



Saskatchewan Rivers Public School Division

Excellence for Every Learner

February 12, 2024

Board Highlights

Board Hosts Community Engagement Event

On Monday February 5th, School Community Council chairs, school principals, and students who are members of Saskatchewan Rivers Students for Change joined Board members for a day to learn about the ongoing work of the school division, and provide feedback on key aspects of the Board's work. Table groups made up of each stakeholder group heard presentations about the SRPSD Learning Models, Mental Health Capacity Building, and Response to Chronic Absenteeism. After these presentations, groups were given the opportunity to provide feedback on the SRPSD's Strategic Plan, and to offer advice for the upcoming 24/25 budget. Finally, groups were given the opportunity to provide feedback about community engagement in general in the division.

SRPSD Programs Update

In their most recent meeting, the Board received an update on Global Sports Academy, and Indigenous Languages programming in SRPSD. Global Sports has grown to include 70 student athletes in 3 programs, High School Hockey, 7/8 Hockey, and High School Multi Sport. These programs offer sport specific training, sports therapy, and nutrition education along with flexible learning opportunities. Superintendent Jeff Court attributes the growth of the program to the high quality of the program overall. First Nations and Metis language and culture are valued and supported through the Indigenous Language Programming offered in SRPSD. Michif Language programs at Queen Mary Public School and St. Louis Public School are thriving with connections to community Elders and Land Based Learning. A Michif French Locally Developed Course has also been created by Angela Rancourt and St. Louis Elders and community. The Cree Language Program at John Diefenbaker Public School is also growing and a grades 4-8 Cree Language Support Teacher will be added to the school in the coming school year to support students' ongoing language acquisition.

Specialized Support Classroom Project

Superintendent Tom Michaud shared the plan he and his team have created to take part in the provincial pilot project. The project will be housed at Queen Mary Public School; the plan creates a specialized learning centre within the school to provide universal, small group and target support for students to develop regulation skills. The centre will be supported by a newly created classroom teaching position, 2 educational assistants, and a part time Land Based Learning teacher. This complement will also work with existing supports in the school such as school administration and the learning support teacher. This robust model will be monitored closely with metrics to meet the Ministry's expectations of the pilot project. Pending final approval from the Ministry, the pilot program will take place for the remainder of this school year and the entire 24/25 school year.

Winter Pipe Ceremony Held at Riverside Public School

On February 12th, Riverside Public School welcomed the Elders Council, Board members, senior admin, students and staff to the winter pipe ceremony held in the school. Elder Liz Settee lifted her pipe with gratitude, direction and guidance for the path to reconciliation. The ceremony was attended by a significant number of youth who showed respect and followed protocol. Following the ceremony, Board members met with Elders to discuss supporting Land Based Learning and shared Ribbon Skirt Teachings. A highlight of the meeting was welcoming Elder Suzy Bear from Muskoday First Nation as the newest member of the Elders Council.

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The Board hopes this brief update can provide information and promote communication. If you want further details about the Board and its meetings, you can find information at this under the "About Us" Tab at www.srsd119.ca. You are also encouraged to contact your local trustee.