



# Board Notes

January 23, 2019

## Regular and Organizational Meetings of the Prairie Valley Board of Education

### French Immersion Grade Expansion

French immersion offerings continue to expand in Prairie Valley School Division. In order to ensure programming continues to meet student needs, the Board approved a request to the Ministry of Education to expand French immersion to Grade 10 at Greenall High School in 2019-2020 and to Grade 6 at École Lumsden Elementary School; annual grade extensions will continue until both programs are fully implemented. French immersion programming will continue in Kindergarten through Grade 8 at École White City School.

### 2018 Student Senate Action Plan

The Board heard from staff regarding the action plan built from feedback heard at the Middle Years Student Senate held at the Treaty Four Governance Centre in Fort Qu'Appelle on December 4, 2018. At the senate, Board members interacted with students on topics of mindfulness, diversity, anxiety, mental health first aid, social media etiquette and student mentors.

Based on student feedback that day, staff created a proposed action plan to address issues related to student safety, inclusion and belonging, mental health and building positive relationships. A one-page summary of what students told us is posted on the SCC page of our website at:

<http://www.pvsd.ca/Board/Pages/Student-Senates.aspx>

### 2019-2020 School Calendar Development

The Board began to discuss the process and parameters to develop the 2019-2020 school year calendar. The calendar provides the overall learning framework for the school year and affects every student, family and staff member in Prairie Valley School Division. The development process requires consideration of many factors and compliance with provincial legislation and policy. The most important factor, however, is a calendar design that maximizes student engagement, learning and achievement. The Board will be working on the calendar design over the next several Board meetings. The final calendar must be reviewed by the Ministry of Education and released by May 1.

### Appointment of Auditor

Boards of education are required to appoint an external auditor to provide assurance as to the reliability of administration's processes and financial statements. The Prairie Valley Board approved the Audit and Risk Management Committee's recommendation to reappoint MNP LLP as auditors for the 2018-2019 fiscal year.

### Attendance Area Review

In response to shifts in student populations and bus routes, the Board approved a review of the Fort Qu'Appelle and Indian Head attendance areas in the Taylor Beach and Katepwa areas. The Transportation Office will provide information about the review process and the potential boundary changes to impacted school community councils, municipal governments and other stakeholders. Following a public consultation process, the Board will consider the matter again later this spring.



RM OF SHERWOOD  
HIGHWAY 6 NORTH



P.O. BOX 1937  
REGINA, SK S4P 3E1



P 306.949.3366  
TF 877.266.1666



306.543-1771



PVSD.CA

Information will be coming out by mid-February. Questions can be directed by email to [transportation@pvsd.ca](mailto:transportation@pvsd.ca) or call (306) 949-6566 or 1-866-488-4788.

### **Director's Report – Highlights**

- The Board released the 2017-2018 Community Report. I am proud to report that students in the Prairie Valley School Division achieved some the Division's best results to-date. Results show student achievement in reading, literacy and math. Graduation rates grew and students in this division are achieving academic success. Prairie Valley staff, Board, students, community members, parents and guardians should be very proud of the system performance results.
- Over the last month, we have been working on refreshing our school-based support staff performance-planning model to reflect a growth mindset.
- We are preparing ourselves for the spring staffing season with a collaborative and comprehensive review of our application forms, interview guides and reference check forms.
- School Messenger notification service was moved from being hosted in United States into Canada. Text Messaging was enabled on the School Messenger system to allow schools the option to now message parents with text messages.
- Over the past month, we received 12 of the 15 buses ordered from Warner Industries. Each bus diligently inspected by the mechanics. We also installed and inspected the GPS and two-way radios before the busses went into regular route service. The drivers that received their new "wheels" are excited and grateful for the new bus assignment.
- Thank you to our outstanding caretaking team which was very busy completing their second most intense cleaning routine of the year at all of our schools over the Christmas break. These individuals go above and beyond to make sure that each of our schools is a clean and healthy environment for our students.
- With the 2017-2018 financial audit and reporting behind us and as we are well into the 2018-2019 fiscal year, we continue to monitor current quarterly financial projections. Ongoing monitoring, proactive and responsive resource management will help reduce in-year pressures and help minimize any potential funding challenges. Planning for 2019-2020 is upon us and we will continue to look for operating efficiencies so that we can continue to provide support to our students and staff.

### **Upcoming Dates**

February 13 – Regular Board Meeting

March 13 – Regular Board Meeting

April 3 (west side) and April 4 (east side) – SCC Regional Meetings