

January 9, 2024

Prairie
South
Schools

210

Learning together.

BOARD

HIGHLIGHTS

HAPPY
New Year

The Board would like to wish all our staff, students, and families a very Happy New Year. May 2024 bring you joy, health, and opportunities to learn and grow together.

HUMAN RESOURCES ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT

The Board received a presentation from Amy Johnson, Superintendent of Human Resources (HR) showing how the work of the HR department supports and contributes to the success of Prairie South Schools. Prairie South employed over 1280 people (head count, including subs/casuals) in 2022-23. We are very appreciative of the Board for their support for employees who chose to continue their education by allowing them access to the tuition reimbursement each year. Last year we had 75 employees take 145 courses. Our employee health and safety costs have decreased as well as the WCB claims which is worth celebrating! We held very successful bargaining negotiations with CUPE Local 5512 which only lasted a few days and was very amicable between the parties. Trustee Jukes acknowledged the great work that the entire Prairie South staff does and our Board of Education is proud to work with such a wonderful group of individuals.

FIRST QUARTER FINANCIAL UPDATE

The first quarter financial projections were presented by Ron Purdy, Superintendent of Business. At this early point in the year, it looks like Prairie South will be on budget for expenses with extra revenue for enrolment growth and tuition. The result is an expected cash draw of \$1.46 million vs the budgeted \$2.6 million.

CORE FRENCH AT LINDALE SCHOOL

The Board approved a request from Lindale School to discontinue French language instruction in all grades starting the 2024-25 school year. The Lindale staff and SCC prepared a letter which was shared with the Board outlining the conversations they had and the struggles they face effectively teaching French in their school. The teachers want to use the instructional time to focus on reading, writing, math, and student mental health and well-being. A survey was sent out to all Lindale School families and school administration did not receive any written or verbal concerns from parents regarding the removal of Core French from their learning program.

NAMING THE NEW SCHOOL

The Board's Partnerships and Teambuilding Committee met and discussed the engagement strategy around naming our new school on South Hill in Moose Jaw. Stay tuned for more details coming in the next few weeks around how you can get involved!

UPCOMING MEETINGS

The Board will continue to hold their Regular Meetings on Tuesdays each month. The dates for the remainder of this school year are: February 6, March 5, April 9, May 7 and June 4. In addition to Regular Meetings, the Board will have Planning Sessions, which are closed meetings and those take place monthly as well.

SCHOOL BOARD MEMBERS

Giselle Wilson, Chair
Darcy Pryor, Vice-Chair

Robert Bachmann
Patrick Boyle

John Bumbac
Shawn Davidson

Crystal Froese
Brett Hagan

Mary Jukes
Lew Young