



**2021-2022 School Calendar:** The draft calendar has been circulated through school staff and parent councils. There was some discussion about holding the Christmas break from midweek to midweek, however, this schedule would not allow sufficient instructional time after the break for high school students writing diploma exams. Trustees passed a motion to pass the proposed calendar.

**Board Policy 16-Recruitment and Selection of Personnel:** Trustees passed a motion approving revisions to Policy 16 as presented by Trustee Cook. All board policies including the revised policies can be viewed on [the Division website](#).

**Alberta School Council Association Annual General Meeting (AGM):** Trustee Cook will attend on behalf of the Board. The Board has approved a motion to sponsor one parent from each active school council to attend the virtual Conference and AGM.

**County of St. Paul Library Meeting:** The Division will be participating in discussions with the County of St. Paul No. 19 Library Board on February 22, 2021 via Zoom. The purpose of the meeting is to review the Memorandum of Agreement for the operation of the joint public and school libraries operating in Ashmont and Mallaig.

**Town of St. Paul - Community Group Support:** The Town of St. Paul is developing a policy for community group and sports funding. The Division recently submitted a letter of support for this partnership outlining the benefits to the Town and students.

### Superintendent's Report

- Step 1 of 'The Path Forward', which took effect as of February 8, 2021, has introduced some changes to students' performance and sports activities. As such activities involve the mixing of cohorts there are additional restrictions including the following: a maximum of 10 participants, participants must wear masks except while engaged in physical activity, participants must remain 3 m apart at all times, and coaches are required to wear a mask at all times. School admin teams are gathering data in terms of what they can offer for after school activities.
- Please be aware of additional requirements for isolation with the variant versions of COVID 19. These can be found at <https://www.alberta.ca/isolation.aspx#jumplinks-2>.
- The Division has completed a formal Hazard Assessment for COVID. This assessment generally reflects the content of the Division Scenario 1 Re-Entry Plan which was released in August.
- Many thanks to the generous donors who support scholarships in our Division. The Division annually provides about \$75, 000 in scholarships to Division students.
- Reminder that Random Acts of Kindness Week is coming up during the week of February 14-20 and Pink Shirt Day is on February 24, 2021.
- The annual board reporting requirements from the Department of Education have changed. The Division will now be required to submit the annual three year plan in May. The annual report will continue to be due in November as it has been in the past.

### Financial Report

- Trustees reviewed cheque and financial information. The provincial budget is to be announced February 25, 2021.
- The pandemic has created both additional costs in some areas and cost-savings in other areas. Regardless, the Division budget is on track overall.
- The federal COVID funds have all been spent or budgeted appropriately. The outcome is difficult to forecast as some expenses are contingent on the level of infection resulting in additional isolation and associated sub costs.

### Reports

**Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA):** Trustee Rajoo provided an update from the Zone 2 & 3 ASBA meeting on January 29, 2021.

**Trustee Attendance Schedule:** Trustees reviewed upcoming meetings and commitments.



### Correspondence

- Alberta School Bus Contractor' Association (ASBCA) Concerns: Trustees reviewed a letter from the ASBCA to Minister LaGrange outlining challenges faced by bus contractors in Alberta. Most significantly, a 200%-358% increase in insurance costs along with new requirements to have cameras and GPS systems on all buses means that Alberta's school bus contractors are seeing a significant increase to their expenses. These and other issues will be discussed at an upcoming meeting with local bus contractors on March 8. Trustees passed a motion to write letters raising these concerns to the local MLAs and Minister LaGrange.
- Edmonton Public Budget Advocacy: Trustees reviewed a letter from the Edmonton Public School Board to Minister LaGrange requesting that "school divisions be held harmless by the Government of Alberta for any future year's reduction in funding due to lower than anticipated actual enrolment in the province as a result of COVID-19". St. Paul Education's enrollment for the current school year was on par with projections, however, under the new funding model, a future enrollment drop could have an impact on funding.
- ASBA Supplemental Integrated Pension Plan (SIPP): Trustees reviewed a call for interest from ASBA to fill a trustee vacancy on the SIPP Governance Board.
- ASBA Spring General Meeting (SGM) and Fall General Meeting (FGM) timelines: SGM June 6-8, 2021, FGM November 14-16, 2021.
- Town of St. Paul Voter ID Bylaw: Trustees reviewed a Public Notice from the Town of St. Paul following the first reading of a proposed bylaw that establishes the number and types of identification that are required to confirm a person's eligibility to vote at any Town election or joint election. This would also apply to any shared polls for the school board election.