

SUPERINTENDENT ANNOUNCEMENT

After a thorough search, it is our pleasure to announce that John Picard will be joining the Valhalla School Foundation, as Superintendent of Schools, commencing July 1, 2012. John comes to Valhalla with a broad range of experience, including 19 years in school administration. Currently, John works as a Principal for Foundations for the Future Charter Academy, the largest of Alberta's Charter Schools, having experience with three different campuses (Elementary, Middle School and High School). He brings a strong background in both Direct Instruction and Charter Schools, having published articles and presented numerous seminars and conferences on both topics across the country. John's teaching career was focused in the areas of Social Studies, Math and English Second Language at the grade 7-11 level.

John has a BA from University of Manitoba; a Diploma in Education from Bishop's University, Lennoxville, Quebec; and a Masters in Educational Administration from the University of Ottawa.

John has been described as a servant leader. He brings to us a strong belief in the primary responsibility of the parents in the education of their children and the most important motivation for all our decisions being the interests of the children. We are certain his training and experience will fit our needs and we look forward to working with him.

John asked to convey the following message to the Valhalla community:

"I believe the story of Valhalla Community School is a pioneering story, one of challenge and survival. I am delighted with the opportunity to work with teachers, parents and children in furthering your goals, and look forward to meeting you in the very near future."