



Education Centre
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Director of Education

An open message to all community members regarding Meath Park Public School fire:

Meath Park Public School suffered a fire Thursday, October 20th that caused extensive damage to a canteen/gym area of the school. The smoke and water used to extinguish the fire has also made its way throughout the building. The fire has flared up three times since the crews put it out Thursday approximately mid-afternoon, this has caused further smoke and water damage.

Many organizations ranging from disaster clean-up personnel, local fire fighters, Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division facilities personnel, security officers, bus drivers and others have been working hard to ensure the damage is mitigated as much as is possible. Investigators have determined that this is an accidental electrical fire.

Plans are underway for the students to continue their education at alternate sites while the school is being cleaned up and repaired. The timeline for the cleanup process is uncertain, but we expect students to be out of Meath Park Public School for at least 7-10 days and likely until after the November break. This timeline may need to change depending on the success restoration crews have in getting the school safely ready for students and staff.

There will be no classes for students until Wednesday, October 26th when grades K-4 will attend Spruce Home Public School and grades 5-12 students will attend Carlton Comprehensive Public High School in a "school within a school" environment. Principal Tom Hazzard and his staff will be assigned to Spruce Home and Carlton during the course of the change in venue for students. Parents will receive details on bus transportation, school schedules and more as details are finalized. Staff will also receive more information and have an opportunity to discuss the plans and details when they gather on Monday October 24th with Principal Hazzard and the Division's senior leadership team.

SRPSD Board of Education is dedicated to our motto *Excellence for Every Learner* and is working to minimize disruption to learning this fire has created. Director of Education Robert Bratvold states, "Our dedicated staff have responded with skill and compassion right from the beginning of this crisis and they are committed to ensuring the learning needs of students are met in the safest way possible. We will have counsellors available for our students and staff that have been affected by the fire and we will keep the lines of communication open. Together with the support of students, parents and the community we will continue to move forward to provide the best possible learning opportunities for our students."

Yours in Education,

Robert Bratvold
Director of Education