

# Budget 2025/26



## Investing in students

The Prairie Spirit Board of Education is committed to providing high-quality education and supports for Prairie Spirit students. This commitment is at the heart of the school division's 2025/26 budget.

The budget for 2025/26 was carefully designed to invest in student and adult learning. Key stakeholders were consulted during the budget development process to provide their perspectives and voice. The budget aligns with the Board's strategic plan and reflects the Board's strong commitment to achieving key priorities and outcomes. Instruction accounts for 71.2% of all Division expenses, with student transportation at 6.8%, and Division facilities at 13.3%.

The Board approved the budget on June 16, the Board's last meeting of the 2024/25 school year.



## Teacher staffing and classroom supports

The overall ratio of classroom teachers to students will remain unchanged in Prairie Spirit schools, as part of the Board's commitment to creating nurturing learning environments. Maintaining this level of teacher staffing in our schools is possible after making key reductions throughout the school division. Some schools will see teaching staff reductions due to declining enrolment while others will have an increase in teaching staff due to increased enrolment.

As a provision in the new provincial teacher agreement, Complexity Support Teachers will be added to all schools with more than 75 students. This new role will provide support for classroom teachers in addressing issues related to class complexity. We are excited to add this focused support in our schools.

Prairie Spirit has been funded for a Specialized Support Classroom, designed to meet the complex needs of diverse learners. This is a first for Prairie Spirit and we are looking forward to providing additional targeted supports for students.



## Prairie Spirit's funding

Prairie Spirit is projecting a decrease in student enrolment for the third consecutive year. The Division's funding from the provincial government is based on projected enrolment. As a result of decreasing enrolment and increasing operational costs, budget reductions of \$3 million were made across the school division as part of the development of the budget. These reductions included staff positions in facilities, transportation and centralized supports.

The 2025/26 budget was balanced with the use of designated reserve funds strategically set aside by the Board to fund specific projects: renovating Practical and Applied Arts labs in schools and purchasing new school buses.

This is the first time in many years that the budget has been balanced without dipping into the Division's limited general savings.

