Board of Education

Highlights



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Board Governance

Subdivision 3 by-election results

We're thrilled to welcome Emily Summach as the newly elected Trustee for Subdivision 3 - Borden and Langham! Emily was elected in a by-election on March 19 and received a warm welcome from the Board at its meeting on March 24.

Emily brings a strong passion for public education and a deep commitment to her community. "As a parent of two elementary age children, I've really come to value the gift that is public education," she said. "Healthy schools are an important part of thriving rural communities here in Saskatchewan. I wanted to run for the Prairie Spirit Trustee position to support our schools in their mission of creating lifelong learners."

With strong ties to the Langham and Borden communities, Emily has been actively involved in school life for several years. She has served on the Langham Elementary School Community Council for the past three years and currently chairs the Walter W. Brown School playground committee which is excited to be installing a new playground this spring! She's also a familiar face in her children's classrooms where she loves to volunteer her time.



Emily Summach

In addition to her work in education, Emily is the Lead Pastor at Mount Royal Mennonite Church in Saskatoon and brings a background in communications and administration to her role on the Board.

We're excited to have Emily join the Prairie Spirit Board and look forward to the energy, insight, and care she will bring to her work as a Trustee!

Board Advocacy

Trustees advocating for Prairie Spirit students and staff

At the heart of the Board's <u>strategic plan</u> is a commitment to "Innovative Stewardship"—which means championing the needs of Prairie Spirit students and schools through informed, impactful advocacy.

In late February, Prairie Spirit Trustees, along with our Director of Education and Deputy Director, had the valuable opportunity to meet with Everett Hindley, Minister of Education; Jamie Martens, MLA for Martensville-Blairmore; and Darlene Rowden, MLA for Batoche.

The discussion focused on:

- Building and renovating schools
- Ensuring Prairie Spirit is adequately and fairly funded
- Improving provincial funding for Prairie Spirit's Local Implementation and Negotiation Committee (LINC) agreement*

The Board Chair, Vice-Chair and Director of Education also met with Matt Love, the NDP Education Critic, to discuss issues in education.

*The LINC agreement is a local agreement between the school division and the Prairie Spirit Teachers' Association that covers benefits such as preparation time, leave provisions, professional development, etc. This agreement is in addition to the Provincial Collective Bargaining Agreement that covers teacher salaries and benefits.



Meeting with the Minister of Education

Left to right: Darlene Rowden, MLA Batoche; Jamie Martens, MLA Martensville-Blairmore; Kimberly MacLean, Trustee; Tracey Young, Director of Education; Everett Hindley, Minister of Education; Kate Kading, Board Chair; Mike Richards, Trustee; and Dean Broughton, Deputy Director



Budget Day 2025

Kate Kading, Board Chair (right) and Subdivision 8 Trustee Mike Richards (left) met with Premier Scott Moe on Budget Day in Regina in March.

Prairie Spirit Readers and Writers

The Board of Education provides thoughtful oversight and visionary governance for the entire school division. Through regular formal reports and comprehensive learning updates, the Board remains deeply connected to every facet of the Division's work. Our dedicated Trustees play a pivotal role in shaping decisions that ensure academic excellence, giving every learner the opportunity to thrive.

Trustees received an update on the Division's progress in reading at the March Board meeting. One of main goals of the Prairie Spirit Board of Education's <u>strategic plan</u> is the goal of "Successful Learners," with a strong focus on supporting foundational skills in mathematics, reading, and writing. When students thrive in these areas, the possibilities are endless!

Our vision for Prairie Spirit Readers and Writers is to nurture a lifelong love of reading and support confident, effective communicators.

A dedicated reading support page on the Division's website will offer parents and caregivers some helpful tools as they support their child's reading at home. Stay tuned! SCCs are invited to learn more about reading strategies by scheduling a Division presentation at an upcoming SCC meeting.



Board Connections

Board Trustees in the community



School Tours

Trustees visited several schools in January, including Eagle Creek Colony School, Sunnydale Colony School, Perdue School and Lord Asquith School.

Jeff Chilibeck, Perdue School Principal (front left), and Kristal Mason, Vice-Principal (back right), welcomed Trustees and the Director of Education for a tour and discussion at Perdue School.

Trustees in the community

Prairie Spirit Trustees have been busy attending and participating in a variety of school and community events, including:

- Inaugural CVAC Basketball Senior Classic at Clavet Composite School
- Town of Osler meeting
- · RCMP community engagement meeting
- Regular SCC meetings



Board Pancake Breakfast

Every year, our Board Trustees roll up their sleeves, fire up the griddles, and serve up a warm, delicious pancake breakfast for Division Office staff before the February Board meeting. It's a small way to say a big "thank you"!

Team members from the Division Office, School Services Building, and Transportation Department were invited to start their chilly Monday morning with pancakes, hot coffee, and good company!



French Immersion program expansion

The Prairie Spirit Board of Education has approved the expansion of the French Immersion programming at École Warman Elementary School to include Grade 9 at Warman High School in the 2026/27 school year. The program will continue to expand by a grade each year, eventually offering French Immersion programming for Grades 9 - 12 at Warman High School.

The Board's decision to expand French Immersion programming reflects our commitment to a strong and vibrant bilingual program. Our students will continue to benefit from excellent teaching, resources, and learning opportunities.