

Tara-Marie Hall

Tara-Marie Hall was born and raised for the majority of her life in Portage la Prairie. She graduated with honours from Arthur Meighen High School. She went on to study law through Brandon University and the University of Manitoba before focusing on working with children. Her love of children led her to Prairie Rose School Division where she worked with a variety of special needs children. Later in life, she took an interest in photography. She also enjoyed volunteering at her children's school and events' as well as doing private childcare.

Tara-Marie has four children together with her partner Joe who she met in high school. Both Donovan and Autumn graduated from PCI and Donovan was the first Youth City Councilor. Tara-Marie's two younger children are currently in elementary school. Austin has been diagnosed with autism, ADD and ADHD. Upon learning of his diagnosis, Tara-Marie quickly became an advocate for autism and special needs children along with their families. She has taken numerous professional workshops on inclusion and autism. She and her son are involved in Special Olympics as well as Swimmingly. Tara-Marie, along with her children created a group for all children called "The Giving Back Gang". The group promotes inclusion while doing good deeds for others around the local community. It teaches children to give back and to work together as a team.

Tara-Marie would like to bring a new perspective to the Portage la Prairie School Board. With two of her children having graduated and two more still in school, one with special needs, she is very familiar with the school division. She sees firsthand that there is a need for more resources and support for special needs children and their families. Not every child learns the same way and we need to embrace that. More support is needed for our teachers as well. They can only work with the resources that they are given. Tara-Marie would also like to see inclusion taught in school as a way to teach about special needs, but also as another tool to tackle bullying. Learning about one another's differences is the first step to accepting each other. Mental health is important for everyone, and more awareness and support would go a long way towards a successful school year.

Tara-Marie is a very determined individual with a never give up attitude. She genuinely cares about helping people. She believes in standing up for those who may not be able to and fighting for resources that are so desperately needed. She likes to live by the quote, "Unless someone like you cares a whole awful lot, Nothing is going to get better. It's not."-Dr. Seuss

