

**April 12, 2023**

# **BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS**



**St. Paul Education**

## **Fees:**

The Board approved school fees for 2023-24. Most fees remain unchanged, with some increases mainly due to inflation. School fees support educational expenses such as supplies and field trips. Trustees were asked for feedback on the Division's fee waiver process. Further discussion is needed on how to maintain a fair and equitable process for all those involved. Transportation fees are still to be determined; however, increases are not expected.

## **Summer School:**

St. Paul Alternate Education Centre is exploring the idea of providing summer school for interested students. The Board approved the request to establish a school code from Alberta Education for this purpose.

## **International Travel:**

The Board approved a motion to support domestic travel within Canada. While travel to other countries provides valuable educational opportunities, requests for international travel will not be approved.

## **Financial Update:**

Trustees reviewed the Division's five year financial profile comparing SPERD with all divisions across the province. In comparison with other school divisions, the Division reserves are very low. Reserves were drawn down over the last five years as the Division transitioned to lower enrollment but it is now necessary to balance the budget and replenish reserves in the years to come.

## **French Immersion Programming and Catholic Education:**

The Division is proud to offer French Immersion and Catholic Education programming at the École Mallaig, École Racette and École St. Paul Elementary School.

## **Digital Safety Sessions:**

As part of the work the Division is doing with our Mental Health in Schools pilot, we are focusing on digital citizenship and the impact of technology on mental health. Safer Together Schools will provide education sessions to all Grade 4-12 students across the Division from April 17-19. A free [session](#) for parents will also be hosted at Portage College on April 18 at 6:30 pm.

## **Collaborative Response**

Division leadership will be introduced to the Collaborative Response model in an upcoming session with Jigsaw Learning. This will be a significant strategy moving forward to support students with diverse learning needs and will also inform work being done during Professional Learning Community days next year.

## **Science Fair**

Several of our students participated in the St. Paul & District STEAM Society Science Fair held on April 4 at Portage College. Students showcased their amazing skills and creativity through a variety of innovative science projects. Well done, students!

For more information, contact:

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