



Wayne Rufiange, MA

Wayne Rufiange was raised in the small farming community of Dapp, Alberta. The youngest of four children, he graduated High School at R.F. Staples Secondary School in Westlock and earned a Bachelor of Education degree from the University of Alberta. He then earned a Master of Arts in Educational Leadership and Supervision from the University of Phoenix.

Wayne spent over 10 years teaching math to junior high students and serving as vice principal at various schools before taking on the role of Principal. In his first year as Principal, he was tasked to start the first public school in Morinville, AB - a small school of 90 students from preschool through grade 4 - where he served in many capacities including School Counsellor. For support, Wayne joined Sturgeon School Division's "Behaviour Cohort". This cohort met to share ideas and strategies about helping students who presented many challenges. The group discussed Positive Behaviour Supports and Collaborative Problem Solving before Sandra Brenneis, the cohort lead, brought forth the work of Dr. Bruce Perry and the Neurosequential Model in Education. The group immediately saw its potential and began training in NME. In the meantime Morinville Public School grew from 90 to 420 students in grades K – 6.

The Behaviour Cohort completed its training and Wayne brought NME to all his staff and over 150 educators in Sturgeon School Division as part of Sturgeon's NME lead team. For his work, Wayne has been named by The ChildTrauma Academy as an Education Fellow, an honour that he shares with the members of the Behaviour Cohort and the staff at Morinville Public School since they were the ones who embraced the NME in their classrooms.

Morinville Public School is now a preschool to Grade 9 School with over 800 students. After 6 years at MPS, Mr. Rufiange has returned to the community that raised him as the Principal of R.F. Staples Secondary School. He hopes to continue sharing NME with educators in the years to come.
