

# Dr. Jennifer Turner

## **EDUCATION**

<b>University of Calgary</b>	Doctor of Education, Specialization in k-12 Leadership <i>Dissertation: Finding the Strength: District Leadership of Mental Health Promotion in One BC School District</i>	2018- 2022
<b>University of Calgary</b>	Certificate Course – Business Intelligence Analytics	2022
<b>University of Calgary</b>	Superintendent Leadership Qualification Standard (SLQS)	2019
	School Leader Qualification Standard (LQS)	2020
<b>University of Calgary</b>	Certificate Course - Advanced Clinical Supervision in Psychology	2009
<b>Capella University Minneapolis</b>	Master of Science, Psychology Specialization in Education Psychology	2001
<b>University of Calgary</b>	Graduate Coursework EDER 619: Social Dynamics of Rural Education	1999
<b>University of Alberta</b>	Bachelor of Education, Major: Secondary Social Studies Minor: Secondary Special Education - Educational Psychology	1995

## **PROFESSIONAL CREDENTIALS**

---

College of Alberta School Superintendents

College of Alberta Psychologists (#3331)

Alberta Teachers Association (Permanent Professional Certificate)

British Columbia College of Teachers

British Columbia Association of School Psychologists (#263)

British Columbia College of Psychologists (#1886)

British Columbia Council of Administrators of Special Education

British Columbia School Superintendents Association

# EXPERIENCE

---

## System Leadership

### Provincial Leadership, Alberta

- Provincial Cross Ministry Child and Youth Wellbeing Review Panel – appointed by Minister of Children Services, Rebecca Schulz
- CASS Fall Conference: Assurance Model Theory to Action – Thought Leader Series
- Well at Work k-12 Leadership Course Development – EdCan Academy
- Alberta Research Network Keynote Speaker
- Wood Buffalo Community Grant Foundation, Board Member
- Wood Buffalo Multicultural Society, Board Member

### Provincial Leadership, British Columbia Ministry of Education

- BCCASE (BC Council of Administrators of Special Ed.) Executive Secretary 2019-2020
- BCCASE (BC Council of Administrators of Special Ed.) Regional Chair 2008-2019
- Early Learning Framework Advisory Committee 2017-2019
- Provincial Literacy 12 Assessment Working Group 2018-2019
- Cross-government Working Group: Mental Health Substance Use in Schools 2016-2018
- Cross-Government Review of Mental Health Services 2016-2017
- Select Standing Committee on Curriculum 2015-2017
- Provincial Adjudication Review Committee 2016-2017
  - Significant revision of provincial guidelines for exam adjudication
  - Recommendations to ministry strategic priorities branch
- Rocky Mountain School District Special Education Compliance Audit 2015-2016
  - Responsible for Special Education Services
  - Ministry Audit results demonstrated 100% compliant
- BC College of Psychologist Continuing Competency Quality Assurance Audit 2013
  - Audit results demonstrated 100% compliant
- Coordination of Internal Special Education Audit for SD 6 2013
- Coordination of Internal Special Education Audit for SD 51 2005-2013
- Co-facilitated Special Education Audit prep for School District 8 2005-2007
- Ministry of Education District Review Team Member Coast Mountain 2006
- Boundary School District Ministry of Education Special Education Audit 2006-2007
  - Responsible for Special Education Services Program
  - Audit results demonstrated 100% compliant
- Enrolment and Aboriginal Education Audit 2003-2004
  - Teacher with program responsibilities and Administrator
  - Audit results demonstrated 100% compliant

### K-12 School System Administrative Leadership

- Superintendent of Schools, Fort McMurray Public Schools March 1, 2020 – Present
  - 16 school sites, 6400 students, 700 staff
- Assistant Superintendent, Rocky Mountain School District 6 August 2013 – February, 2020
  - 18 school sites, 3400 students, 450 staff
- District Principal, Boundary School District 51 August 2006 – July 2013
  - 10 school sites, 1800 students, 280 staff
- Principal, Big White Community School, Boundary School District 51 August 2006 – July 2013
- Principal, Walker Development Centre, Boundary School District 51 August 2006 – July 2013

## Superintendent Role and Responsibilities

*Fort McMurray Public School Division  
Superintendent*

Fort McMurray, AB  
March 2020 – January 2022

- Chief Executive Officer
- Annual operation grant of \$90, 500,000
- Operational Reserves of \$25,000,000
- 18 School and Division sites, this includes a Christian and an Islamic Alternative Program, an Outreach Secondary School, and Community Outreach to Indigenous partners in Fort Chipewyan
- 6400 Students
- 700 Employees (ATA, CUPE, and Out of Scope staff groups and collective agreements)
- Elected Board of Trustees
- Key spokesperson and media relations
- Specific areas of responsibilities as outlined by Board Policy 12 which includes
  - All leadership related to **educational improvement and student learning**,
  - **Student welfare** and ensure a safe, caring, welcoming environment for all students and staff,
  - **Fiscal Responsibility** for a \$90,000,000 annual budget including the implementation of the new provincial funding framework
  - **Personnel management** with responsibility and oversight of all matters precluded by legislations, collective agreements, or Board Policy,
  - Oversight and development of **policy and administrative procedures** to support the operational effectiveness of the system,
  - **Superintendent and Board Relations** for a positive, respectful, collaborative relationship between operational staff and elected officials,
  - Development, implementation and monitoring of a **three-year education plan** including an extensive stakeholder engagement process to provide the system strategic direction,
  - Overall **organizational leadership and management**,
  - **Communications and Community Relations**, and
  - the support of system leadership practices.

## Assistant Superintendent Role and Responsibilities

*Rocky Mountain School District  
Assistant Superintendent*

Invermere, BC  
August 2013 – February 2020

- A collaborative and consultative member of the district senior leadership team. Profile of the district: 18 school sites, across 7 communities, serving 3300 students, with a \$48,000,000 budget.
- Established and achieved annual objectives within assigned portfolios consistent with the districts integrated plans through collaboration, consultation, and effective use of financial, personnel, facility and other resources.
- Develop quality assurance systems for identification and designation of students with diverse learning needs, English Language Learners and those with diverse cultural backgrounds, and students with identified special needs, in addition to developing, implementing and monitoring quality assurance systems for Individual Education Plans, reporting student achievement, behaviour intervention plans, safety plans, and ensuring equitable access to specialized supports and resources across multiple sites.
- Chair of the Student Conduct Review Committee, review and address conflict within assigned portfolios working with staff, parents, and community members, and other conflict resolution matters as appointed by the Superintendent.
- Coordination and implementation of district assessment practice including early intervention screening program for oral language, social emotional development, hearing and vision. Academic and behaviour assessment and psychoeducational assessment (initial diagnosis, reassessment, adult services eligibility assessment, post-secondary eligibility assessment).

- Manage Community LINK program. Formation of effective process to identify vulnerable students, establish effective programming, and promote partnerships and integrated approaches with families, community services and staff. Complete annual ministry reporting.
- District Safe School Coordinator and liaison with Ministry Safe Schools staff. Provide program development and implementation of Violence Threat Risk Assessment process and Critical Incident Debrief and Trauma Response. Including coordination of the ERASE Bullying strategy, Work SAFE BC Staff Response Plan Coordination, and district Emergency Management practices.
- Communications officer for all matters pertaining to mental health, violence threat risk assessment, grief, loss, substance use for the school division.
- District Early Learning Coordination including Strong Start Early Years Programming and Ready, Set, Learn programming including screening, early intervention, programming, ministry liaison and consultation with community-based early learning partners.
- Established a strong network of professional collaboration with community, regional, and provincial partners including MCFD, Child and Youth Mental Health, CYSN, CLBC, Public Health, Psychiatry, RCMP, local aboriginal bands and aboriginal services, Supported Child Care, early years and post-secondary programs.
- Coordination and placement of post-secondary practicum placement for all support staff positions.
- Provide oversight of financial and human resources within assigned portfolio including recruitment and development of specialist staff (including counseling, psychology, speech language pathology), staff evaluation, professional development and training, resource allocation.
- Represent the District at external functions as required, perform other duties as assigned by the Superintendent.

## Teaching Experience

### Post-Secondary Teaching

- Clinical Supervisor University of Calgary 2012-2014, 2016-2017
  - EDPS 676 Practicum in Social, Emotional, and Behaviour Assessment and Intervention Student Supervisor
  - EDPS 698 Internship Supervisor
  - Coordinated psychology student internship placements in three Kootenay School Districts (6, 8, 51)
- Guest Lecturer EDPS 693.10: Supporting and Enhancing Children's Mental Health
- Guest Lecturer EDPS 662: School Psychology Practicum I

### K – 12 Teaching

- Boundary School District, Midway, BC September 2003 – July 2013
  - Special Education Teacher, Grades 8-12
- Foothills School Division, Okotoks, AB January 2002 – July 2003
  - Counsellor, Foothills Composite High School
  - Chair of Joint Worksite Health and Safety Committee, Division Critical Response Steering Committee, Co-Chair Career Expo, Chair of Counselling Standards Policy Review, Technology Preparation Program implementation lead
- Northern Lights School Division, Bonnyville, AB January 1995 – July 2001
  - Special Education Teacher grades 9-12
  - Classroom Teacher grades 5-12

## Research

---

### Projects

Finding the Strength: A Case Study of School District Leadership of Mental Health Promotion in One School District in British Columbia	Doctoral Project, Werklund School of Education	University of Calgary	2018-2022
The National Youth Screening Project & NYSP Part 2	Research Contributor		2015
LIVE 5,2,1,0 Building Healthy Communities	Research Contributor	Kimberley	2015 – 2020
HELP and CHEQ Childhood Experiences Questionnaire	Research Contributor	University of British Columbia	2013 – 2021

### Grants

Government of Alberta Contingent Grant Co-investigator	Mental Health Framework k-12	University of Calgary \$556,238	2023-2025
Civil Forfeiture Ministry of Justice Building the Skills of Healthy & Respectful Relationships	School-based violence prevention Program	\$50,000	2015
Health Promoting Schools	Supporting Student physical, social, emotional, and intellectual development	\$108,000	2015-2018

### Publications

**Turner, J.**, Friesen, S., & MacGregor, S. (accepted). *Development of a mental health framework for schools and school authorities in the province of Alberta, Canada* [Paper presentation]. ICSEI 2024, Educational Leadership Network, Dublin, Ireland.

MacGregor, S., Friesen, S., & **Turner, J.** (under review). *A review of the side effects of universal school-based mental health supports* [Paper presentation]. AERA 2024 Annual Meeting, Division A - Section 3: School and District Improvement, Philadelphia, PA, United States.

MacGregor, S., Friesen, S., & **Turner, J.**, Domene, J., McMorris, C., Allan, S., Mesner, B. (under review). *The Side Effects of Universal School-based Mental Health Supports: An Integrative Review. Review of Research in Education*. Sage.

**Turner, J.**, & Friesen, S. (2023). Finding the Strength, District Leadership of Mental Health Promotion in One School District in British Columbia. Paper Presentation at 36<sup>th</sup> International Congress for School Effectiveness and Improvement, Vina del Mar, Chile.

- Sumara, D., Friesen, S., Takasugi, C., Doucette, J., & **Turner, J.** (2023). Learning to Count What Counts: Narrative Hermeneutics for Teachers and Teaching. In Tierney, R.J., Rizvi, F., & Ercikan, K. (Ed.), *International Encyclopedia of Education* (Fourth Edition), Elsevier, p 113-119.
- Turner, J.**, Schroeder, M., & Brandon, J. (2021). Positive system leadership for enhanced well-being. In S. Cherkowski, B. Kutsyuruba, & K. Walker (Eds.). *Positive leadership for flourishing schools*, (pp. 215-21). Information Age Publishing.
- Brandon, J., & **Turner, J.** (2021). The Benefits of Positive Superintendent Leadership. A paper prepared for the Research on the Superintendency Special Interest Group, American Educational Research Association, Virtual Annual Meeting.
- Turner, J.** & Brandon, J. (2020). Positive system leadership for enhanced well-being. *The CASS Connection*, 16(1), 21-22. <https://cassalberta.ca/the-cass-connection>
- Turner, J.**, & Brandon, J. (2019). Positive District Leadership for Flourishing Schools, [Paper Presentation]. Positive Leadership for Flourishing Schools Forum, Kingston, Ontario.

---

#### Select Professional Conference Presentations

- Turner, J.** (2022). *Connecting and Educating in a Time of Disruption*. Alberta Research Network, Keynote. Online.
- Turner, J.** (2019). *Educational Facilities Managers Association of British Columbia*, Optimizing the Work Environment for Complex Learners. Penticton, British Columbia.
- Turner J.** (2016). *Learning Forward Annual Conference*. Host Committee. Vancouver, British Columbia.
- Turner J.** (2014). *BC Council of Special Educators*. Tiered Intervention for Student Success. A system approach. Vancouver, British Columbia.
- Turner J.** (2016). *BC Superintendent Association Summer Conference*. Building the Skills of Healthy and Respectful Relationships. Kelowna, British Columbia.
- Turner J.** (2012). *BC Superintendent Association Summer Conference*. Aboriginal Information Circles: SD 51 and SD 10 Inquiry Project. Kelowna, British Columbia.
- Turner J.** (2009). *CYSN – Regional Conference Supporting Youth with Special Needs*. Integrated Case Management Practitioner Training. Cranbrook British Columbia.
- Turner J.** (2005). *International Special Education Conference*, SMART Reading and Students with Special Needs. Glasgow Scotland.
- Turner J.** (2005). *International FASD Conference*, Instructional Support Strategies for Children and Youth with FASD. Victoria British Columbia.
- Turner J.** (2004). *SMART Reading Conference*, Reading Intervention Strategies for student with cognitive delay. New Westminster British Columbia.

#### Panelist

- Turner, J.** (2023). *Wellbeing is Winnable*. Panel Presentation. Leadership Luncheon. Lake Louise, Alberta.

**Turner, J.** (2019). Ministry of Education Safe Schools Coordinator Meeting, Richmond, British Columbia. Information sharing to address needs of vulnerable students.

**Turner, J.** (2019). *School & Community Mental Health Conference*, Vancouver, British Columbia. Data, Evidence and Systems Leadership (moderated presentation with Vancouver School District, Kelowna School District, and Rocky Mountain School District)

**Turner, J.** (2009). *International FASD Conference*, From Assessment to Intervention: Panel Discussion. Victoria British Columbia.