

A Message from the Prairie Valley Board of Education

The past month has been filled with events and celebrations that I along with my fellow Board members have been fortunate to experience.

At our September Board meeting, Robert Barr from the Terry Fox Foundation visited to recognize students from across the Division for raising more than \$66,000 for the foundation last year! He thanked everyone for their hard work, noting that students in this division raised one of the highest dollar figures in the province. Acknowledging accomplishments like this is very important to the Board as our goal is to build leaders in learning and life and we were proud to have Robert at our meeting.

I was also honoured to attend the provincial Walk to Breakfast. Board member Marlene Blatter and I were there to represent the Board and to celebrate the winners of the 2018 Mosaic Extreme School Makeover Challenge. There were 10 winners across the province and two were from our Division – North Valley Elementary School and Bert Fox Community High School, which was also the school chosen to host the provincial Walk to Breakfast. We are very proud of the students from both schools and we were humbled to take part in this important initiative. This win meant each school received \$10,000 to implement initiatives supporting student nutrition. The Board understands the important linkage between good nutrition and learning. Providing access to high-quality, consistent nutritional services in our schools has been a priority for the past several years and we are grateful for the additional resources going to these two schools.



Lastly, I would like to tell you about the Treaty 4 and Métis flag raising that I, along with Board Member Frank Thauberger, attended at Greenall High School this month. Prairie Valley School Division is on traditional First Nations land in Treaty 4 Territory and the homeland of the Métis Nation. We recognize that we are all treaty people and we are committed to honouring the spirit and intent of treaty, which is why events like this are so important in our division. We are an inclusive school division focused on spreading kindness and it's events like this that will bring all of our communities closer together. Again, I was honoured to represent the Board at this very important, historical event and look forward to more across the division this year.

Finally, we celebrated the retirement of Director of Education Ben Grebinski. We wish him all the best and are pleased to announce that Randy Fox has accepted the position of Director of Education for Prairie Valley School Division on an interim basis starting October 1, 2018. The Board looks forward to working with Director Fox while we continue the process of filling the position of Director of Education.

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Janet Kotylak".

Janet Kotylak, Board Chair