

06 September 2016
For Immediate Release

Prairie South Pilots Provincial Safety Strategy for Education Sector

Dignitaries from local industry, the Saskatchewan School Boards Association, and the Government of Saskatchewan gathered in Moose Jaw today at the Prairie South Schools Division Office to kick off the Community Safety Education Strategy (CSES) pilot. The CSES pilot is a joint project sponsored by Prairie South Schools and Safe Saskatchewan.

Board of Education Chair Dr. Shawn Davidson spoke about the benefits of the CSES pilot for both students and staff and about the alignment of the CSES with other initiatives. “Keeping our students safe has always been a priority for the Board,” Davidson said. “What has emerged for us in recent years is the importance of staff safety as well.” Davidson noted the effects on student learning resulting from accidents and injuries to Prairie South staff. “We work hard to ensure that we have the best people in our classrooms and schools; when they have an accident or injury, there is an impact for them personally and also for student outcomes.”

Superintendent of Education Derrick Huschi is the staff lead for the CSES pilot. “Prairie South has a number of ongoing initiatives that focus on safety in schools and workplaces but unfortunately, even with these in place, we continue to have too many incidents where students or staff are injured during preventable accidents.” Huschi noted the CSES pillar of Community Engagement and Partnerships as an exciting part of the strategy. “Prairie South is already recognized as a leader in innovative programming in Saskatchewan,” Huschi said. “The CSES is another area where our focus on partnerships is allowing us to develop a model that the rest of the province can use in the future.”

“The launch of the Community Safety Education Strategy is an important step in our ongoing efforts to minimize both the number and the severity of accidents and injuries in the province,” Education Minister Don Morgan said. “Creating a culture of safety an early age is essential for students, and will serve them well as they enter the workforce.”

The CSES vision is an injury-free Saskatchewan where safe lifestyles influence how we live, learn, work, and play.

For additional information, please contact Director of Education Tony Baldwin at (306)694-1200.