



Board of Education HIGHLIGHTS

Martensville High School students at Elk Ridge last month as part of their Outdoor Education program.

- photo credit: Breanne Cooper, MHS teacher, Twitter

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**PRAIRIE SPIRIT
SCHOOL DIVISION**

Learners for Life

Located within Treaty 6 Territory

Sector Facilitators present to Board

Prairie Spirit's Sector Facilitators presented an update on their innovative work to the Board at the Board's regular meeting on January 20.

The Sector Facilitator (SF) position was created at the start of the 2019/20 school year to provide additional supports to Prairie Spirit teachers in specific Ministry goal areas: early learning, literacy, mathematics and First Nations and Métis education.

The SF role was designed to support teachers in their classrooms. "We believe adult learning has the most success when it's embedded in the classroom," explained Dean Broughton, Coordinator. Broughton leads the Sector Facilitators in their new role and has developed their role and expectations.

"The SF role is walking alongside teachers, getting to be in their environment and supporting them," Broughton explained. "This team does a great job of creating excitement about adult learning."

The SF role supports the work of classroom teachers and aligns with the Ministry's focus on key areas.

The Board learned more about the impact of the SF role by visiting the Sector Facilitator data wall at Division Office. The data wall details SF visits to schools and the areas of focus.

"You've started a new piece and brought leadership and very clear direction to the work," said Lori Jeschke, Director of Education, as she thanked the Sector Facilitators. "You can feel the energy. The impact at our schools already is incredible."



Sector Facilitators at their data wall (l to r): Kirsten Dyck, Charmain Laroque, Michelle Lockinger and Jenn Mason (missing: Davin Fischer and Amanda Bernesky)

The Sector Facilitators continue to work part-time with students in their own classrooms. The SF positions will be funded by Division reserves for up to three years. For more information about Adult Learning in the Division, please go to the following [link](#) (All-Staff portal).

2018/19 Annual Report

The Board of Education approved the 2018/19 annual report at its meeting at the end of November. The annual report details Prairie Spirit's results in the Ministry's sector plan, the areas that Sector Facilitators are supporting in Division schools.

Please go to the following [link](#) on the Division's website to view the complete report. An overview of Prairie Spirit's results in key areas is provided, starting on page 3 of this newsletter.

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Human Resources in Prairie Spirit

Jon Yellowlees, Learning Superintendent, presented the annual Human Resources update for the Board at its meeting on January 20.

The HR report highlights three main areas of risk for the Division in the area of Human Resources:

- Hard to recruit positions
- Investigations
- Succession planning

Yellowlees highlighted the Division's work in recruitment in a variety of areas, including French Immersion, administration and special education.

He said the Division is placing priority on succession planning for administrator positions in the Division.

"We are talking to our administrators about how to identify and mentor future leaders," he said. He emphasized that in-school administrators are the Division's learning leaders.

Yellowlees also highlighted the Division's focus on employee wellness. The Division is collaborating with the Prairie Spirit Teachers' Association (PSTA) as part of the Division's overall strategy to develop supports for staff.

Bargaining with various employee groups in the Division will also be a focus in 2020. The LINC agreement with the Division's teachers will be negotiated later this year as well.

The Division will also launch a survey of Prairie Spirit's 600 teachers later this year. This will provide more information about the effectiveness of additional Division supports for teachers, including Learning Facilitators and Sector Facilitators. The information will build on a teacher intensification survey that was conducted a few years ago by the Division and the PSTA.



Prairie Spirit's Human Resources priorities

Technology Update

The Board received its annual update on Information Technology (IT) in the Division at its January 6 meeting.

Clint Reddekopp, Learning Superintendent, explained the Division's recent technology improvements in connectivity, security and privacy.

Under provincial Community Net provisioning, bandwidth increases at schools occur as they surpass thresholds. More than half of Prairie Spirit schools now have synchronous connections of at least 100 Mb/s.

The Division has leveraged these connections to provide voice over internet protocol (VOIP) telephony thereby eliminating long distance calling between schools. This has allowed Prairie Spirit to reduce overall calling costs while at the same time increasing the number of call points available in schools to meet safety standards.

The IT Department has conducted "phishing" training and testing with Division staff, to mitigate the risk of a malicious attack from an outside source which might result in an employee mistakenly revealing personal or confidential information.

"These tests are intended to help all of us become more aware," Reddekopp reported. "We will be moving to more challenging tests as our abilities to spot fraudulent communications improve."

Prairie Spirit's firewalls and filters intercept thousands of "phishing" and spam emails every day, before they even reach an employee's inbox.

The IT Department will be implementing a new Disaster Recovery Plan this year, to ensure business continuity plans are in place to protect the Division's data in the event of a catastrophic event.

Reddekopp also discussed the Division's plans in the event of a privacy breach. He said the most important thing for staff members to do is to report a privacy breach as quickly as possible.

He said staff must follow the following instructions in the event of a possible privacy breach:

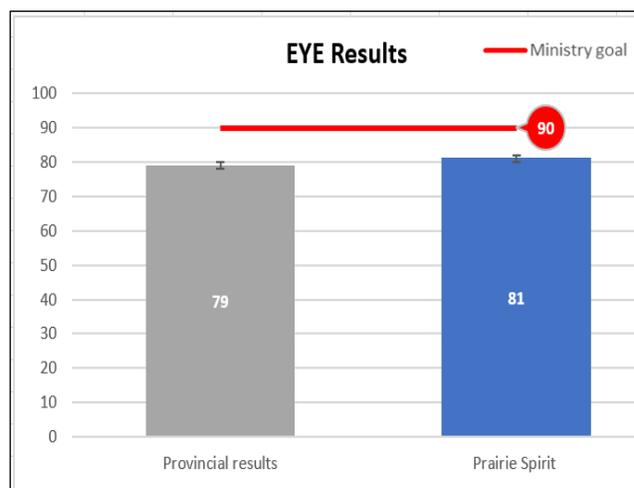
1. Report to supervisor
2. Contain the breach
3. Notify those affected by the breach
4. Change practices to avoid a similar breach in the future

"I really appreciate the people in IT who are learners for life," said Sam Dyck, Board Chair. "They keep learning and, as a result, our risk assessment is low."

Prairie Spirit Results: 2018/19

Please go to the following [link](#) on the Division's website to view the Division's complete 2018/19 annual report, as presented to the Ministry of Education and tabled in the provincial legislature in December 2019.

Early Learning



EYE = Early Years Evaluation, a Ministry assessment

Ministry Goal: By June 30, 2020, children aged 0-6 years will be supported in their development to ensure that **90%** of students exiting Kindergarten are ready for learning in the primary grades.

Prairie Spirit targets:

- Supporting schools in knowing the impact of family engagement practices on learning.
- Triangulating data to better know our impact on learning with disseminating EYE results alongside data collected via conversations, observations and products in relation to Prairie Spirit's strategic plan.
- Planned promotion of the purpose of play in Early Learning environments and beyond for school and home.

Prairie Spirit results:

In 2018/19, Prairie Spirit's overall result in this area remained consistent with the previous year. At **81%**, the school division's results exceeds the provincial results in the Early Years Evaluation (EYE).

Reading, Writing and Math

Reading results	
	Prairie Spirit
Grade 1	65%
Grade 2	72%
Grade 3	76%

Writing results	
	Prairie Spirit
Grade 4	62%
Grade 7	66%
Grade 9	71%

Math results	
	Prairie Spirit
Grade 2	74%
Grade 5	68%
Grade 8	71%

Ministry goal: By June 30, 2020, **80%** of students will be at grade level or above in reading, writing and math.

Prairie Spirit targets:

- Supporting schools in using strong, research based literacy and numeracy practices.
- Supporting schools in creating strong intervention plans for literacy and numeracy.
- Supporting leaders and teachers in knowing and improving their impact on student learning.

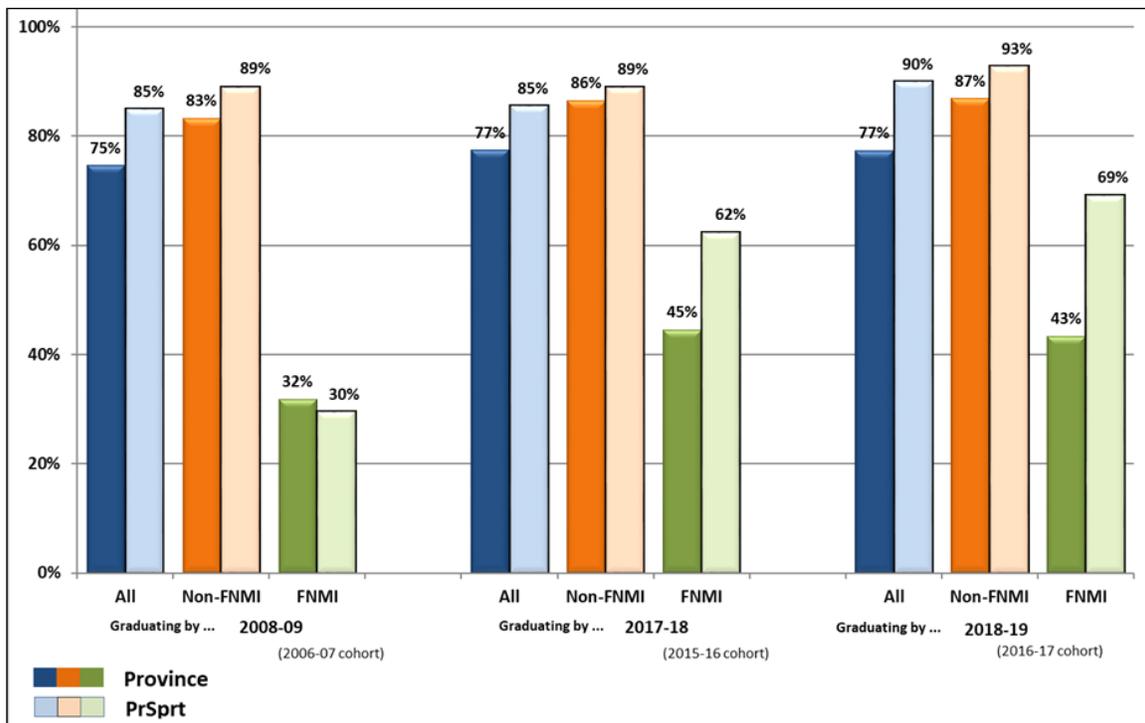
Prairie Spirit results:

Prairie Spirit's results for Grade 3 reading were at **76%** for 2019, unchanged from last year and at the same level as the provincial results. Prairie Spirit's results achieved the provincial goal of 75% by June 2019.

Prairie Spirit's writing results at each grade level reported were **at or above the provincial results**.

Prairie Spirit's math results at Grade 2, Grade 5 and Grade 8 are **consistent with provincial results**.

On-time Graduation Rates (graduating within three years of starting Grade 10)



Ministry Goals:

- By June 30, 2020, collaboration between First Nations, Métis and Inuit (FNMI) and non-First Nations, Métis and Inuit partners will result in significant improvement in First Nations, Métis and Inuit student engagement and will increase three-year graduation rates from 35% in June 2012 to at least 65% and the five-year graduation rate to at least 75%.
- By June 30, 2020, Saskatchewan will achieve an 85% three-year graduation rate and a 90% five-year graduation rate.

Prairie Spirit targets:

- Students have real choice after high school because they can collaborate, communicate, be creative, solve problems and engage as contributing citizens.
- Students are confident to make choices for their future based on broad areas of knowledge and learning skills they have acquired.
- Students have a strong sense of belonging and safety at school.

Prairie Spirit results:

On-time Grad Rates (graduating within three years of starting Grade 10)

- Prairie Spirit's on-time graduation rate was **90%** in 2018/19, 13% above provincial results of 77%.
- For Prairie Spirit's FNMI students, the on-time graduation rate was **69%** in 2018/19, an increase of 7% over the previous year and 26% above the provincial results of 43%.

Extended-time Grad Rates (graduating within five years of starting Grade 10)

- Prairie Spirit's extended-time graduation rate was **90%** for 2018/19 (compared to 85% provincially).
- The provincial goal for Extended-time grad rates for FNMI students is 75% by 2020. In 2018/19, Prairie Spirit's FNMI students graduated after five years at a rate of **74%**, compared to 61% provincially.

Please go to the following [link](#) on the Division's website to view the Division's complete 2018/19 annual report, including the chart for extended-time grad rates.

Prairie Spirit Board of Education

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