



**2022-2023 Calendar:** Trustees reviewed feedback received from school councils, parents and staff on the draft version of the proposed 2022-2023 St. Paul Education calendar. The calendar was approved without revisions.

**ASCA Annual Conference:** Information was shared about the ASCA Annual Conference which will be an online event from April 22-24, 2022. Trustees approved a motion to provide funds for those members of school councils who would like to attend the conference, up to a total overall expense of \$1000.

**Transportation Incident:** A brief overview of the incident where a student was left on the bus after morning drop off in January. The driver no longer drives for the division. The division will also be installing a child check system on all buses that requires drivers to physically walk to the back of the bus to turn off a buzzer after the ignition is shut off.

**Audit Committee:** The Education Act requires the Board Audit Committee to include two members of the public who are not trustees. The Division is now accepting applications from any interested parties. Applicants should have a strong financial background and be willing to commit to three half day meetings per year. Trustees voted in favor of providing an honorarium

**Policy 12, 13 and 22 Review:** The Board of Trustees reviewed Policies 12 - Role of the Superintendent, 13 - Reviews, Appeals and Hearings Regarding Student Matters and 22 - Welcoming, Caring, Respectful, Safe and Inclusive Learning Communities as part of their regular policy review.

**Education Minister Correspondence:** Effective Monday, February 14, 2022 there will be no masking requirements for students in schools or on buses. Adults will still require masks until March 1, 2022. Other measures such as daily self check and isolation requirements remain unchanged for the time being.

### Superintendent's Report

**Premier Kenney's Announcement:** Following yesterday's government announcement about the easing of restrictions, students will no longer be required to wear masks in schools or on buses beginning on Monday, February 14, 2022. Spectators will be allowed in our schools for games starting today. Masks are still required for all adults until March 1. Renting of our facilities will be considered in the future once schools have had a chance to adjust to the new changes. Enhanced cleaning procedures, cohorting, physical distancing and the daily health checklist will remain in place until March 1, 2022, after which possibly many remaining provincial school requirements will be removed. More information about the steps for easing public health measures can be found [here](#). Administrative Procedure 164-A, COVID-19 Harm Reduction for staff is on hold until further notice.

**Follow up to off site incident:** Following the investigation of the New Year's Eve incident, a number of learning opportunities are now underway for all students and staff. Topics addressed so far are mental health and white privilege. We have also engaged with a professor out of the University of Saskatchewan to address racialization, colonization and the effect of these forces on communities.

**Pink Shirt Day** is February 23, 2022. Schools will focus on kindness and compassion.

**Digital Citizenship:** Schools received posters and discussion materials with regards to the acronym T.H.I.N.K.. Individuals are encouraged to ask themselves the following questions before posting or acting: Is it True, Helpful, Inspiring, Necessary and/or Kind?

**Substitute Teacher Appreciation:** This week of appreciation will be March 14 - 18, 2022. We very much appreciate our substitute teacher team.

### Financial Report

Secretary Treasurer Champagne gave a financial update. He noted that some costs have decreased this year as a result of the pandemic, including costs for some extra-curricular activities. He also noted an increase in other areas due to COVID-19, including substitute staffing costs. The Provincial budget is expected to be released on February 24, 2022 which will provide guidance for Division budget development.

### Information/Correspondence

**Curriculum Update:** Starting January 31 until February 28, Albertans can participate in a number of virtual engagement sessions to provide feedback about the draft k-6 curriculum. There will be 44 opportunities held across five regions. See [Alberta.ca/curriculum-have-your-say](https://Alberta.ca/curriculum-have-your-say) to register for sessions.



**COSC Engagement:** Trustee Smyl provided an update about communication that was sent out to school council chairs and principals about the Alberta School Council Engagement Grant. Through this grant, each school council is eligible to receive \$500 to better support individual school councils and strengthen engagement with parents. This funding expires at the end of the current school year. Last fall SPERD also purchased a Division Service Package that provides (3) workshops/presentations for a one-time cost of \$1000. Further information is available from your school trustee.

**ASBA Dates:** Trustees were made aware of important upcoming dates from the province in regards to the February budget announcement.

**ASBA Zone 2/3:** - Trustee Wiebe provided a brief update from the meeting. He noted an update on the Transportation Task Force. Notably the Alberta Government is working to enhance regional cooperation among school divisions. As part of the third phase, a new student transportation funding model will be developed for the 2023/24 school year. Edwin Parr Teacher Award and Friends of Education Award deadlines are March 18, 2022.

**Trustee Attendance Schedule:** Trustees shared information about their attendance schedules over the last month. Trustees Anderson, Rajoo and Wiebe spoke about their participation in Catholic Education Faith Day which included time for personal reflection, mass and Indigenous Peoples and the Church: Walking Together Toward Healing and Reconciliation. Some trustees will also be participating in further trustee orientation with ASCTA from February 10-12 and also attending the upcoming Rural Education Symposium in March. Board Chair Starosielski participated in meetings for TEBA (Teacher Employee Bargaining Association), ASBA Board Chair Curriculum Focus Group, and a recent meeting along with other board chairs and the Minister of Education related to removal of pandemic related restrictions.

**Education Minister Correspondence on Contract Bus Operator Insurance:** Minister Lagrange responded to a joint letter from a number of school boards indicating that Alberta Education will consider the impact of increases when determining the student transportation allocation for Budget 2022.