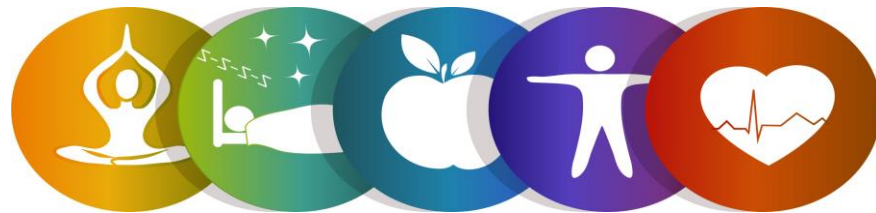


QUESTION #4

What **TRAINING** is **REQUIRED**,
What *training* is *optional*,
for Manitoba teachers and schools to
ensure they are **QUALIFIED & PREPARED**
to identify & work with students/families
living with **MENTAL HEALTH CONCERNS** ?



Dr. Sheri-Lynn Skwarchuk, Faculty of Education, University of Winnipeg

About me...

Dr. Sheri-Lynn Skwarchuk

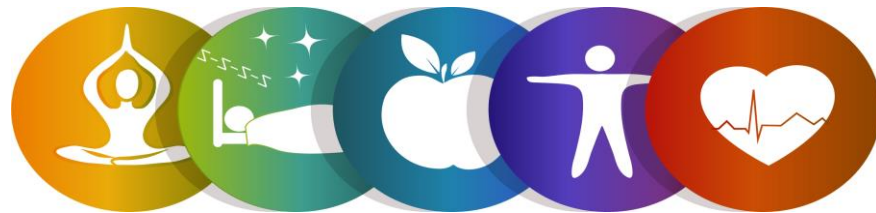


- **Education Faculty**
*Courses in Inclusion, Learning Needs
University of Winnipeg*
- **School Psychologist**
Child Assessment- Univ of Waterloo
- **Parent of 3 school aged children**
*Classroom Interests & Involvement
Diverse abilities and interests*

Email: skwar@mts.net -AND- s.skwarchuk@uwinnipeg.ca

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The **ANSWER** is simple....



No Required University Coursework

...FOR **TEACHERS**, **GUIDANCE COUNSELORS**, **RESOURCE TEACHERS**,
PRINCIPALS, **SOCIAL WORKERS**, **SCHOOL PSYCHOLOGISTS**.
(FOCUS IS ON GAINING EXPERTISE IN SPECIALTY AREA)

NOT Just in Manitoba...

- ✓ Concerns about mental health education persist around the world.
- ✓ Should teachers be trained in mental health?

For Example...

Ball, A., Iachini, A. L., Bohnenkamp, J. H., Tognio, N. M., Brown, E. L., Hoffman, J. A., & George, M. W. (2016). School mental health content in state in-service K-12 teaching standards in the United States. *Teaching & Teacher Education, 50*, 312-320. doi:10.1016/j.tate.2016.08.020

Koller, J. R., & Bertel, J. M. (2006). Responding to Today's Mental Health Needs of Children, Families and Schools: Revisiting the Preservice Training and Preparation of School-Based Personnel. *Education & Treatment Of Children, 29*(2), 197-217.

King, G., Specht, J., Petersen, P., Servais, M., Stewart, S., Young, G., & Brown, H. (2014). The development of expertise in children's mental health therapists and teachers: changes in perspective and approach. *Educational Research, 56*(3), 277-294. doi:10.1080/00131881.2014.934553



You Get What You Get...

- University training in professionalism/ethics
- Variable elective coursework/ PD work
- MTS Code of Professional Practice
- “In Loco Parentis” (Law)
- Canadian Charter of Rights & Freedoms (1982)
- Crisis Intervention
- Individual Differences in willingness to “go there”



EXCEPTIONS

- COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH WORKER
- PSYCHIATRIC NURSE
- SOME ELECTIVE 'TEACHER' and 'CLINICIAN' COURSES IN MENTAL HEALTH:
 - *"Trauma and the Mind" (BU)*
 - *"Promoting Mental Health in Public Schools" (UW)*
 - *"Behavior Issues in Educational Settings" (UM)*
 - *"...Des enfants aux prises avec des troubles du comportement" (USB)*



THERE IS HOPE...

- **System responds to the needs of the community**
- **Addition of programs/coursework as needed:**
 - Strategies for working with Difficult Behavior (1990s)
 - Graduate Certification in Guidance/Counseling (BU, 1990s)
 - School Psychology Program (UM, ~2006)
 - Aboriginal Education (UW, ~2010)
 - Including Children with Special Learning Needs (UW, ~2012)
 - LGBTQ study in MY course offerings (2016)
- **Advocacy and communication for change** (HERE WE ARE!)
- **Always ask about credentials & experience**

References



- BU Faculty of Education Program.
<https://www.brandonu.ca/education/departments/>
- Canadian Charter of Rights and Freedoms. <http://laws-lois.justice.gc.ca/eng/Const/page-15.html>
- Manitoba Professional Certification.
<http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/profcert/certificates/othercertificates/index.html>
- MTS Code of Professional Practice.
<http://www.mbteach.org/mtscms/2016/05/06/code-of-professional-practice-english/>
- UM Faculty of Education Program.
http://umanitoba.ca/faculties/education/current/bed_registration.html
- UM Faculty of Social Work Program.
https://umanitoba.ca/faculties/social_work/programs/fort_garry/512.html
- UM Faculty of Arts School Psychology Program.
<http://www.umanitoba.ca/faculties/arts/departments/psychology/media/GradBrochure.pdf>
- USB Faculté d'éducation. <http://ustboniface.ca/page.aspx?pid=513>
- UW Faculty of Education Program.
<http://www.uwinnipeg.ca/education/current/certification-years.html>