

February 2, 2015

PRAIRIE VALLEY SCHOOL DIVISION CELEBRATES SUCCESS WITH COMMUNITY REPORT

Prairie Valley School Division's *2013-2014 Community Report* was officially released at the Annual Meeting of Electors on January 27, 2015 at the new Emerald Ridge Elementary School in White City.

The annual Community Report is the primary mechanism for reporting to stakeholders and to the public on accomplishments and achievements as well as areas of growth. The *2013-2014 Community Report* is a companion document to the *2013-2017 Strategic Plan*, reporting on progress in delivering on the outcomes and commitments articulated in the plan for the period September 1, 2013 to August 31, 2014.

"We are pleased to once again report on a busy and fulfilling year for Prairie Valley School Division," said Board of Education Chair, Janet Kotylak. "This report provides our stakeholders and communities with detailed information on Prairie Valley's successes, opportunities for growth, and future work to support student development. The Board is proud of the Division's accomplishments and progress last year."

Highlights from the year include:

- Year over year improvement in nine of 23 academic achievement areas and holding constant in three others, across a variety of grade levels in reading, math, science and treaty education.
- A graduation rate of 84 per cent (students who complete high school requirements within three years of starting grade 10), as compared to the provincial rate of 74 per cent.
- Programming improvements were implemented across the division. The introduction of the Trades and Skills Construction Apprenticeship Program, which allows students to earn high school credits, gain hands-on skills in housing construction and contribute to the community by building a Habitat for Humanity home. The French Immersion program continued to expand at École White City School with the addition of Grade 4.

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- Work on capital projects was completed including an expansion at Lumsden Elementary School and construction of the new Emerald Ridge Elementary School, both of which opened in September 2014.
- In addition to these major projects, we also upgraded student common space and administrative offices at Kelliher School, completed roof repairs and rebuilds at Milestone School, renovated the Whitewood School library, and replaced gym floors at Broadview School, École White City School and Wolseley High School.
- Continued student engagement through course-selection surveys and the popular student senates, which allow students in Grades 6 to 12 to share opinions and feedback on issues that matter to them and impact their learning. Staff engagement also continued, through in-service days, focus groups and school-based Administrator meetings. Engagement with the community was carried out through surveys, public meetings and school community council meetings.
- A balanced budget and clean audit opinion.

“In 2013-2014 we once again focused on providing our students with high quality instruction, innovative programming, access to resources and technology, and modern, safe learning environments,” said Ben Grebinski, Director of Education and CEO for Prairie Valley School Division. “In Prairie Valley School Division, we believe in growing good people, not just test scores. We celebrate all aspects of student learning and growth and will continue to serve every child by name and by need.”

The *2013-2014 Community Report* is available online at pvsd.ca under “Publications” and available in print upon request.

Prairie Valley School Division serves approximately 8,100 students in 39 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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For more information please contact:

Sheena August
 Manager of Communications
 306-949-6395 (office)
 306-533-1085 (cell)
sheena.august@pvsd.ca

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