



PIONEER MIDDLE SCHOOL
PANTHER POST

Week of January 6, 2025

"All students will learn and grow academically, socially, emotionally and physically!"

*"March on. Do not tarry. To go forward is to move toward perfection.
March on, and fear not the thorns, or the sharp stones on life's path."*

~ Kahlil Gibran

Dates to Remember

- January is "I" for Integrity Month
- January 6: Classes Resume
- January 6: School Council & Friends of Pioneer meet at 7:00PM
- January 6: Basketball Coaches Clinic 6:00-8:00PM
- January 17: School Spirit Jersey Day
- January 29: National Music Centre - 6B, 6E, 6T
- January 29: Lunar New Year
- January 31: PD Day - No School for Students

Items of Note

Happy New Year! Pioneer School looks forward to continuing to serve the children of Rocky Mountain House and surrounding area into 2025.

If you are interested in coaching a basketball team, we are hosting a **Coaches Clinic** on Monday evening from 6:00-8:00PM.

Both **School Council** and **The Friends of Pioneer** meeting Monday evening starting at 7:00PM in the Library. Everyone is welcome. The Friends are still looking for a fundraising co-ordinator.

Basketball season is about to begin. The athletics calendar will be sent out as soon as we have the schedule finalized. For now, we know B Boys 1 play after school at Caroline on January 8. Grade 6's practice &/or play on Tuesdays & Thursdays while the grade 7/8 teams practice on Mondays & Wednesdays. Go Panthers!



STAFF PROFILE

Robert UnKauf
Grade 7 Teacher

Rob is a published author, with seven novels currently in print. He has travelled to twenty-seven countries, speaks four languages, and has acted in multiple on-stage musicals in the community. He is an avid hunter and outdoorsman, is a marathon runner, and is working towards his black belt in karate.

Rob grew up primarily in Calgary, though he relocated to Vancouver for high school, and remained there to attend the University of British Columbia for his Bachelor of Arts in English Literature and World History.

Following his graduation from UBC, Rob moved to Japan, where he taught English as a foreign language for two years. This introduced him to the love of teaching he has maintained ever since. Upon his return to Canada, he attended the University of Alberta to gain his Bachelor of Education. It was there that he met his wife, who shared both his love of travel and his love of teaching. They married in 2007 and have twin daughters.

Upon finishing his B.Ed, Rob and his wife moved to Rocky Mountain House as he needed to be closer to the mountains. He began his teaching career at West Central High School, teaching English Language Arts, Social Studies and Outdoor Education and coaching football and rugby for the next twelve years.

After shifting to teaching at Pioneer in 2018, Rob accepted a year-long teacher exchange to Australia, moving his entire family to Muswellbrook, NSW, in December 2018 and returning in January of 2020. He has taught grade 7 LA and Social Studies in Pioneer ever since.