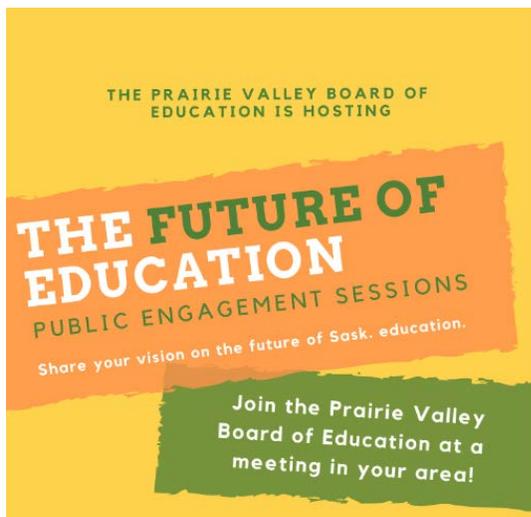


A Message from the Prairie Valley Board of Education



Like most months in Prairie Valley School Division, March was filled with tons of exciting work.

I, along with my fellow Board members, met with students throughout the school division to talk about what they hoped the future of education would look like. This was part of the province's consultation process on the future of education. It is important to the Board that we listen to and share the voice of our students and the communities we serve. This recent engagement exercise not only provided us the incredible opportunity to meet with the youth in our Division; it also ensures our students have voice and the chance to represent the

unique needs of our entirely rural school division on a provincial level.

We are also looking forward to talking with our community members at our upcoming SCC regional meetings in early April. This is another opportunity for our Board members to hear from the communities we serve and to bring those voices to the provincial table.

Another big piece of work the Board has been leading has to do with next year's calendar. Because the calendar provides the overall structure for the entire school year and affects many, from students and their families, to staff and our communities beyond – the Board believes in ensuring we take a collaborative approach to the process. I am proud of the teamwork shown by staff to build a calendar that keeps student success at the heart of the process and I want to thank all those involved in the process for their dedication to always doing what is best for students. You can expect to see the 2019-2020 calendar in the next few weeks.

Finally, the Board and senior leaders have been busy planning for next year. We received the budget from the province on March 20 and while we were hopeful, the results mean another tough year for education in Saskatchewan. While some funding previously cut is being restored, the budget falls short of even status-quo levels, as opposed to the investment boards wanted to see for students.

The reality is, we have been here before in this school division, and we have successfully managed through difficult financial circumstances in the past. I am confident we will continue doing the same as we move forward. Our leaders are committed to long-term school division sustainability through responsible financial stewardship. Year-over-year, items within the Division's control show continued strong expenditure management and accurate in-year financial projections.

As always, we thank you for your continued support of our Division and of public education.

Janet Kotylak
Board Chair

