

Highlights

Board
Focus

Indigenous Perspectives, Partnerships and Outcomes

Prairie Spirit is committed to including First Nations and Métis worldviews, histories, languages, and cultures in classrooms throughout the Division. The Board recently received an update from the area of Indigenous Perspectives, Partnerships and Opportunities (reflected in the “Successful Learners” goal in the [strategic plan](#)). Prairie Spirit supports all staff and students in their personal and collective journey in Reconciliation.

Prairie Spirit’s second annual māmōwintowin - “coming together” - Traditional Pow Wow on June 2 in Warman highlighted the great work the Division is doing in support of Reconciliation!



Prairie Spirit Board of Education Trustees and Tracey Young, Director of Education (above, left), were part of the Grand Entry at the māmōwintowin traditional pow wow, along with a number of other dignitaries. Over 1,000 Prairie Spirit students were in attendance with some participating in the Grand Entry as well. Kate Kading, Board Chair, brought greetings on behalf of the school division.

Board
Governance

Laird School Review

The Prairie Spirit Board of Education conducted a school review for Laird School from September to April, due to the school’s enrolment trends and the condition of the school facility and in accordance with *The School Division Administration Regulations*. Laird School currently operates as a Kindergarten to Grade 8 school.

Following extensive consultations and information gathering, the Board passed a motion on April 20, 2026, to discontinue Grades 7 and 8 at Laird School effective June 30, 2026. Beginning this fall, Laird School will become a Kindergarten to Grade 6 school, with Laird students in Grades 7 and 8 offered transportation to Waldheim School.

The Ministry of Education has committed to providing funds for repairs to Laird School. This was an important consideration in the Board’s decision, and the Board thanks the provincial government for this investment in education.

More details on Prairie Spirit’s [website](#).



Prairie Spirit Budget 2026/27

Investing in students

The Prairie Spirit Board of Education is committed to providing high-quality education and effective supports for Prairie Spirit students.

This commitment is at the heart of Prairie Spirit's 2026/27 budget, which the Board approved at the June 15 Board meeting, the last meeting of the 2025/26 school year.

The budget for 2026/27 was designed to invest in student and adult learning. 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 70.6% of all Division expenses, with Division facilities at 13.3% and student transportation at 7.1%.



Teacher staffing and classroom supports

Key stakeholders were consulted to provide their perspectives and voice during the budget development process. Prairie Spirit teachers strongly advocated for additional Educational Associates (EAs) in schools. As a result, 10.4 FTE EAs will be added to school staffing this fall to provide additional classroom supports.

To provide additional support for math instruction in Prairie Spirit classrooms, a second Strategic Facilitator for Numeracy will be added this fall.

The Ministry of Education has provided designated funding for three more Specialized Support Classrooms - for a total of four classrooms - designed to meet the complex needs of diverse learners in Prairie Spirit. The four Specialized Support Classrooms in the Division will use an itinerant model of support targeted to meet the complexities of each school community.

Some schools will see teaching staff reductions due to declining enrolment while others will have an increase in teaching staff due to increased enrolment.



Prairie Spirit's funding

The Division's funding from the provincial government is based on projected enrolment. Prairie Spirit is projecting a small decrease in student enrolment for 2026/27.

As a result of decreasing enrolment and increasing operational costs, budget reductions were made across the school division in a variety of areas, including instruction, facilities, and technology.

The 2026/27 budget was balanced with the use of designated reserve funds strategically set aside by the Board to fund the renovation of Practical and Applied Arts labs in schools.

This is the second year in a row that the budget has been balanced without dipping into the Division's limited general savings.



The Board welcomes feedback from students, families, stakeholders and the public.



Trustee [contact information](#)/Division email: contact@spiritsd.ca