

# **St Paul Regional High School**

SCHOOL NEWSLETTER

#### **SEPTEMBER - OCTOBER 2021**

#### School Calendar 2021-2022

- Sept 23—School Council Meeting @7pm
- Sept 30— Nat. Day for Truth & Reconciliation
- Oct 8— Local ATA PD Day
- Oct 11—Thanksgiving day
- Oct 15—Picture Day—Music Room (\*Retakes Nov 10)
- Oct 21—Parent Teacher Interviews VIRTUAL
- Oct 28—School Council Meeting @7pm
- Nov 2—Cycle One Ends
- Nov 3—Cycle Two Begins
- Nov 5— Academic Awards 9am & 7pm
- Nov 11—Remembrance Day
- Nov 12—PD day—In Lieu of Reporting
- Nov 15-PD Day
- Nov 24—Report Cards Issued
- Nov 25—School Council Meeting @7pm
- Dec 17—Christmas Luncheon / Dismiss @2 pm
- Dec 20-31—Christmas Beak
- Jan 3—School Begins
- Jan 19—Last Day of Regular classes
- Jan 20—Final Core Exams Begin
- Jan 27—School Council Meeting @7pm
- Jan 31—PD Day (Semester Change)
- Feb 1—Semester Two Begins
- Feb 4—Last Day for Course Changes
- Feb 8—Second Semester Pictures
- Feb 16—PD Day
- Feb 17&18—Teachers' Convention
- Feb 21—Family Day
- Feb 24— School Council Meeting @7pm
- Mar 2-4—Graduation Pictures
- Mar 7—PD Day
- Mar 8—Parent Teacher Interviews
- Mar 10— Grade 9 Orientation Night @6:30 pm
- Mar 10—SAINTS SHOWCASE @7 pm
- Mar 21—Spring Break Begins
- Mar 28—School Begins
- Mar 31—School Council Meeting @7pm
- Apr 8—Graduation picture retakes
- Apr 11—Cycle One ends
- Apr 12—Cycle Two begins
- Apr 15-18— Easter Break
- **Apr 19—**PD Day
- Apr 27—Report Cards Issued
- Apr 28—School Council Meeting
- **May 20—**PD Day
- May 23—Victoria Day—No School
- May 26—School Council Meeting @7pm
- Jun 15—Last Day of Regular Classes
- Jun 16—Final Core Exams Begin
- Jun 25—Graduation

### SCHOOL FEES

School fees have been calculated and updated in Powerschool.
You can see the updated fees in your Parent/Student Portal.

Fees are payable online through SCHOOL CASH ONLINE.

\*\*See page 3 for more information\*\*

### POWERSCHOOL APP

Looking for access to your students marks, attendance & more?

Create your PowerSchool Parent Portal today!

Visit https://powerschool.sperd.ca/public/

- Click on the 'create account' tab
- Choose the blue 'create account button' Enter the required information. (A working email address is important.)
- Add your children—scroll down to the section called "Link Students to Account" Enter your child's first & last name.
- The <u>ACCESS ID</u> is your child's **AB Health Care** # without any dashes or spaces in it. The <u>ACCESS PASSWORD</u> is your **child's birthdate** in the format year/month/day (ie: 20020416) Choose your relationship to your child from the drop down list.
   Repeat for all of your children.
- Scroll down to the bottom of the screen & click 'enter'.



780 - 614 - 3731

It is the responsibility of the parent or guardian to contact the office to report any absences for a student.



Mark Tichkowsky, Principal

## Principal's Message

To the grade 10's and new students transferring in, welcome to Regional High School. To all returning students—Welcome back. We hope that everyone had an enjoyable and relaxing summer. If you have any concerns please feel free to contact myself or one of our

Assistant Principals, Mrs. Angela Noel or Mr. Corey deMoissac.

Information packages were handed out at registration which included details about the discipline policy, Covid 19 protocol, Bill 44 and a fair notice letter. In the fair notice letter it outlines how we will handle serious threats in our school. Please take time to read through this information. These items have been discussed with your child at our general GoogleMeet assembly.

In this newsletter you will find a step by step guide to MyPass which will allow students to view and print their diploma exam results and order transcripts.

Extra-curricular activities (Cross-country running, Boys and Girls volleyball, football, and the hiking club) are already up and running. I encourage all students to join an activity, as the Regional provides many opportunities to get involved. At this point we will not have spectators at any of our indoor games that we host at Regional. We will try to live stream as many games as possible. Sorry for the inconveniences.

We would like to welcome new to the Regional teaching staff, Ms. Ozga teaching Social Studies, Ms. Garay teaching Science and Math. Shankowski Biology, Mr. teaching Chemistry and Physics, and Ms. teaching English. Wishing everyone a successful 2021-2022 school year.

OCTOBER 2021				
MON	TUES	WED	THURS	FRI
				1 Loaded Burger
4 Chicken Strips (2), Sauce & Curly Fries	5 8" Pizza Sub	6 Pulled Pork & Coleslaw	7 Roast Chicken, Mashed Pota- toes, Veggies	8 PD DAY
11 THANKSGIVING	12 Rib on a Bun	13 Lasagna w/ Garlic Stick	14 Chicken on a Cloud	15 Captain (Fish) Burger w/ Tartar Sauce
18 Beef & Veggies on Rice	19 Hot Dog Special	20 Hot Beef on a Bun	21 Chicken Caesar Salad	22 Taco Salad
25 Grilled Ham & Cheese	26 Chicken Wrap	27 Taco in a Bag	28 Perogies (5) w/ Garlic Sausage	29 Spaghetti & Meatballs



**OCTOBER 15, 2021** 

\*Retakes November 10, 2021\*
All students are required to have their photo taken for identification purposes.



# SCHOOL CASH

#### School fees will be accepted using School Cash Online in an effort to minimize traffic in our schools and increase efficiency.

School Cash Online helps parents and community members pay school-related fees safely, quickly and easily.

available to your student online for purchase. You can then choose to pay these fees online through different methods, including credit cards, credit/ debit cards and eCheck. You can also stay informed and keep track of which school fees require your attention.

You are able to register – a simple task that takes less than five minutes - by visiting:

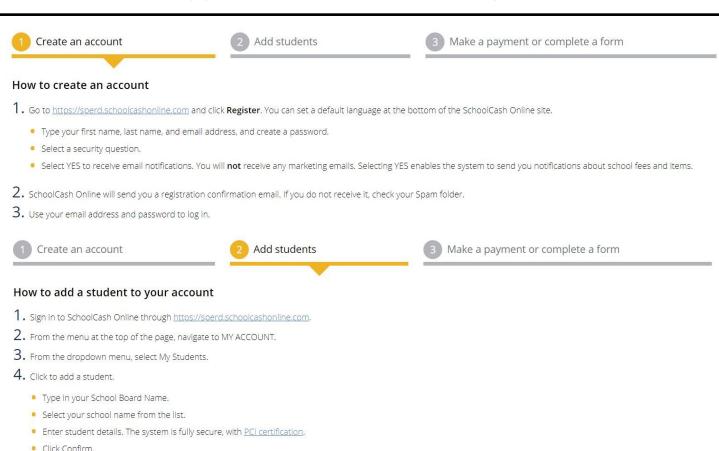
#### https://sperd.schoolcashonline.com

The new system puts all of the school fees (If you do not receive an email verification please check your spam folder.)

Please note: You do not need your child's student number. For security purposes St. Paul Education is not using unique student identification numbers. Please ensure "I do not have the student number" is selected when registering.

Also, upon registration you will be asked if you would like to receive notifications via email. We strongly encourage you to say yes to this request in order to receive future notification of items available to purchase online.

Make a payment or complete a form



#### How to make a payment or complete a form

Create an account

1 . You will be able to view any available items or forms attached to your students that are set up on your account.

Add students

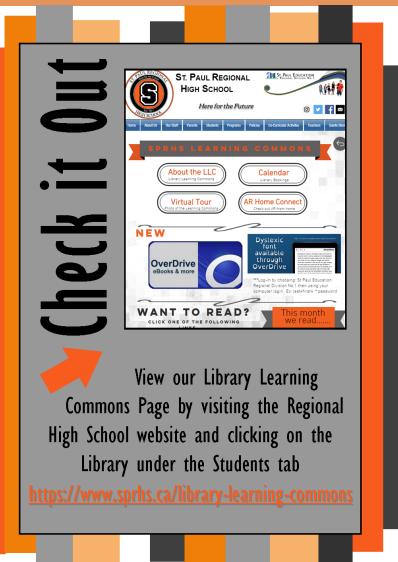
- $2.\,$  Select the item which you would like to purchase/complete and click "Add to Cart."
- 3. Once you have finished adding items to your cart, click "Continue".

You can pay or submit a form for multiple students' items in one checkout.

# Parent/Teacher INTERUSENSES

\*OCTOBER 21, 2021

\*As of right now, interviews will be held over the phone or virtually. A sign up form and more information will appear on our website the week prior.



# YEARBOOK

# The 2020 - 2021 Yearbook available for PICK-UP!

Current students (or students with siblings) can pick up books in the library. Graduated students can come to the front office.

This year's 2021-2022 yearbook can be ordered online through SCHOOL CASH ONLINE. There is also a link on our school website under the 'students' tab.

# BUYA BOOK

\$60.00 each



# #GOSAINTSGO





Congrats to our Golf & Cross Country Teams for bringing home the banners at the first events of the year!

#### 3A/4A Zone Golf Results:

#### **Girls Individual Winners:**

Gold - Jessie Kurek 100 Bronze - Brittney Cole 111

#### **Girl Team Award:**

Zone Banner:

Jessie Kurek, Brittney Cole, Coral Roche, and

Kylie Yaskow - 315

#### **Provincial Team:**

SPRHS Team

#### **Boys Individual Winners:**

Gold - Colin Pasitney 72

Bronze - Caleb Gratton 92

#### **Boys Team Winners:**

Zone Banner:

Colin Pasitney, Caleb Gratton, Monty Dallaire, and

Liam Boyko - 231

#### **Provincial Team:**

SPRHS Team

Good luck to those advancing to provincials and thanks to all who took part!

Interested in Curling?

There will be meeting on **October 6th at 11:45 in Room 40.**Please plan to bring your lunch and hear what our program is all about - Everyone is welcome to play!





# #banffhikingtrip2021

Together with Mrs. Noel, Mrs. Didychuk, Mr. Shankowski and Mr. Beaulieu, **28 students travelled to Banff from September 23-25, 2021.** They hiked Grotto Canyon, the Sentinel Pass and Johnston Canyon. What a great adventure for this crew of students! If you are interested, **another Outdoor Club hiking adventure will be planned in the spring.** 









# **Sept 29, 2021**











**Guides Available** 

# Study guides

\$20.00 each

Available in the office.

Study Guide THE KEY specifically designed to assist students prepare for quizzes, unit tests, and final exams throughout the year. It is 100% aligned with the current Alberta curriculum.

- Each unit includes essential teaching pieces, practice questions, unit tests, answers, and detailed solutions.
- Challenger Questions provide students difficult *questions* that test their depth knowledge.
- The complete solutions show problem-solving methods. explain key concepts, and highlight potential errors.
- The resource is ideal for yearlong use by students, teachers, and parents at home or at school.

- A Table of Correlations at the beginning of each unit identifies the curriculum outcomes for the unit and the multiple-choice, numericalresponse, and written-response questions that specifically test those concepts.
- To help students understand the curriculum. THF provides explanations for key concepts at the beginning of each unit and practice questions.
- Final tests modelled after the diploma exams are provided in THE KEY. Students may use it become familiar provincial exam format and rigor.
- Detailed solutions are provided for all questions. Solutions show the processes and ideas used in arriving at the correct answers and may help students



Mrs. Morrison

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Mrs. Kaprowski

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# IMPORTANT DATES

Sept 20, 22, 24: Mrs. Morrison will be helping students with ApplyAlberta in room 220 at lunch time. Sign up sheets are posted on her office door (room 217).

Sept 23, 27, 29 - Explore different post-secondary schools at our virtual ELAA events at 5-7pm

Sept 30 - Oct 6: Indigenous students can apply for FREE to the University of Alberta

Oct 1: First day to apply to many post-secondary schools. Some entrance scholarships are open (ex. RDC and UCalgary)

Oct 2: UCalgary Open House

Oct 5: Portage College virtual Open House @ 6-8pm

Oct 13: Application deadline for the Loran Award

Oct 16: University of Alberta Open House and Concordia University of Edm Open House (\*free applications)

Oct 20: MacEwan University virtual presentation at 7pm

Oct 22 & 23: Lakeland College Open House (\* free applications)

Oct 23: ULethbridge and USask Open House

Oct 30: NAIT Open House

Nov 6: MacEwan University & Red Deer College Open House

More events listed at sprhs.ca/career-events-calendar

# VIRTUAL OPEN HOUSE

October is a busy month for Open Houses at post-secondary schools across Alberta. An Open House is a day or two each year, where everyone is welcome to visit a college or university campus to learn more about the programs and services they offer. However, this year due to Covid, many schools are hosting a VIRTUAL open house and various other online presentations throughout the year. The big perk is now you don't need to travel and you can explore and learn about any school, regardless of the location, all from the comfort of your home in your pajamas! To see a big list of Open House dates visit www.sprhs.ca/career-events-calendar

#### **EXPLORE. PLAN.**

There are some GREAT upcoming events and we are particular excited for the ELAA Post-Secondary events happening at the end of September. During these virtual events, students and families can visit different post-secondary booths (as well as the Canadian Forces and RCMP) to learn more about their programs and ask questions. There are many dates/times to pick from: Sept 21 @ 11am - 1pm, Sept 23 @ 5-7pm, Sept 27 @ 5-7pm and Sept 29 @ 5-7pm. Students can register and login at https://bit.ly/3ExreGU



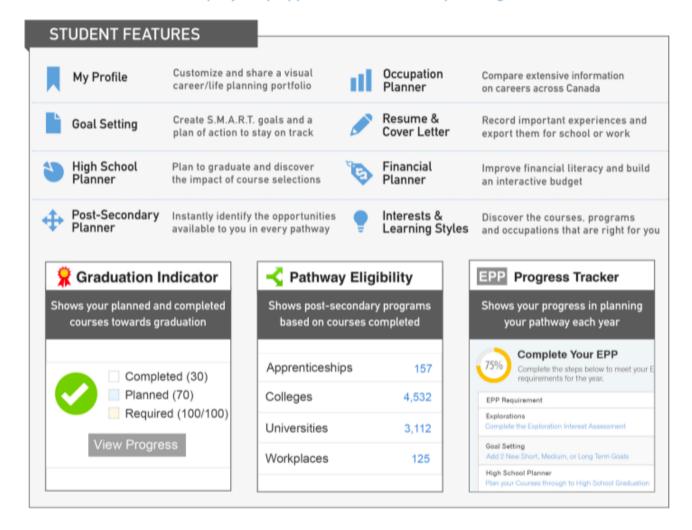
Make sure to join Mrs. Morrison's REMIND messages to stay in the loop with important dates and deadlines. To sign up visit remind.com/join/sprhs12

#### **APPLY ALBERTA**

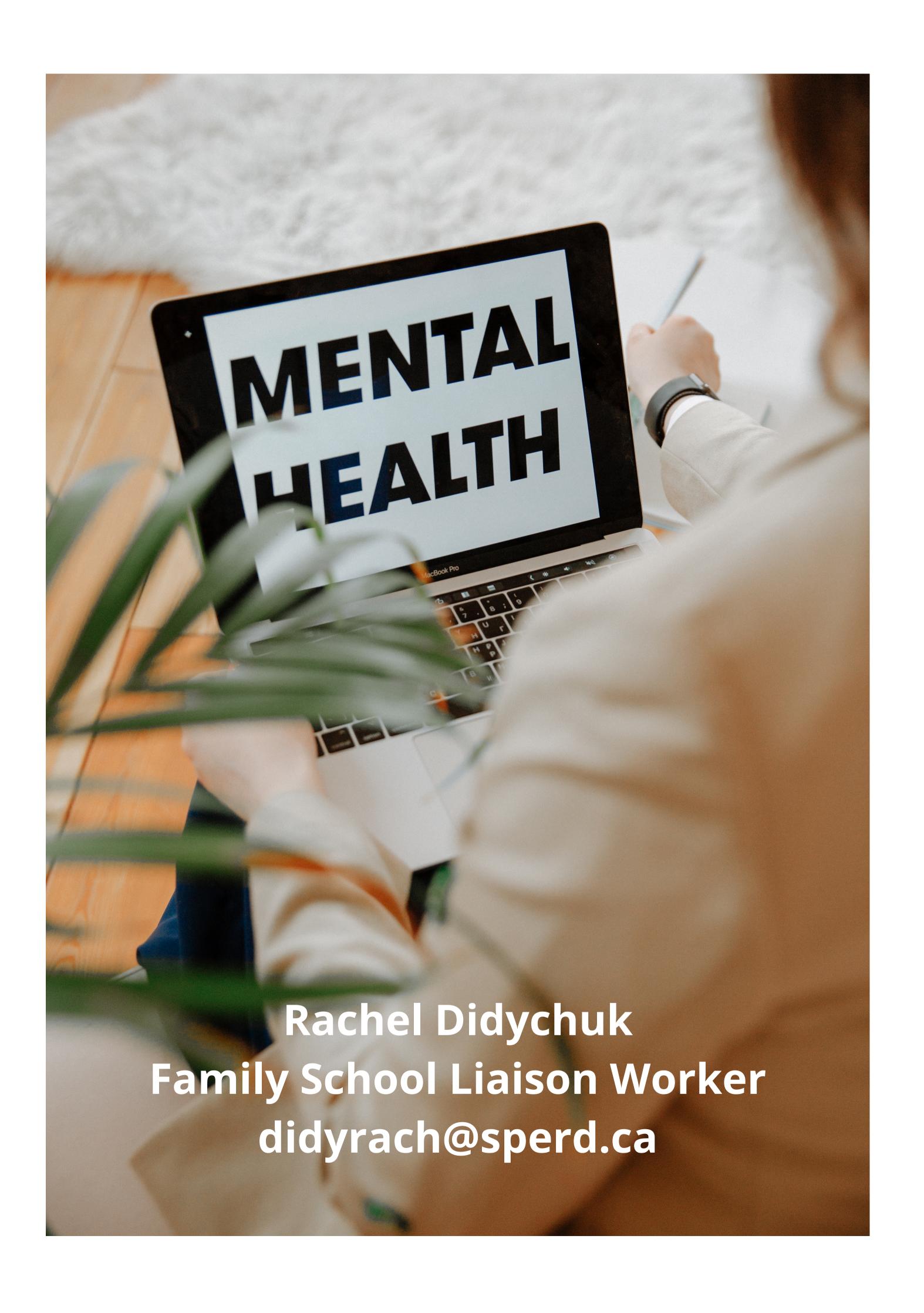
For most Alberta post-secondary institutions, students will apply to the program of their choice using a website called Apply Alberta. This year, we will be hosting noon hour ApplyAlberta workshops to get students set up with their accounts in room 220. Students can choose between Sept 20, 22 & 24 to join and sign up sheets are posted on Mrs. Morrison's door (room 217). DID YOU KNOW starting Oct 1st (first day to apply for most schools), students will be able to complete their post-secondary applications. For out of province schools, please connect with Mrs. Morrison.

## MYBLUEPRINT EDUCATION PLANNER

myBlueprint provides students with a simple step-by-step approach to career/life planning.



Get started by going to myblueprint.ca/sperd and creating your student or parent account





Self-care can and will look differently for everyone,

Make a mental note of all of the ways you take care of you!



Try something new!
New school year,
new you right?!

But of the Box

Out of the Box

# National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

Thursday, September 30

An opportunity to support the reconciliation process and to recognize and commemorate the tragic history and ongoing legacy of residential schools, and to honor their survivors, families and communities.

Wear your orange shirt and participate in a community event!



# Resources



<u>Supportive Resources - St. Paul Regional High School</u> <u>Webpage</u>

<u>Healthy Together - A guide to family and home life</u> <u>during COVID-19</u>

Mental Wellness Moments with Dr. Nicholas Mitchell

<u>mindyourmind.ca - Mental Health Resources</u>



#### **Board Meeting Summary September 08, 2021**

Delegation: Trustees received an overview of a meeting held September 7 by a representative from a group of parents and students, to discuss their concerns related to the Board's recent decision to require masking in common areas based on the Alberta Government's new temporary measures in response to the Delta variant and varying regional vaccination rates as of September 3, 2021.

Meeting Protocols: Prior to the September 13 meeting, trustees carefully reviewed the requirements for Board meetings as they relate to the recently announced health order from the provincial government to work from home if possible. For the September 08 meeting, the number of people present in the boardroom was reduced and all participants remained distanced. All other attendees participated via Zoom. After greater discussion, trustees passed a motion to continue to hold regular Board meetings via Zoom until further notice and direction from the province.

2021-22 Return to School Plan: Over the past number of weeks, the Division has heard concerns from both parents who want health measures such as masks in schools and those who do not want to see masks in schools. Many parents on both sides have also expressed concerns related to the mental health of students. After careful consideration, including a review of differing concerns expressed by parents and community members, accountability of the Board to provide a level of safety in Division schools, low regional vaccination rates, the lack of a vaccine for students aged 11 and younger, and the importance of students being in schools and schools staying open, trustees passed a motion to have students in Grades 4-12 and all staff wear masks in common areas in schools. Board chair Starosielski noted that the provincial government deemed that "school authorities continue to have the ability and corresponding accountability for any local measures that are put in place...which may exceed provincial guidance. If school divisions make the decision to go beyond the provincial guidance, part of the accountability you have to your communities is to explain why this is necessary in your local contexts". Trustees Young, Anderson, Starosielski and Wiebe shared that ultimately they would like schools to remain open and not experience a forced Alberta Health Services school shut down which could be detrimental to mental health. This requirement will amount to approximately one hour per day when students must wear a mask. Students will be allowed to take off their masks once they are in the classroom. This decision is intended to strike a compromise approach that recognizes both the physical and mental health needs of students while putting in a measure to slow the possible spread of the virus in schools. As they did last year, individual students or staff can apply for a mask exemption in accordance with the province's mask exemption guidelines. At-home learning is also an option. Note that students in Two Hills Mennonite School (THMS) are exempt from the masking requirement. Staff at THMS are still required to wear masks in common areas. This exemption is based on the unique religious and academic programming in Two Hills Mennonite School. Trustees also passed a motion to communicate their concerns regarding the lack of direction and health guidance for schools to the provincial government.

2021-22 Enrolment Update: Early enrolment figures show that the Division is down about 200 students from projections. This number could improve depending on buses running from nearby communities and parents' making a final decision regarding in-person or at-home learning. A very low number of families (12 students in all) have opted for the Division's at-home learning program. These students are currently being supported by the Myrnam Home Education and Outreach Centre. A part-time teacher has been hired to boost at home learning in Myrnam until the end of the semester in January. A number of at-home learners who attend Ashmont, Myrnam and the Regional are also being supported by their home school.

Council of Elders: The Innovation in First Nation Education grant has come to an end as of June 2021. This was a very successful grant that supported a lot of good work between the Division and neighbouring First Nations. The Division has developed a three-step plan to continue the work that was started with this grant. The first phase involved hiring Mr. Clifford Cardinal as Cultural Advisor. Mr. Cardinal opened the school year with a pipe ceremony. The second phase is now underway with the hiring of two Community-School Liaison Workers. Nikita Bull will be working with students and families from Whitefish Lake First Nation, and Shelly Quinney will be working with students and families from Frog Lake First Nation. In addition to his role as cultural advisor, Mr. Cardinal will also work with students and families from Saddle Lake First Nation. Trustees passed a motion approving a third phase which will involve the establishment of an elders advisory council with representation from Frog Lake, Kehewin, Saddle Lake, and Whitefish Lake First Nations. This plan is in the early planning stages and more details will be released shortly.

Alberta Health Services (AHS) Outbreak Management: Under the Health Act, schools in the province are required to monitor absenteeism rates in their schools. If there is an absentee rate of more than 10%, a school must notify Alberta Health Services (AHS), and they will conduct an investigation. If the symptoms among all the absent students in a school are similar, AHS will declare an outbreak and may require specific health restrictions in that school.



#### **Board Meeting Summary September 08, 2021**

Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA): The local ATA executive accepted an invitation from Board Chair Starosielski to attend regular Board meetings during the upcoming school year. Trustees passed a motion to cover one half-day sub per meeting for ATA attendance at regular Board meetings.

Municipal Election 2021: Nominations for Board of Trustee elections close at noon on September 20. Election day is October 18. More information can be found on the <u>St. Paul Education website</u>.

#### Superintendent's Report

- Superintendent Brodziak noted that the Division will recognize September 30 as National Day of Truth and Reconciliation. Students will not attend school on September 30, and Orange Shirt Day activities for students will be held on an alternate day. The PD day that was scheduled for September 27 has been changed to September 30, and staff will take part in professional development related to Truth and Reconciliation on that day.
- School immunization information was sent home with students for parents of students in Grades 7-12. The choice to immunize is a
  parent choice.
- Through a grant with Alberta Education, Enriched Academy is offering Financial Literacy programming to all grade 10-12 students in Alberta. The program is made up of eight modules covering a variety of financial literacy topics. The information will be reviewed with administrators.

#### Financial Report

- The Division's projected enrollment for 2020-21 was slightly more than our actual enrollment for 2020-21. Under the new Weighted Moving Average (WMA) formula this means that our funding for this year has been adjusted by -\$101,629.
- Because of COVID, Alberta Education is providing an offset that corrects the -\$101,629 adjustment. For us this is a relatively small amount, but for other districts it is significant.
- Originally it was expected that the adjustment would be part of the 2021-22 year. Alberta Education has now determined that the
  revenue reduction is to be recorded in 2020-21 and the corresponding offset covid mitigation support is to be recorded in 2021-22.
- The province has recently announced additional funding for home education students wishing to take distance/online education courses. Trustees passed a motion setting a \$650 fee for home education students taking online courses which is to be offset by the provincial support as the division is otherwise unfunded in this regard.

#### Reports

Alberta School Boards Association Fall Annual General Meeting: Participants will have the option to attend in-person or virtually on November 14-16.

Alberta Catholic School Trustees Association (ACSTA): Work is underway to review and reimagine the structure of the ACSTA. ACSTA will be working with the Council of Catholic School Superintendents to provide guidance to the Department of Education as it relates to Catholic education. A hybrid model of both in person and online options is being proposed for the Annual General Meeting.



## **Board Meeting Summary September 22, 2021**

On Wednesday, September 22, 2021 the Board of Trustees of St. Paul Education held a special meeting to address a number of emergent items.

September 30th - Truth and Reconciliation: Trustees passed a motion to update the school calendar to reflect September 30th as a holiday instead of a professional development day. This reflects the Truth and Reconciliation Call to Action #80 and will provide the opportunity for reflection and to support and honour those who have been impacted by residential schools. Schools will hold Orange Shirt Day activities for their students and staff on an alternate day.

Board Operations Policy 7 Amendment: Senior administration recommended the following amendment to Board policy - "Any petitions to the board must follow the Education Act Petitions and Public Notices Regulation" (Alberta Regulations 91/2019).

Superintendent's Report: The superintendent shared the <u>new provincial health measures</u> that were announced by the Government of Alberta on September 15, 2021. With respect to health restrictions, we are mandated to follow AHS directives, but within this context, our goal is also to apply a reasonable, balanced approach to the extent possible. The effects of the pandemic are causing some stress points within the Division, these include bus driver shortages, staffing availability, higher than usual levels of recorded staff absences, and a number of Division schools in either outbreak status or under investigation for outbreak status. (On September 17th, Glen Avon was declared to be on outbreak status by Alberta Health Services. On September 21, Racette School was also declared to be on outbreak status by AHS.)

The Board of Trustees must balance the legal rights of parents, students and staff with Board responsibilities to provide a <u>respectful and safe learning environment</u> as outlined in the Education Act and a safe work environment as per the Occupational Health and Safety requirements. In accordance with these obligations and the current Alberta Health Services guidelines, people are no longer legally required to quarantine if they are a close contact of someone who has tested positive for COVID-19. However, if they are not fully immunized and have been exposed to COVID-19, it is strongly recommended they avoid public and other high-risk locations. The Board is exploring the impacts of COVID as it relates to leave provisions with its employees.

Beginning the 2021-2022 school year, the <u>Elk Point Outreach School (EPOS)</u> was to be relocated into existing space at the FG Miller Jr/Sr High School. Trustee Young from Elk Point has requested that this decision be reviewed at the October 13, 2021 Board meeting. Given that the pandemic is still on-going, Superintendent Brodziak agreed that a relocation is perhaps not in the best interest of students at this time.

Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Curriculum and Engagement Group: In preparation for the focus group curriculum engagements with Board Chairs on October 12, November 14 and December 1, ASBA is seeking specific, concrete feedback from parents and community members on the draft K-6 curriculum and implementation process. The feedback will be shared with Alberta Education and the Government of Alberta in advance of the new curriculum rollout. The superintendent and his team will work on putting a survey out to our parents and community to gather feedback in advance of the first ASBA Board Chairs meeting on October 12.



# **Board Meeting Summary September 22, 2021**

Election Update: Two candidates Dwight Wiebe (Glen Avon Ward), and Jan Rajoo (Ward B) are acclaimed. Eight candidates have filed nomination papers to fill four positions in the remaining wards.