École Mallaig School Newsletter

HOME OF THE STINGERS

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facebook

January 25, 2021

High School Report Cards

February 2

If your child is turning 5 years of age before December 31, 2021, please contact the school office @ 780-635-3858 to add your child to our list for the upcoming 2021/2022 school year.

-English or French programming

-Alternating full day schooling

-Caring & inclusive environment

Bell Let's Talk

This year's Bell Let's Talk Day campaign shines a light on the actions that we can all take, because now more than ever, mental health matters. Whether you're staying virtually connected with a family member, working directly with patients in recovery, investing in access to care or even just taking care of your own mental health, every Canadian can play a part in their communities, workplaces, schools and at home.

When it comes to mental health, now more than ever, every action counts.

On Bell Let's Talk Day, Bell donates 5 cents to Canadian mental health programs for every applicable text, local or long distance call, tweet or TikTok video using #BellLetsTalk, every Facebook, Instagram, Pinterest, Snapchat, TikTok, Twitter and YouTube view of the Bell Let's Talk Day video, and every use of the Bell Let's Talk Facebook frame or Snapchat filter. All at no cost to participants beyond what they would normally pay their service provider for online or phone access.

You can also find resources, learn more about some of the organizations providing meaningful mental health supports and services throughout Canada and download the Bell Let's Talk toolkit to begin your own conversation about mental health at home, school or in the workplace.

Fees for the 2020/2021 school year will be assessed and charged effective February.

February 15

We still have 2 masks/student available for students in ECS to Grade 3. Contact the office regarding this.

No School

February 10-15

Mallaig Career Corner — February 2021

Margie Kaprowski
Division Career Counsellor
Email: kaprmarg@sperd.ca
Cell: 780-614-1365

Mrs. Kaprowski's Schedule At A Glance Mallaig:

February 22 to February 26
March 22 to March 26

Scholarship/Funding

A post-secondary education is a BIG investment. We encourage students to apply for as many scholarships as possible to help reduce the costs of post-secondary. There are countless scholarships available to students and unfortunately, many go unclaimed because students don't apply. A great way to find scholarships is to sign up to **www.scholarshipscanada.com** and receive free information about scholarships that students qualify for.

Alberta Scholarship Program

These provincial scholarships and awards are offered by the Government of Alberta but administered by Student Aid Alberta. Visit
http://studentaid.alberta.ca/scholarships/alberta-scholarships/

Popular Scholarships

- Alexander Rutherford Scholarship
- Trade Scholarships and RAP/CTS Scholarship
- 4H Scholarship
- Advancing Futures Bursary
- TD Scholarships for Community Leadership
- Remax Quest for Excellence
- Northern Alberta Development Council Bursaries

Grade 12 students should also start thinking or consider where they may be taking up residency in their first year of post-secondary.

Grade 12 students who applied to post-secondary should be checking their emails on a regular basis and also checking their portals (list of things to do).

What is Alberta ***Alis?*** Alberta Learning Information Service
A great resource site for students. **ALIS** offers information about career planning, post-secondary education and training, educational funding, job searches, and more.

St. Paul Education

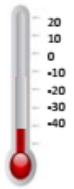
Extreme Weather:
Is my child's bus running?
Coming home early?

Throughout the winter, weather and road conditions are constantly monitored with the safety of students and staff at the center of all of our decisions. We strive to inform parents of any delays or cancellations as quickly as possible. Here's how you may be notified:

- Bus driver contact
- Call/text from your school
- Local radio stations
- ALERTUS App
- Social Media (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram)
- School/Division website posting https://www.stpauleducation.ab.ca/

How we decide:

When temperature and/or wind chill is -40°C or colder, buses are cancelled. Notice may be given the night before or in the morning.



Buses may run in the afternoon during extreme cold weather under certain circumstances.

Weather checks start very early with The Weather Network and phone calls to designated staff living in each local area.

Even if buses are cancelled, schools remain open.

- If your child attends: meaningful learning still occurs
- If your child is absent: efforts will be made to ensure they do not fall behind

If a decision is required around temperature and/or road conditions, the Director of Transportation/Facilities consults with:

- Local bus drivers
- School principals
- Superintendent of Schools

Decision is based on:

- local road conditions
- RCMP travel advisories
- weather and wind warnings
- local municipality input

Your bus driver also has complete discretion to cancel a route should they feel travel is unsafe.

Parents always have the final say about their child's safety and well-being and can always choose whether or not to have their child take the bus.

The Nations of Saddle Lake, Whitefish Lake and Frog Lake make independent decisions about their buses. Please contact them directly for any questions regarding their transportation policies.

St. Paul Education

Board Meeting Summary
December 9, 2020

COVID Update:

- Although there were several new restrictions announced on December 8, 2020, the Minister has indicated that these changes do not affect schools.
- Since October 7, 2020 there have been 18 incidents involving a total of 20 confirmed positive cases in the Division. These cases have affected 7 different schools, and a total of 438 students and staff have been required to isolate.
- Effective Wednesday, December 9, 2020 to Friday, December 18, 2020 Two Hills Mennonite School will be closed to all students. This is necessary due to a shortage of subs combined with a number of recent positive cases in the school.
- As posted on the Division website and social media Grade 7-12 students are currently learning from home. These students are following their normal day to day schedule with modifications as needed, in consultation with the school. The Division is acutely aware of stressors on Grade 7-12 students and their families (e.g., time commitment, feeling overwhelmed, internet issues) and wants to offer a full program while working with each student and family where they are at.
- Privacy concerns related to video recording and posting lessons online were addressed in a recent communication.
- K-6 learners are still attending school in person until December 18, 2020.
- During the week of January 4-8, 2021 all students K-12 will be learning from home. As of now, K-12 students are expected to return to in-person learning on January 11, 2021.
- Schools remain open for in-person learning for students with exceptional needs and outreach students.
- Due to difficulties scheduling routes given the low numbers it is not viable to offer bussing for students with exceptional needs or outreach students attending school during the week of January 4-8, 2021. Trustees passed a motion that parents of students with exceptional needs or outreach students attending school during that week will be eligible for parent-provided transportation funding. The rate for parent-provided transportation is $0.35/km.
- All Diploma exams are optional for the remainder of the year.
- Bussing pick-up and drop-off times may shift due to changing conditions. Families will receive a call if this affects them.
- Learning arrangements for K-6 learners for the week of January 4-8, 2021 will be finalized and announced next week. Learning packages are being prepared for students to take home before the Christmas break. Depending on the age of the students, real-time learning opportunities will also be offered.
- As previously announced, collection of fees has been postponed and will be reviewed in February 2021. Postponement of fee collection does not apply to hot lunch, milk, CTS project, or bussing fees.
- The Division reached out to all of the internet service providers in the area and shared information from MCSnet and Telus relating to support for wi-fi needs while Grade 7-12 students are learning from home.
- All COVID-19 updates can be viewed on the Division website.
- A big thank you goes out to the entire school community, health professionals and others for all the hard work during these difficult times. The school division will continue to fully follow all guidance as provided by the medical profession and the World Health Organization until the pandemic ends.

Ward Bylaw: Trustees passed motions of approval for second and third readings of Bylaw No. 1/20. A draft of the bylaw was previously circulated to the public. The purpose of Bylaw No. 1/20 is to revise ward boundaries to decrease the number of trustees to six and allow more flexibility in the town of St. Paul by removing the line dividing the town into St. Paul South and St. Paul North. The Glen Avon Ward will continue to exist separately and is unchanged. This bylaw will be in effect for the October 2021 election. Nomination papers will be available on the website after January 4, 2021 and nominations will remain open until September 20, 2021.

Cafeteria Leases: Trustees passed a motion of approval to waive the December cafeteria rental fees for St. Paul Abilities Network (SPAN) at both Regional High School and Racette. SPAN initiated the request in light of a number of factors that have hindered sales since school resumed on September 8, 2020. SPAN provides cafeteria services in both of these schools.

Online Meeting Archive Protocol: Trustees passed a motion to maintain Board meetings on YouTube for a period of three months following the date of the meeting and then delete them permanently.
Board Policy 1-Division Foundational Statements and Policy 8-Board Committees: Trustees passed a motion approving revisions to Policy 1-Division Foundational Statements and Policy 8-Board Committees as presented by Trustee Cook. All board policies including the revised policies can be viewed on the Division website.
2021-2022 Calendar: A draft version of the 2021-2022 School Calendar was presented to Trustees for consideration and feedback. This item will be circulated to school administration and School Councils for further input and will be reviewed again in January.

Superintendent's Report

- Given the current arrangements with Grade 7-12 students, early Christmas activities were held in Division schools before the students moved to at-home learning. Elementary schools are organizing Christmas concerts that will be shared virtually.
- Several schools are participating in service projects such as Santa's Anonymous, a Christmas card project, donations for food hampers, and Santa Elves.
- THMS has moved to Scenario 3 with approval from Alberta Education.
- In partnership with the Two Hills Wellness Committee, the Together We're Better mental health project will be sponsoring a virtual memorial ceremony.
- Division representatives participated in a Grateful Advocates for Catholic Education (GRACE) meeting on December 8, 2020.
- The Division annually submits nominees for the Alberta School Boards Association Honouring Spirit Indigenous Spirit Awards. Nomination information has been shared with all schools. Nominations close on February 1, 2021.

Financial Report

- St. Paul Education has submitted a report in relation to federal COVID-19 return to school funding. The Division is to receive $1.08 million dollars and estimates additional costs for the year to total about $1.3 million. Costs include PPE, cleaning, equipment, additional staff, etc.
- The auditors presented to the board on November 25, 2020. The statements are posted on the Division website and show a deficit of $508,913. Costs for 2019/20 were slightly less than projected due to savings from students learning at home in the spring of 2020. Insurance costs continue to be a concern. The biggest factor potentially affecting the Division in the future is related to enrollment. Enrollment for 2020-21 seems to have stabilized.

Reports

Alberta School Boards Association Fall General Meeting (virtual): During the Business Session, members voted on and passed several resolutions.
Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association Fall General Meeting (virtual): Trustee Anderson reported on various PD opportunities, speakers, and approved the annual ACSTA budget.
Learning Network: Trustee Young reported on changes to the Learning Network. This consortium provides professional learning opportunities for school staff. The Learning Network was originally created as a society, however, it is in the process of being transitioned to governance by the Council of Alberta School Superintendents.

Correspondence

- Alberta School Councils Association (ASCA) Funding Adjustment: The ASCA recently learned their funding has been reduced by 75%. ASCA provides support, training and resources to school councils and promotes parent involvement in education. This reduction will significantly impact administration and service delivery and may result in an increase to the ASCA fees that the Division pays annually.

- Program Unit Funding (PUF) Concerns: Trustees indicated support for a letter initiated by Livingstone Range School Division requesting that the ministry consider the 2020/21 school year as a 'hold harmless' year for Early Childhood Services Program Unit Funding. With the recent changes to this funding, there are 47% fewer children in PUF programming in the Division this year. It is still not known what the longer term effects of this funding change might be.
- Alberta Risk Management Insurance Consortium Division (ARMIC) Risk Management: ARMIC recently released a list of prohibited activities for schools, including hiking, biking, skiing or camping in a remote location outside of Alberta or overnight backcountry trips within Alberta, hay and sleigh rides, and tobogganing or tubing. The Division is insured through this insurance consortium.

St. Paul Education

Board Meeting Summary
January 13, 2021

School Fees: Trustees passed a motion to resume fee collection as per the normal fee schedule. Given the uncertainty of school operations, trustees previously passed a motion to defer the collection of school fees until January 2021. Fees will be collected in February. Fees may be adjusted according to any program changes that occurred after the fees were originally posted.

2021-2022 School Calendar: The draft calendar proposed for 2021-22 takes into consideration what student learning needs may be after the pandemic. The draft will now be circulated to schools and school councils for further feedback. Parents and interested people who wish to see the draft calendar can go through their School Council.

Two Hills Mennonite School (THMS) Playground Grant: St. Paul Education is happy to announce that THMS has qualified for $250,000 for the procurement and installation of a playground at the school. Trustees will send a letter of appreciation to Minister of Education LaGrange and MLA Hominiuk.

Infrastructure and Maintenance Renewal (IMR) Plan: Trustees passed a motion to approve the proposed IMR plan for 2020-2021.

Board Policy 11-Board Delegation of Authority and Policy 8-Reviews, Appeals and Hearings Regarding Student Matters: Trustees passed a motion approving revisions to Policy 11-Board Delegation of Authority and Policy 8-Reviews, Appeals and Hearings Regarding Student Matters and as presented by Trustee Cook. All board policies including the revised policies can be viewed on the Division website.

Superintendent's Report

- All students K-12 enrolled in in-person learning have now returned to school. All sport and extra-curricular activities are still on hold until further notice.
- Regrettably, the status of any graduation ceremonies postponed from 2020 is still unknown.
- The Division website has recently been updated to provide a fresh look.
- In conjunction with Lakeland Catholic and
- , St. Paul Education has hired an Occupational Health & Safety consultant. This individual is working with each of the three school authorities to review and plan for health and safety risks, as they relate to COVID-19, in our buildings.
- St. Paul Education will be hosting a general staff meeting via Zoom on Thursday January 14, 2021 at 7 p.m. This will be a question and answer format. The purpose of the meeting is to listen to staff and identify changes that might further improve well-being and safety for students and staff for the remainder of the pandemic.

Financial Report

- Rebates for Town of St. Paul Bussing: For parents/guardians who paid in-town bus fees for the town of St. Paul, the Division will be issuing a rebate at the end of the year. The rebate will cover periods of time when busses did not run due to direction from the province for students to learn from home. This will include provincially-directed learn-from-home periods in December and January and others that may yet be announced.
- Alberta Education Funding: Under the new funding structure implemented for the current school year, funding is calculated according to a weighted moving average (WMA). The WMA is based on enrollment for the previous and current year and projected enrollment for the coming year. Alberta Education has recently asked for projected enrollments for 2021-22. The Division is projecting a slight decline of about 58 students overall for 2021-22.

Reports

Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA): Trustee Rajoo provided an update from the Zone 2 & 3 ASBA meeting.

Trustee Attendance Schedule: Trustees reviewed upcoming meetings and commitments.

Learning Network: Trustee Young reported that he will be attending the final Learning Network board meeting. The Learning Network provides for education-related professional development. Since the Learning Network is transitioning to the direction of the Council of Alberta School Superintendents the Board will be dissolved and a policy advisory committee has been formed. Trustee Young will continue to participate with the policy advisory committee.

Correspondence

- Electoral Ward Bylaw: Please see the Division website for a live link to updated election information.
- Alberta Risk Management Insurance Consortium Division (ARMIC) Contract Bus Operator (CBO) Update: ARMIC has recently announced that they have secured insurance coverage for the remainder of the school year. Due to numerous challenges they had previously only been able to provide 90 days coverage until the end of January.
- Note of appreciation from a student in regards to the Board achievement award.

February 2021

SUN	MON	TUE	WED	THU	FRI	SAT
	1 Day 4 First day of semester 2	2 Day 5 Sr. High Report Cards	3 Day 6	4 Day 1	5 Day 2	6
7	8 Day 3	9 Day 4	10 No School- PD Day	11 No School- Teachers' Convention	12 No School- Teachers' Convention	13
14 Happy Valentine's Day	15 No School- Family Day	16 Day 5	17 Day 6	18 Day 1	19 Day 2	20
21	22 Day 3	23 Day 4	24 Day 5 Pink Shirt Day	25 Day 6	26 Day 1	27
28						

Career Counsellor