



*Saskatchewan Rivers  
School Division*

*Excellence for Every Learner*

# Annual Report

of the  
Saskatchewan Rivers School Division  
for the year ending  
August 31, 2009

*Riverside Community School*  
511 - 5<sup>th</sup> Avenue East  
PRINCE ALBERT, SK S6V 7Z6

Monday, March 15, 2010  
7:00 p.m.

## EDUCATION CENTRE

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Prince Albert, SK S6V 1B1

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# AGENDA FOR ANNUAL MEETING

1. Call to Order **Bill Cooke**
2. Nomination of Chairperson
3. Appointment of Secretary
4. Board Chair's Report **Wayne Steen**
5. Financial Statement for 2008-2009  
(See Financial Statements) **Dennis Moniuk**
6. Open Forum
7. Adjournment

# THE BOARD

<b>Board Chair:</b>	Mr. Wayne Steen Box 31 Weldon, SK S0J 3A0	(H) 887-4430 (W) 887-2020
<b>Vice-Chair:</b>	Mr. Barry Hollick #208, 3590 – 4 <sup>th</sup> Avenue West Prince Albert, SK S6V 8B4	922-2491
<b>Trustees:</b>	Mr. Grant Gustafson 331 – 20th Street West Prince Albert, SK S6V 4G7	922-2150
	Mr. Arne Lindberg 3382 Eagle Crescent Prince Albert, SK S6V 7X1	763-8237
	Mr. George McHenry 1245 Gillmor Crescent Prince Albert, SK S6V 6A8	763-6705
	Mr. John McIvor Box 128 Shellbrook, SK S0J 1H0	747-3995
	Mr. Roger Provencher Box 74 Canwood, SK S0J 0K0	468-2930
	Ms. Darlene Rowden Box 1284 Prince Albert, SK S6V 5S8	922-1065
	Ms. Jaimie Smith-Windsor Box 266 Waskesiu Lake, SK SOJ 2Y0	663-5744
	Mr. Rodney Thomson 678 – 21st Street East Prince Albert, SK S6V 1M7	763-3350

The Board of Education usually holds its Regular meetings on the first and third Monday of each month commencing at 8:00 p.m. in the Board Room of the Education Centre, 545 – 11<sup>th</sup> Street East, Prince Albert, Saskatchewan. The Regular meeting agendas are posted to the web site prior to the meeting date. The minutes are posted to the web site once approved by the Board.

# ADMINISTRATIVE COUNCIL

Director of Education  
Superintendent of Human Resources  
Superintendent of Facilities  
Superintendent of Schools  
Superintendent of Schools  
Superintendent of Business Administration  
Superintendent of Schools  
Human Resources Administrator  
Superintendent of Schools  
Superintendent of Schools  
Executive Assistant

Bill Cooke  
Holly Hobbs  
Mike Hurd  
John Kuzbik  
Jim Mireau  
Dennis Moniuk  
Alan Nunn  
Bill Simpson  
Tom Sutherland  
Maureen Taylor  
Joyce Ward

## BOARD CHAIR'S REPORT

It is my pleasure to present the annual report for the Saskatchewan Rivers School Division for the 2008-2009 fiscal year. The Board has been very busy during the past year to improve educational programs and services provided to all students, in accordance with the Board's Three Year Plan and initiatives of the Ministry of Education.

The Board is also dealing with the funding changes implemented by the provincial government as part of the 2009 provincial budget. The budget put forth the most substantive changes to the funding of school divisions in the history of this province. The loss of access to the property tax system, a fundamental component in autonomy, has the potential to significantly impact the educational system and, more importantly, our children, for years to come.

The Saskatchewan Rivers School Division is the sixth largest school division in the province, covering a geographical area from Big River in the northwest to Kinistino in the southeast, from Meath Park in the northeast to MacDowall in the southwest, from Christopher Lake in the north to St. Louis in the south. The school division has an enrolment of 9,092 students in 31 schools across the division with a combined staff in excess of 1,300.

The school division is governed by a Board of Education. Ten trustees are elected to the Board, with five from the City of Prince Albert and five elected from wards in the rural area of the school division. Board elections are scheduled every three years. The following table illustrates trustee attendance at Board meetings for the period September 1, 2008 to August 31, 2009:



<b>TRUSTEE</b>	<b>Number of meetings attended out of 22 Board meetings</b>
Joy Bastness	17
Grant Gustafson	22
Barry Hollick	21
George McHenry	21
Jan Moe	13
Roger Provencher	14
Wayne Steen	21
Rodney Thomson	22
Mark Tweidt	21
Arthur Voyer	21

I would like to take the opportunity of thanking trustees Bastness, Moe, Tweidt and Voyer for their contributions during their term of office. They were not re-elected to the Board.

This report is intended to highlight some of the accomplishments and address some of the issues.

### March 18, 2009 Provincial Budget

The 2009 provincial budget fundamentally changed the funding of education in the province by eliminating school division access to property assessment. The loss of the ability to raise funds locally through levying a mill rate is a significant loss in autonomy for boards of education. The provincial government now sets a uniform mill rate on all assessable property in the province for educational purposes. The government has promised that a new funding formula will be developed in the next 24 months to ensure adequate, equitable, and predictable funding for school divisions.

School divisions are totally dependent upon the province to provide adequate and predictable funding to ensure that students receive the education that they deserve. Without the power to raise funds locally, school divisions are no longer able to address fluctuations in funding to soften the impact of inadequate provincial funding.

The school division's mill rate (when compared to similar school divisions in the province) was one of the lowest in the province with only the Saskatoon Public School Division (18.78) and the Saskatoon Greater Catholic School Division (18.78) having mill rates that were lower. Having a low mill rate adversely affected funding to the school division in the interim as existing budgets of all school divisions were increased equally. Therefore, school divisions with higher mill rates and expenditure levels continued to receive more money than those with lower mill rates and expenditure levels. In addition, taxpayers in the Saskatchewan Rivers School Division received less of a tax break with a lower provincial mill rate than those in higher taxed school divisions.

The Board indicated its displeasure with the lack of consultation and with the change in funding arrangements. It also raised concerns with respect to lack of planning and preparation regarding the change made by the provincial government. As we move forward, this is becoming more evident as the change in relationship evolves between the province and school divisions in terms of accountability and reporting requirements.

The Board is committed to working diligently, as an individual Board or collectively as part of the Saskatchewan School Boards Association, to ensure that the province is held accountable for providing school boards with the funding required and promised.

### **Board Three Year Plan**

During the 2008-2009 fiscal year, the Board, Director of Education, and administration developed a three year plan to chart the direction for the school division in all areas of operation. The plan was adopted by the Board at the April 19, 2008 meeting. During the 2008-2009 fiscal year, the Board continued to work towards accomplishing the goals set forth in the plan.

The plan can be printed or viewed online by going to our web site at [www.srsd119.ca](http://www.srsd119.ca) and selecting Board of Education/Three Year Plan.

### **Financial Report**

The financial statement for the 2008-2009 fiscal year is presented separately from this report. The document is available from our web site at [www.srsd119.ca](http://www.srsd119.ca). The financial statement reports a combined surplus on 2008-2009 operations of \$4,222,775.00. This is the fourth consecutive year that the school division has operated with a surplus.

Changes in financial and reporting requirements for Public Sector Accounting Board (PSAB) compliance together with the changes in funding from the provincial government resulted in the largest surplus on record for the school division.

The implementation of provincially mandated PSAB guidelines during the 2008-2009 fiscal year substantially changed accounting procedures and financial reporting requirements. Major changes include:

- Accounting for future employee benefits;
- Incorporating school generated funds in the division's financial statement;
- Accounting for Tangible Capital Assets.



### School Division Debt

As of August 31, 2009, the school division had outstanding capital loans totaling \$3,250,380.00. During the 2008-2009 fiscal year, final principal payments of \$100,800.00 and \$733,332.00 were made on the Bus Garage and Debden School renovation capital loans.

The following table provides additional information with respect to the school division's debt load:

Project	Loan Date	Principal	Interest Rate	Term
Vincent Massey	2005	\$ 973,280.00	4.85%	7-years
Johnson Controls	2005	\$2,277,100.00	4.54%	10-years

*Please Note: The Loan for Johnson Controls is for facility upgrades and improvements to schools in the former Sask. Rivers School Division. The loan is being repaid through savings generated from reductions to natural gas and electrical consumption.*

### Cost Effective Governance & Administration

The Board believes that the cost of administration should be less than 4% of the annual school division budget. In 2008-2009, the cost of the Board and Administrative Services totaled \$3,059,697.63 or 3.85% of the annual expenditures.

*Please note: The cost of administration includes salaries paid to Senior Administrative Educational Personnel accounted for in our Financial Statement under the Instruction Category.*

### Capital Projects

In 2008-2009, the Board received capital funding from Ministry of Education for the following projects:

1. Wesmor Community High School Roof Project	\$ 165,000.00
2. Osborne School Roof Project	\$ 325,000.00
3. Christopher Lake School Roof Project	\$ 185,000.00
4. Kinistino School Elementary Wing Roof Replacement	\$ 376,000.00
5. Carlton Comprehensive High School Roof Project	\$ 320,000.00
6. Carlton Comprehensive High School HVAC Project	\$ 760,000.00
7. Birch Hills School Corridor Roof Project	\$ 195,000.00
8. East Central School Gym Roof Project	\$ 85,000.00
9. Princess Margaret School Roof Project	\$ 287,000.00
10. Queen Mary Community School Roof Project	\$ 134,000.00

### Carlton Comprehensive High School Gymnasium

The construction of a new gymnasium at Carlton Comprehensive High School remains the number one priority for the Board. During the past year AODBT Architects worked collaboratively with school division staff to complete the design portion of the project.

The Board has invested \$1,000,000.00 of school division funds to ensure that the project is “shovel ready” and continues to wait for Ministry approval to proceed with tendering the project.

### Continuing Improvement Framework

The Continuous Improvement Framework (CIF), introduced in 2006, places an emphasis on the education of children and youth, function of schools, and its ultimate goal “ *to strengthen teaching and learning and increase opportunities for improved student learning and outcomes*”. The Ministry of Education has set four CIF priorities:

- Higher levels of literacy and student achievement;
- Equitable opportunities for all students;
- Smooth transitions into and through the system; and,
- Strong system-wide accountability and governance.

The Ministry of Education has provided school divisions with Provincial Core Indicators data that indicate the progress the school division and the province are making to achieve the four provincial priorities outlined above.

The school division has responded to each of the provincial priorities. However, since our focus is primarily on student achievement, the Board’s annual School Division Improvement Plan focuses on the school division’s response to the provincial priority of Higher Literacy and Achievement. To achieve higher student achievement, the school division has outlined a series of goal expectations for the school division, schools, and classrooms.

For more details about the 2008-2009 School Division Improvement Plan, please visit the school division web site: [www.srsd119.ca/continuousimprovement.html](http://www.srsd119.ca/continuousimprovement.html)

### Transportation Services

The Board operates a fleet of 88 division owned buses and contracts additional 27 routes to transport 3,330 students to school on a daily basis. All transportation services are administered from the Bus Maintenance Facility located south of the City of Prince Albert. The total cost of transporting students to school for the 2008-2009 school year was \$6,172,116.00.

The transportation of our students in a safety-first manner is the number one transportation priority of the Board. To achieve this priority, the Board provides the funds to ensure that buses are properly maintained, drivers receive appropriate in-service/ training, and the bus fleet is modern and up-to-date. In 2008-2009, the Board expended \$699,368.00 to purchase new buses and maintenance vehicles for the fleet.



## Maintenance of Facilities

The Board believes that, given the lack of capital funding available from the provincial government, it is important that sufficient resources are allocated for facility maintenance. The annual allocation for facilities is between 9% and 11% of the operating budget.

In 2008-2009, the school division expended \$7,881,068.00 for plant operation and maintenance. Some of the major projects undertaken included:

1. Installed new telephone/intercom systems at T. D. Michel Community School and Spruce Home School at a cost of \$35,586.00. Integrated internal and external communications systems are provided to enhance the safety of staff and students in our schools.
2. Over a two-year period alarms systems will be installed in schools without systems and the alarm systems in all other facilities will be replaced, at a projected cost of \$80,000.00. During the 2008-2009 year, all schools in the City of Prince Albert had new alarm systems installed at a cost of \$55,700.00 to complete the project.
3. Paved parking lots at Red Wing School and the Maintenance Centre Compound at a cost of \$98,000.00.
4. Replaced the flooring at East Central School and Canwood Community School at a total cost of \$55,000.00.
5. Replaced 11 furnaces at St. Louis Community School at a cost of \$58,000.00.
6. Provided crawl space ventilation at West Central School at a cost of \$18,000.00.
7. Constructed a new kitchen and servery area at Big River High School at a cost of \$60,000.00.
8. Renovated the Developmental Education Program area at Carlton Comprehensive High School at a cost of \$92,000.00.
9. Painted Osborne School at a cost of \$15,000.00, and W.P. Sandin School (East wing) at a cost of \$20,000.00.
10. Renovated the exterior of Arthur Pechey School to reduce the number of windows in each classroom and installed new energy efficient units to provide the required daylight at a cost of \$74,000.00.
11. Replaced the roof on the Maintenance Centre at a cost of \$80,000.00.
12. Replaced 100 lockers at Carlton Comprehensive High School at a cost of \$16,000.00.
13. Purchased desks, chairs, and tables to meet division needs at a cost of \$60,000.00.

## Commitment to Technology

The Board is committed to enhance the use of technology in all aspects of school division operations. A five-year technology plan to provide direction for implementation has been developed and approved by the Board. An annual budget of \$746,000.00 is provided for technology purchases and a further \$60,000.00 is allocated to deal with computer security issues.

## Curriculum Implementation/Actualization

In its Three Year Plan, the Board committed to a focus on improved student achievement and as such, has had an increased focus on curriculum implementation. To this end, the Board has established an annual budget allocation of \$250,000 for curriculum upgrades.

In 2009-2010, the budget allocation was used to facilitate curriculum actualization in the following areas:

- Arts Education for Grades 1-5
- Early Literacy for Grades K-3
- English Language Arts for Grades K-8
- Kindergarten
- Life Skills and Career Guidance for Grades 6-9
- Math for Grades K-9
- Science Education for Grades 6-9
- Social Studies for Grades 6-9

*On behalf of the Board of Education, I would like to thank all of our employees for their efforts and contributions during the 2008-2009 fiscal year. Through careful management of our resources, we have enhanced the operation of our school division in all areas that benefit the education of our students. As a school division, we are a leader in the province and can take pride in our many accomplishments as we strive to continually improve.*



*Wayne Steen,  
Board Chair*

## FINANCIAL STATEMENT FOR 2008-2009

Please refer to the Financial Statement for 2008-2009 (*condensed version*) that has been provided in addition to this report.



# OUR SCHOOLS

Arthur Pechey School (K-8)	2675 – 4 <sup>th</sup> Avenue West	922-9229
Big River Community High School (7-12)	Big River	469-2288
Birch Hills School (K-12)	Birch Hills	749-3301
Canwood Community School (Pre-K-12)	Canwood	468-2150
* <i>Carlton Comprehensive High School</i> (9-12)	665 – 28 <sup>th</sup> Street East	922-3115
Christopher Lake School (K-8)	Christopher Lake	982-2131
* <i>Debden School</i> (K-12)	Debden	724-2181
East Central School (K-8)	R.R.#1, Prince Albert	922-8329
* <i>École Vickers School</i> (K-8)	2800 Bradbury Drive	922-6446
John Diefenbaker School (Pre-K-8)	1090 Branion Drive	763-6031
King George Community School (Pre-K-8)	421 – 23 <sup>rd</sup> Street East	763-7571
Kinistino School (Pre-K-12)	Kinistino	864-2252
Meath Park School (K-12)	Meath Park	929-2131
Osborne School (K-8)	R.R. #2	922-8078
Prince Albert Collegiate Institute (9-12)	45 – 20 <sup>th</sup> Street West	763-6485
Princess Margaret School (Pre-K-8)	351 – 13 <sup>th</sup> Avenue East	763-5217
Queen Mary Community School (Pre-K-8)	1010 – 15 <sup>th</sup> Street West	763-7672
Red Wing School (K-8)	R.R. #5	763-5375
Riverside Community School (Pre-K-8)	511 – 5 <sup>th</sup> Avenue East	763-6495
Shell Lake School (4-6)	Shell Lake	427-2194
Shellbrook Elementary School (K-5)	Shellbrook	747-2588
Spruce Home School (K-8)	Spruce Home	764-8377
St. Louis Community School (Pre-K-12)	St. Louis	422-8511
STAR Program (ungraded)	511 – 5 <sup>th</sup> Avenue East	922-6522
T.D. Michel Community School (Pre-K-6)	Big River	469-2128
Vincent Massey Community School (Pre-K-8)	2999 – 3 <sup>rd</sup> Avenue East	763-7494
Wesmor Community High School (9-12)	1819 – 14 <sup>th</sup> Avenue West	764-5233
West Central School (K-8)	R.R. #3	922-8339
Westview Community School (Pre-K-8)	620 McArthur Drive	922-4094
Wild Rose School (K-8)	R.R. #1 Shellbrook	747-2323
W.J. Berezowsky School (Pre-K-8)	566 McIntosh Drive	763-7404
W.P. Sandin School (7-12)	Shellbrook	747-2191
Won Ska Cultural School (ungraded)	2005 – 4 <sup>th</sup> Avenue East	763-3552

\* & *italics* = English and French Immersion