

Thursday, March 17, 2011

AIMS Report Card

Prairie Valley School Division has examined the data contained in the Atlantic Institute for Market Studies Report Card for Saskatchewan schools.

While Prairie Valley is not disputing the accuracy of the data used in the report, it does not consider school rankings to be a useful measure of school performance and student achievement and engagement.

“There’s only one valid measure of the high school curriculum: how well does it prepare students for their adult lives?” says Prairie Valley School Division Director of Education/CEO Ben Grebinski.

“Prairie Valley School Division regularly compiles, analyses and monitors various data on student performance. This data analysis helps to inform division and school action plans that support individual school Learning Improvement Plans. The Division uses this data to improve the achievement and engagement at all schools and to allocate resources where they are most needed.”

Each Prairie Valley school is different and each has its own challenges. Some Prairie Valley schools ranked very highly in the AIMS Record Card while others did not, including Balcarres Community School.

Without knowing the specifics behind how the data was collected, analyzed and weighted, it is difficult to respond to questions about individual school rankings.

“What is unfortunate is that the AIMS report card cannot measure the many exceptional things happening in all of our schools,” Grebinski said. “For instance, it cannot quantify the welcoming feeling one experiences when walking into Balcarres Community School, or the impact of the Spirit Builders Program which is empowering youth, families and communities to build healthy, holistic lifestyles, or the valuable services provided by the Teen Support and Daycare Centre which is helping teenage parents complete their high school educations, or the community school nutrition and other outreach programs.”

Prairie Valley School Division recognizes and appreciates the effort and contributions made by all staff to student well-being at Balcarres Community School and all schools within Prairie Valley School Division.

Leadership in Learning and Life



Prairie Valley School Division serves approximately 8,000 students in 38 schools throughout southeast Saskatchewan. In support of the vision “Leadership in Learning and Life”, the Division strives to ensure a high-quality education that provides students with the tools to reach and exceed their potential.

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