

Provincial opening ceremony for Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week held at Hillmond School

On Monday the official Saskatchewan Provincial kick-off of Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week took place in Hillmond Central School. This weeklong event, (Feb. 8-14), began as an idea here in Saskatchewan 22 years ago and has now spread across Canada. It is a celebration and recognition of the work done by all of the staff members of schools. It affords parents and others an opportunity to express their thanks to the dedicated individuals who work to help every child succeed.

Over 240 people gathered in the Hillmond school gymnasium to hear Sarah Sun, the president of the Saskatchewan Association of School Councils, speak about the importance of all the things that a staff does for the children and for the community.

Diane Woloschuk, the president of the Saskatchewan Teacher's Federation, spoke about the theme for Teacher & Staff Appreciation Week, "Kids Say It Best." In keeping with the theme every teacher and staff member received a certificate written (and read aloud) by the students.

David Thompson the Superintendent of Human Resources also spoke, extending his sincere thanks to all staff members for their commitment, and for their excellent work with the young people in their care.

The event was capped off by Principal Shawn Larson being recognized as Principal of the Year in Saskatchewan.

"He's a great example of all that a Principal should be, and you could feel that within the school. It's such a friendly, heartwarming school! All the kids are so respectful and friendly," said Sarah Sun.

Getting Shawn to speak to me about his award was slightly easier than pulling teeth from a clam. "It's a great honour to receive that award," said Shawn. "I have to thank my staff, my community and my school community council for nominating me. I've got great people to work with, and that makes my job so much easier. They deserve the award more than I do."