



News Release

RDCRS partners with Author Sigmund Brouwer in at-home learning

For immediate release – April 7, 2020

Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools is partnering with Sigmund Brouwer, the author of over 100 titles to make his Academy of Writers (Grade 4-8) curriculum available to all teachers, parents and students in the division.

The Academy for Writers curriculum delivers a series of lively and entertaining videos, with accompanying writing activities for students, as well as a guide for parents to support and interact with their children.

“Many of our teachers will be embedding Sigmund's work into their online lessons and as a parent, if you'd like to participate in the lessons with your child, you are welcome to download these three pdfs which have more information. New lessons will be released on Monday, Wednesday and Friday of each week," said Superintendent of Inclusive Learning, Dr. Dave Khatib at Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools.

As a consulting writer-in-residence, Sigmund developed the Academy For Writers program working in classrooms over a three-year period with the teachers and students of an entire division of 43 schools.

“I have spent a lot of time in Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools, so I know first-hand the amazing job that the teachers do in the classrooms and it's an honour to part of their role helping students learn at home,” said Author, Sigmund Brouwer.

For more information on the Academy of Writers, please see attached document.

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Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools serves over 10,480 students in 21 schools in Red Deer, Blackfalds, Sylvan Lake, Rocky Mountain House, Innisfail, and Olds. It also supports the learning of over 600 students in a Home Education Program. The Division is committed to serving children and parents with a complete offering of learning opportunities delivered within the context of Catholic teachings and within the means of the Division.

For more information, contact:

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Academy for Writers



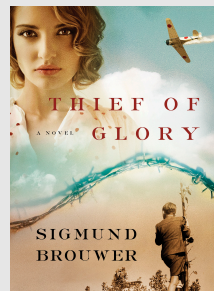
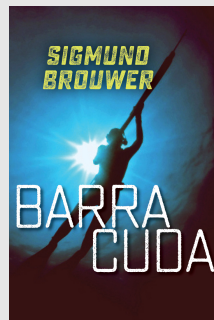
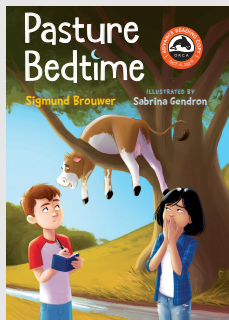
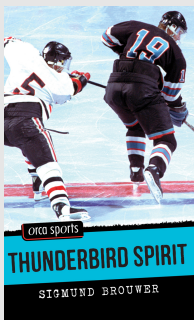
**Self-guided lessons for teachers and parents
to share with students, to maximize learning at home
for narrative, expository and essay writing**

Author of 150 fiction and non-fiction titles, Sigmund Brouwer has presented his *Rock and Roll Literacy Show* over the last 25 years to more than 1,000,000 students in schools across North America. In the *Academy for Writers* curriculum, he delivers a series of lively and entertaining video each about 10 minutes long, with accompanying writing activities for students, and a guide for parents to support and interact with their children.

The program consists of four parts of seven lessons each. The first three parts cover the secrets of a good story, ways to making writing powerful to deliver that story, and a unique and effective approach to the editing and revising process. The fourth part leads students through the process of creating a complete short story that parents will love.

“Sigmund Brouwer has been writer-in-residence for our 25 schools for the past two years. His foundational approach to motivate students to write has been fantastic, and we’ve seen very positive results with his highly engaging methods of teaching writing in the classroom. We’ve made his *Academy of Writers* curriculum available to all our parents within the division as we are confident our students will increase their literacy skills while they are away from school.” Good Spirit School Division, Saskatchewan

“Because we’ve seen quantified improvements in test results from incorporating Sigmund’s approach into classrooms over the past few years, we are delivering his *Academy of Writers* curriculum to all our teachers to share with students to engage and motivate them in home-based literacy activities.” Rainy River District School Board, Ontario



With over four million books in print, Sigmund Brouwer is a bestselling author of both children and adults books. His novel, *Dead Man’s Switch*, is the winner of the *Arthur Ellis Award* for Canada’s best young adult mystery of the year and was a finalist in the *TD Children’s Book Awards*. His novel for grownups, *Thief of Glory* was selected as the a Book of the Year for the *American Christy Awards* and is a winner of the *Alberta’s Readers Choice Award*. He serves as *Writer-In-Residence* for various school boards across Canada.

