



Request for funding for Two Hills Mennonite School Playground: In response to the request for funding sent by the Board of Trustees in the spring, St. Paul Education received a letter from the Minister of Education indicating that the THMS does not meet the criteria for playground funding under Education's Playground Grant Programs.

Revised Calendar: Trustees approved a revised calendar with a school start date of September 8. The extra time is for adjustments to schedules and teaching assignments and lesson preparation for families that have chosen at-home learning.

Re-entry Update (Superintendent's Report): The St. Paul Education Re-Entry Plan is available on the Division website. This document continues to evolve as additional information is received from Alberta Health Services and Alberta Education. Each school is working on an individual plan to apply the measures in their specific school site. Individual school plans will be finalized by Friday, August 28 and posted on school websites. The Division will continue to use social media and our websites to share new updates. Parents and guardians are also encouraged to sign up for our communication app Alertus to receive Division updates.

ATA Meeting Participation: Trustees passed a motion to continue to have ATA participation in regular board meetings with sub costs shared by the ATA Local and the Division.

School Fees: Due to the evolving situation related to the pandemic billing of all school fees except for Town of St. Paul bus fees and hot lunch/milk fees will be deferred until November and will be reviewed after that time.

Financial Report

- Trustees are awaiting confirmation of how newly announced federal funding will be allocated to school divisions
- Correspondence was shared indicating that restrictions on Operations and Maintenance funding had been removed allowing for additional budget flexibility.
- COVID-19 is expected to result in additional costs for PPE, substitutes, and possibly staffing adjustments however this will not be known until the various registration options are confirmed.
- The provincial Community Initiatives grant program is once again accepting applications.



Capital Projects

- Thanks to the Village of Myrnam for allowing use of all the spaces in the village's Career Training Education Centre (CTEC) building for instruction.
- Trustees held considerable discussion about the ongoing delay in completion of the Ashmont School parking lot and bus loading areas and passed a motion to write another letter outlining these concerns to the Minister of Education and the MLA.
- Repairs following the accident at Racette over the summer are not quite complete and the affected classroom will not be ready for school re-entry. Barricades have been added to the perimeter and will ultimately be replaced with protective landscaping.

Correspondence

- Learning Network: Governance of the Learning Network (a body providing professional development for educators) has been transferred from the Government of Alberta to the Council of Alberta School Superintendents. Noted that professional development activity has increased due to the availability of online opportunities related to the pandemic.
- Alberta Distance Learning Centre (ADLC): 2020/21 will be the last year of operations for ADLC. A number of Division schools were accessing this service to increase course availability for students. St. Paul Education is looking at options for the future and continuing to support distance education and online learning opportunities through St. Paul Alternate Education Centre and the Myrnam Home Education and Outreach Centre.

Board Organizational Meeting

Board officers are Heather Starosielski acclaimed as Board Chair and Justin Anderson as Vice Chair. Trustees also chose committee positions and scheduled meeting dates for the 2020/21 school year.