



Nancy Janelle

It truly is a privilege to be the principal of the Seven Oaks Met School. I believe the Met's 3R's (relationships, relevance, and rigor) and 'one student at a time' framework is an ideal platform for teaching and learning. After teaching EAL (English as an Additional Language) in Korea, Nepal, and Guatemala, and witnessing massive inequality and environmental destruction around the world, I was inspired to do my part to make the world a better place.

At SOMet, we are guided by the concept that we are born into this world with a gift to help others 'live a good life' - Mino-pimatisiwin. A person becomes an Okihcite (a great heart) when they identify and begin to share that gift with others. When a person goes above and beyond in sharing their gift with the community for the greater good, this is Mamahtawisiwin. With a focus on truth & reconciliation,

climate justice, and anti-racist/anti-oppressive pedagogy, we ask ourselves, what is our role as educators in helping create a world where Mino-pimatisiwin is possible for ALL (people, animals, and the planet)? Using the Circle of Courage (mastery, independence, generosity & belonging) as a starting point to learn about our interconnectedness (the 7 generations) and concepts of community vs individualism, we hope students will understand the impacts of their actions on the greater community.

I am thrilled to have been a part of the Seven Oaks Met School since its inception in 2009, and to have worked as an advisor for 6 years before moving into my current position as principal. I feel extremely grateful to help prepare students for a world that is constantly changing, to help them understand the needs of their local and global communities, and to foster their agency as participatory citizens to take part in transforming society. I believe the innovative critical thinking skills we instill in the next generation here at SOMet are the ones needed to make the world a more equitable, sustainable, and democratic place.