



Volunteer Profile: Shannon

What grades are your children in?

I have two daughters. One is in grade 8 and one has moved on from Connect and into grade 10.

What are your current personal, professional, and volunteer commitments?

I used to work as an Interior Designer doing restaurants, retail and hotels. Now I volunteer for my kid's Jump Rope team, Skip Time, as Casino Chairperson and do the Marketing and Social Media. I volunteer for my singing group, Rhythm of the Rockies on the Membership and Marketing committees. I volunteer for the Foothills Hospital/ University of Calgary to help teach Med students a quick Musculoskeletal exam. I volunteer at Connect Charter School whenever I can. I also work part time as a Real Estate Assistant for another Connect mom and excellent realtor, Renata Reid with Sotheby's.

When did you first become a part of the school community?

My daughter Kayla started at Connect in the fall of 2012 and I began volunteering as soon as I had the opportunity to help.

What made you decide to volunteer with Connect Charter School?

Volunteering is a chance to see what the school is like and to meet the teachers and other students. Also, nostalgia. I used to go to school there in the 70's!

What do you consider the best part of volunteering at our school?

The best part of volunteering is being able to help support the teachers so that both students and teachers can get the most out of all these incredible learning opportunities that the teachers find for our kids.

What are some of the rewards?

The rewards of volunteering are getting to know your child's classmates, the teachers, and especially other parents. It's more fun to talk with your child about their day when you've met the kids they are talking about!

Tell us about the volunteering you do at Connect Charter School.

Overnight Camps: Camp Sweet a few times, Southern Alberta History Tour twice, Winter Camp twice, Grade 8 Rocky Mountain Trip, Ribbon Creek Fall Camp, Writing on Stone, Fort Steele twice.

I've helped out on many day trips: Bike to Sandy Beach and back, Bike to Bowness Park and back, Bike around the reservoir, canoe/ kayak field trips, Grassi Lakes Hike, Bow Lake water studies, Pearce Estate water studies, Glenmore Park & Weaselhead many times, Grade 6 Children's Festival, Terry Fox run, a movie, and live theatre.

I worked two afternoons a week for almost a year in the library processing new books and shelving returns.

I sewed a dozen or so duffle bags for the Outdoor Ed backpacking electives.

I prepared materials and helped students learn to sew in the sewing electives.

I helped sew together the two big art pieces that the students made with the Tsuu T'ina kids.

I created a master plan for ongoing interior and exterior school upgrades.

And probably some other things that I have forgotten....

What makes this position a great fit for you?

My schedule is not fixed so I volunteer whenever I am able.

How much time do you put into this role?

The time I commit to volunteering depends entirely upon availability. It has been many hours a week to none.



“If you CAN volunteer, DO volunteer. You and your child will both get so much more out of their time at Connect.”

- SHANNON, PARENT VOLUNTEER