



Board of Education HIGHLIGHTS

Clavet Composite School students hold their “100 reading challenge” certificates. - photo credit: Tracey Bentley on Twitter



Located within Treaty 6 Territory

Major Capital Requests for 2022/23

The Board approved the Division’s Major Capital Project Application to the Ministry of Education for 2023/24 at its regular meeting on February 28.

Every year, the Ministry of Education accepts funding applications from school divisions for a maximum of three major capital requests.

The Ministry of Education will review all capital requests from divisions all around the province and determine which projects are approved for the 2023 budget by next March.

The Division’s current priorities are:

1. Leask Community School Revitalization Project

This major renovation and repair project has also been submitted to the Ministry as an emergent funding application.

Total budget: \$8.028 million

2. New Joint Use School – Warman/Martensville area

This request is being made by both Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools and Prairie Spirit for a new joint use high school to be located between Warman and Martensville. This application has the support of the Cities of Warman and Martensville and the RM of Corman Park.

Total budget: to be determined, based on enrolment at the time of approval.

3. Consolidated K-12 school in Langham

This request would fund renovations and an addition to Walter W. Brown School to accommodate all grades from K-12 for the consolidation of Langham Elementary School (K-5) and Walter W. Brown School (6-12) into one school.

Total budget: \$7.1 million

A \$3.5 million renovation project is currently underway at Walter W. Brown School. The exterior of this Grade 6 -

12 school will have a substantial face lift, including a new roof, new windows, new insulation and improvements to the school’s entry.

A new heating and ventilation system in the school will dramatically improve air quality and comfort for students and staff. The school will also have a new sprinkler system installed.

The project will begin in early spring and will be completed in late fall, 2022, with VCM Construction Ltd. of Saskatoon as the General Contractor.

The upgrades at Walter W. Brown School will prepare the building for possible future renovations and options, including the potential to expand the school to accommodate all Langham students, K-12.

Technology Report

The Board received an annual Technology Report from Clint Reddekopp, Learning Superintendent, Jeff Piper, Learning Technology Manager, and Andrew MacKenzie, Data Systems Manager, at its February 7 meeting.

The technology team explained how learning technology is planned and funded for schools. They thanked the Board for their advocacy to the government for greater bandwidth for schools, which has improved considerably over the past few years. “The current bandwidth level is not ideal, but it’s an improvement,” said Reddekopp.

“We don’t want the bandwidth in our schools to be an obstacle to learning,” said Piper.

The technology team provided an update on the Division’s move to the new provincial MySchoolSask (MSS) student information system. MSS will connect all school divisions and the Ministry to enable the sharing of student information and assessment data. The

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Division is also moving from PowerSchool to Edsby as part of this move. Edsby will provide a similar experience to PowerSchool for Prairie Spirit parents. Parents will receive more information about this change by the end of the school year.

Human Resources Report

Jon Yellowlees, Learning Superintendent, and Jarid Brown, Employee Relations Manager, presented the annual Human Resources update for the Board at its meeting on February 28.

Yellowlees highlighted the Division's work in recruitment in a variety of areas, including French Immersion, administration and special education. The Division is placing priority on succession planning for administrator positions as well as leadership development.

Brown said the Division is prioritizing a representative workforce. This includes ensuring the Division has accurate data from staff regarding self declaration.

The Division has initiated health and wellness supports for staff, including offering the "Not Myself Today" app for all staff. The Employee Family Assistance Plan and the STF Member Family Assistance Plan provide all staff with access to counselling services.

The HR administrative procedure *AP-520 COVID-19 Vaccination for Employees, Trustees and Other Individuals* was rescinded effective February 13, when the corresponding Public Health Order ceased. Prairie Spirit staff no longer need to provide proof of COVID-19 vaccination or regular COVID-19 testing results.

French Immersion program expansion

The French Immersion program at École Warman Elementary School (ÉWES) will expand to include Grade 5 for the 2022/23 school year, as part of the long-term plan to add a grade each year to this program. The Board approved this program expansion at its meeting on December 13.

This fall, the French Immersion program at ÉWES will include Kindergarten to Grade 5 classes. ÉWES also offers a full English program for students from Pre-K to Grade 5.

Transportation report

Tracey Young, Deputy Director, provided a quarterly transportation update to the Board at its March 14 meeting. This regular report is a requirement of the Ministry of Education and provides the Board with information to support Trustees in their governance role.

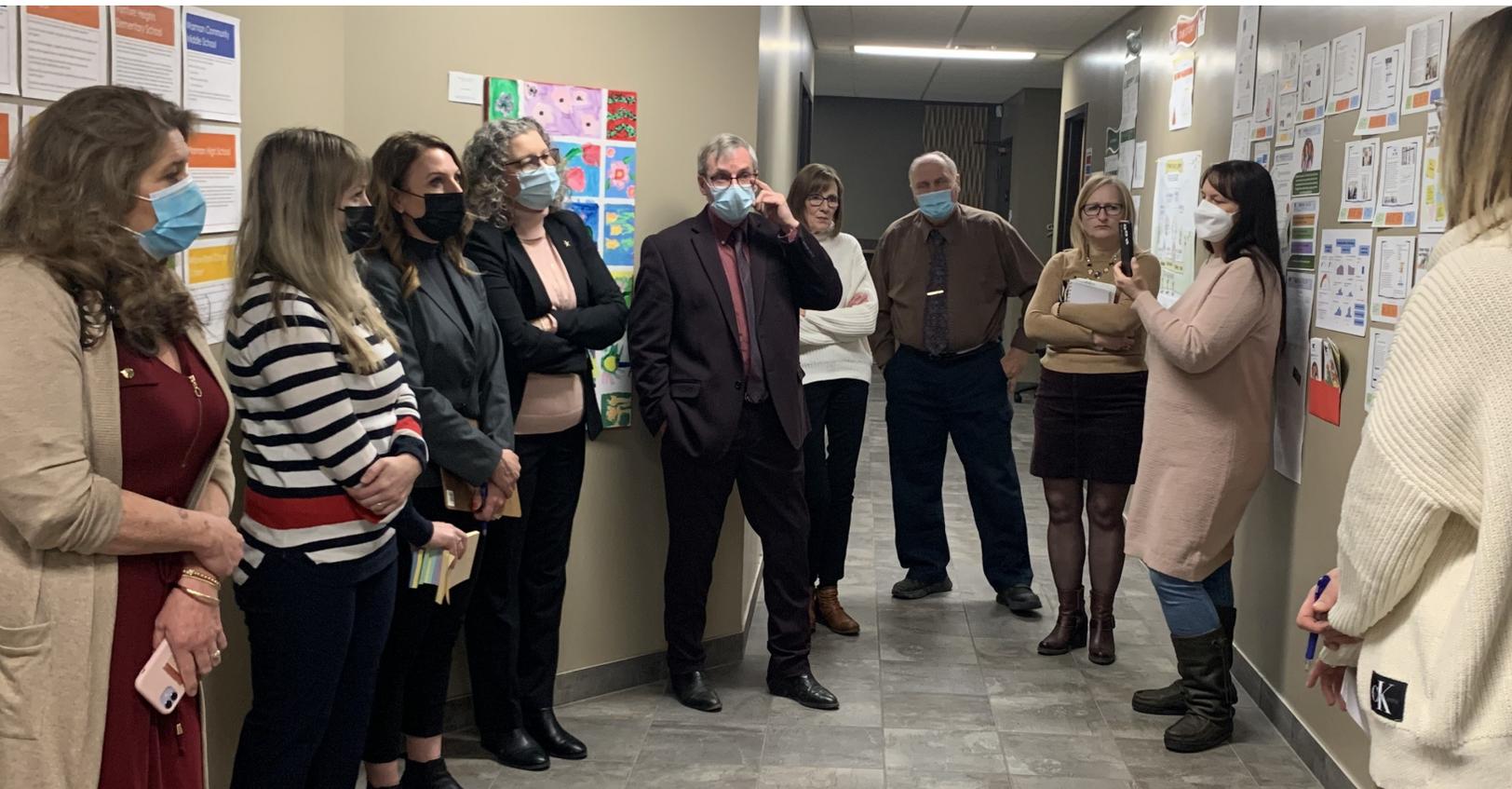
Young reported that driver recruitment continues to be a challenge. The Division is actively advertising for new spare drivers through social media, local newspapers and TV and digital advertising.

The Division ordered new buses last year and they are expected to arrive later this month. "Bus suppliers are indicating fewer buses are being produced and costs are increasing," explained Young.

The quarterly transportation report provided details of cancelled routes over the past few months, due to inclement weather, extreme temperatures and for reasons relating to COVID-19.

The Division operates 145 daily bus routes, transporting over 5,800 students every day.

The Board of Education participated in a "Wall Walk" to review current Division student learning data at Division Office during their February 28 Board meeting.



Learning Options in Prairie Spirit

At its March 14 meeting, the Board received a presentation focused on the learning options available for Prairie Spirit students, highlighting Spirit eLearning School and Learning@Home, new options for Prairie Spirit students. “Our learning options are unparalleled in the province,” said Dave Carter, Learning Superintendent.

Spirit eLearning School (SeLS) is Prairie Spirit’s online K-12 school which also offers credit courses for senior students throughout the Division.

Learning@Home provides at-home learning materials for K-9 students, with connections to a classroom teacher to provide structure, content and assessment. The work is self-paced and managed on individual family schedules at home.

Dave Carter, Learning Superintendent, and Neda Wilson, Principal of Spirit eLearning School, presented to the Board and provided a window into what it’s like to learn online and at home.

Trustees had the opportunity to watch Prairie Spirit teachers as they interacted with their students online.

“Teachers are keeping students engaged,” said Trustee Ken Crush after observing an online teaching session. “This is a credit to our staff.”

In total, there are approximately 150 students enrolled full-time in Spirit eLearning and Learning@Home. As a reference, this enrolment is similar to Lord Asquith School.

“Our SeLS students have direct connections to a teacher in either a live online classroom or in individual online meetings,” said Wilson. “Students need support to be successful.”

The Division is considering marketing SeLS credit classes outside of the school division. “Our first purpose is to serve the students in Prairie Spirit,” explained Darryl Bazylak, Director of Education. “With capacity, we could offer classes to students outside the Division.”

School renovation projects

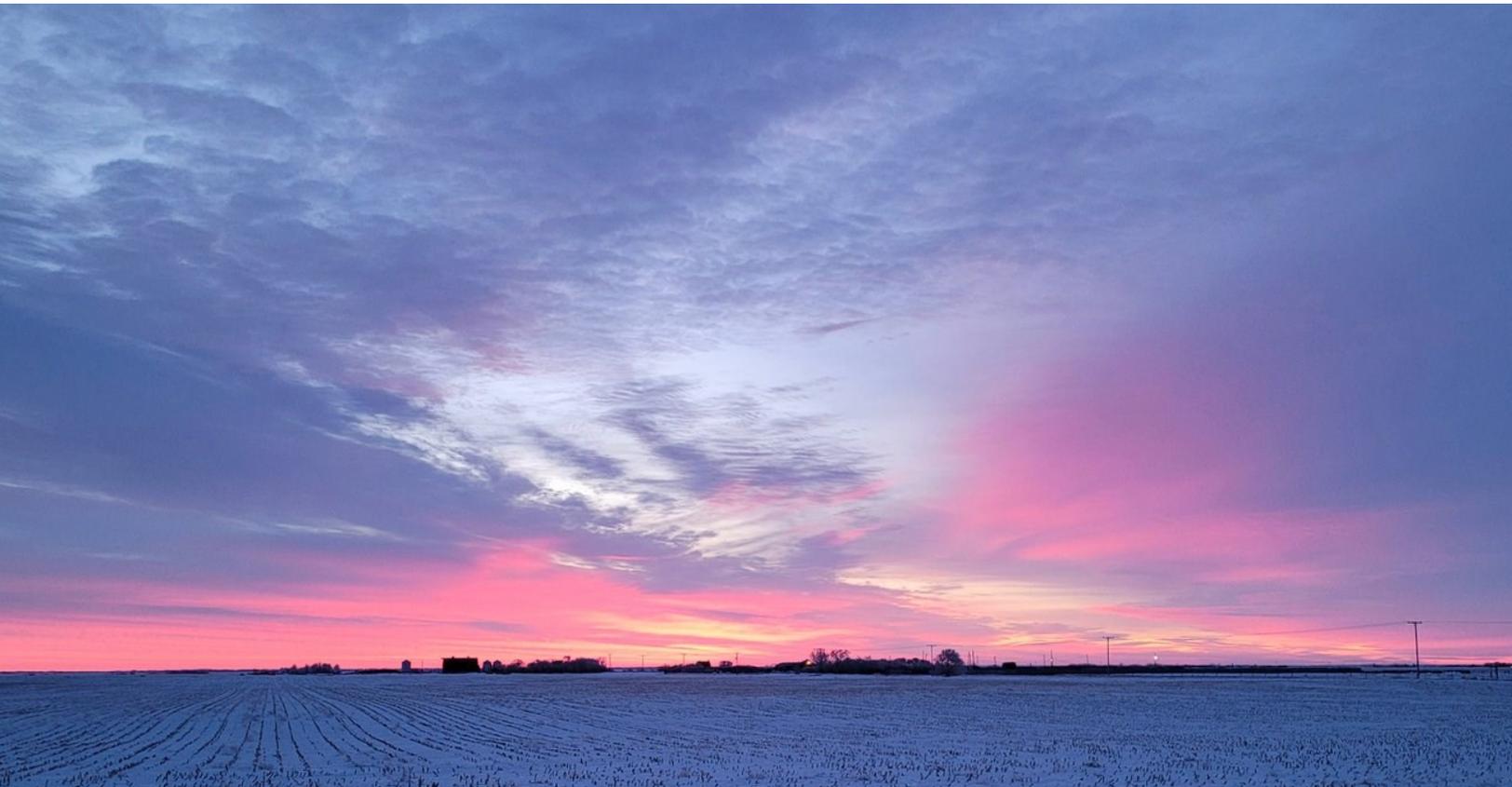
Over the past few months, the Board has received a number of updates regarding the renovation projects that are currently underway at Division schools.

School	Project	Cost
Aberdeen Composite	roof replacement	\$858,000
Allan Composite	structural repairs	\$2.3 million
Clavet Composite	school upgrades	\$5 million
Blaine Lake Composite	new school	\$10.6 million
Delisle Composite	roof replacement	\$1 million
Hague Elem + High	structural repairs	\$500,000
Hepburn School	mechanical upgrades	\$1.2 million
Walter W. Brown School	mechanical upgrades	\$3.5 million

The provincial government provided funding for these projects and the construction of a new school in Blaine Lake as part of stimulus funding announced in 2020. The Division is currently in the tender process for the Blaine Lake Composite School project.

A beautiful start to a winter day in February near Delisle.

Photo credit: Edla Landry, Vice-Principal, Delisle Composite School, on Twitter



Trustee Highlight



Dawne Badrock has served as a Trustee for Subdivision 7 (Clavet, Dundurn, Hanley, South Corman Park and Hillcrest Colony) since 2015.

Dawne sought a position as Trustee while serving on the local School Community Council.

An opportunity to run for a vacant Trustee position arose

about the same time she was meeting with another group of parents concerning the new assessment system.

A chance to participate in educational decisions going forward was something that appealed to her, given that she was raising three middle school kids at that time.

As a Trustee, Dawne feels it is important to be well-prepared for Board meetings and actively participate in the discussions. "I have always tried to be approachable so constituents feel they can bring concerns to me and I can then represent them at the Board table," she explains.

Dawne says a highlight for her is being involved in presenting service awards to staff in the schools in her subdivision. "I think it says a lot about working conditions

when you have so many teachers, EAs, bus drivers, custodial, administration staff, etc., who have worked for many years in our school division," she says.

After seven years in this role, Dawne says she is very grateful for her experience with the Board of Education.

"The people I've worked with and the opportunity to participate at this level have enriched my life tremendously," she says.

Dawne works as a registered nurse for Saskatoon Home Care. She also assists her husband in the operation of their family-owned business and is very busy raising three teenagers.



Dawne Badrock participating in "Prairie Spirit Reads" in 2017

Prairie Spirit Board of Education

	<p>Subdivision 1 <i>Pam Wieler</i> Blaine Lake Laird Leask Waldheim Green Leaf, Riverbend + Leask Colonies</p>		<p>Subdivision 2 <i>Kate Kading</i> Duck Lake Hague Rosthern</p> <p>Board Vice-Chair</p>		<p>Subdivision 3 <i>Ken Crush</i> Borden Langham</p>
	<p>Subdivision 4 <i>Christa Willems</i> Dalmeny Hepburn Osler</p>		<p>Subdivision 5 <i>Angela Bothner</i> Perdue Lord Asquith Eagle Creek Colony Sunnydale Colony</p>		<p>Subdivision 6 <i>Bernie Howe</i> Delisle Pike Lake Vanscoy Willow Park Colony</p> <p>Board Chair</p>
	<p>Subdivision 7 <i>Dawne Badrock</i> Clavet Dundurn Hanley South Corman Park Hillcrest Colony</p>		<p>Subdivision 8 <i>Grace Wudrick</i> Aberdeen Allan Colonsay Lost River Colony Riverview Colony</p>		<p>Subdivision 9 <i>Bonnie Hope</i> City of Martensville</p>
	<p>Subdivision 10 <i>Adin Dereniwski</i> City of Warman</p>		<p>Subdivision 11 <i>Kimberly Greyeyes</i> Muskeg Lake Cree Nation</p>		