriculum & Instruction Working Committee (STF)
- Supporting Indigenous Ways of Knowing in Mathematics Working Committee (STF)
- Practicum Advisory Committee (U of S - STF)
- Advisory Committee on Diversity and Human Rights – Alternate (CTF)
- Professional Growth Network – Saskatchewan Mathematics Teachers' Society - Past-President (STF)

My recent positions held with the PSTA and my work serving on various STF committees will ensure that we continue to support teachers both locally and provincially. It would appreciate your support in continuing this work as a PSTA councillor and LINC member next school year.

Heather Wolfe – Vice-President, STF Councillor and LINC

It is an honor to have my name included for Vice President, Councillor and LINC. I have always had an interest in learning more about teaching associations and their work. When I began my career in Yorkton, I was involved on our teacher association as a Councillor and member of the Communications committee. Since joining PSTA I have been included in this work as my school SSL and Councillor sub. Three years ago, I was a part of the LINC negotiations team that negotiated with our school division over TEAMS meetings. It was a huge task and I learned so much from that experience. I have continued my work on the LINC team and over the past 2 years I was also provided the opportunity to Chair the committee. Duties included budget proposals, meetings with the LINC Implementation team and member questions. I have

enjoyed LINC symposiums where I have had time to hear from other Local associations and the important work they have done with their LINC teams. I know there is work to be done with LINC and I believe at our next round of negotiations will be intense but respectful. I do believe that the school board has heard the concerns of our members as they have come forward and want to help the teachers out. I look forward to serving on the PSTA in the capacities its members see me fit for. I will continue learning and being your voice.