



For immediate release — August 26, 2015

## **University of Lethbridge experts available to help families slide back into the school routine**

The University of Lethbridge has several experts from the Faculty of Education available to discuss the challenges and opportunities that come with getting students ready for the school year.

These experts can offer insight and suggestions for parents about topics like the province's new math curriculum, the move away from grade-based report cards, encouraging literacy, technology in education, and helping children become resilient.

### **School mathematics — teaching, learning, and assessment**

**Dr. Richelle Marynowski** can provide information about the current mathematics teaching and learning directions in Alberta and how parents can help their students with math. She can also provide parents with information regarding teaching strategies that are effective in the math classroom. Her research interests also include classroom assessment practices and provincial examinations.

403-329-2269

[richelle.marynowski@uleth.ca](mailto:richelle.marynowski@uleth.ca)

### **Student report cards — a new look but one with more meaning**

**Dr. Carmen Mombourquette** can talk about the move away from letter grades and percentages on report cards to a system based on words, and explain the reasoning behind the move. He is also able to provide tips about how to help students get back into the learning groove, the issues that middle- and high-school-aged children can encounter with relationships, and how parents can best respond.

403-329-2018

[carmen.mombourquette@uleth.ca](mailto:carmen.mombourquette@uleth.ca)

### **Help your child learn to love reading**

**Dr. Robin Bright**, a literacy expert, can share pointers about ways parents and teachers can help children become avid readers. Her other areas of expertise include digital literacy, cyberbullying and helping school systems develop digital literacy policies.

403-329-2443

[brightr@uleth.ca](mailto:brightr@uleth.ca)

**Promoting resiliency in children**

**Dr. Dawn McBride**, a registered psychologist, can offer practical suggestions on how to prepare children to return to school after a summer break. In addition, she can discuss how teachers and parents can use positive discipline principles to help children learn to manage their frustrations and anger appropriately. She can also address mental health issues, such as eating disorders, self-harm, depression and anxiety, experienced by some youth. Statistics from the Canadian Mental Health Association indicate that an estimated 10 to 20 per cent of Canadian youth are affected by a mental illness or disorder, the single most disabling group of disorders worldwide.

403-317-2877

Cell: 403-894-8460

[dawn.mcbride@uleth.ca](mailto:dawn.mcbride@uleth.ca)

**From 3D Printing to computer apps that aid learning**

**Dr. Marlo Steed** can discuss the role of technology in education, including 3D Printing, video creation, virtual reality and digital storytelling. Steed can speak about the ways technology can transform learning both in the classroom and at home.

403-329-2189

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**Contact:**

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