Martensville High School held its graduation ceremonies on June 13 with over 100 graduates.

Photo credit: Principal Paul McTavish, posted on Twitter







### Board approves 2018/19 budget

The Prairie Spirit Board of Education approved the Division's 2018/19 budget at its meeting on Monday, June 18, the last Board meeting of the current school year.

"Our budget has been designed to support the Board's key results areas," said Larry Pavloff, Board Chair. "This includes a focus on graduation rates, reading, writing, mathematics and early learning."

Prairie Spirit's funding is determined by the Ministry of Education, based on the provincial funding formula and the projected enrolment for the school division. The provincial budget in April detailed all school division funding for 2018/19.

Prairie Spirit's funding increased by 2.46% (\$2.61 million) over the previous year, in recognition of the Division's growing enrolment. Prairie Spirit is projecting an enrolment increase of almost 200 students for the upcoming school year. "We are very grateful for our funding for 2018/19 as it recognizes the enrolment growth in our school division," said Pavloff.

#### **Budget highlights**

- Staffing: Prairie Spirit will add 10 additional teaching positions and seven additional Educational Associate positions for the 2018/19 school year. This staffing reflects the Ministry's funding for enrolment growth.
- Rosthern School project: Prairie Spirit's funding for 2018/19 included over \$10 million for the ongoing Rosthern School project.
   The two schools in Rosthern will be consolidated into a Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 12 facility which will be open for students by September 2020. The projected total cost of the project is over \$24 million.
- Facility repairs and maintenance: The provincial budget allocated an increase of 14.8% for facility repairs and maintenance for school divisions. Prairie Spirit's annual allocation in this area will be \$2.3 million for 2018/19, an increase of \$400,000.
- Busing: Prairie Spirit's budget includes \$1.5 million to purchase new buses for the Division.

The 2018/19 budget was developed following extensive consultation with the Board of Education and the Division's senior leadership. School division budgets must be submitted to the Ministry by the end of June.

#### **Celebration of Indigenous Peoples Day**

A celebration of Indigenous Peoples Day was held at the Division Office in Warman on Monday, June 18. Brad Nichol, Learning Superintendent, led the program, which celebrated the Division's partnerships and commitments.

A highlight of the celebration was the raising of the Treaty 6 flag and the Métis flag for display at Division Office. Elders Herb Seeseequasis, Sr., and Marylyne Parenteau participated in the flag blessing. "This is an historic day for Prairie Spirit," said Larry Pavloff, Board Chair.



Lori Jeschke, Director of Education, spoke at the celebration.



Larry Pavloff, Board Chair, brought greetings from the Board.

## Thank you and best wishes

Larry Pavloff, Trustee for Subdivision 5 and Board Chair, will be resigning from his position with the Prairie Spirit Board of Education, effective June 30.



Larry grew up in Arelee and graduated from Perdue School. He taught for 30 years, teaching in schools in Turtleford, Aberdeen and Allan. He was an accomplished softball player who played internationally and spent a year playing in New Zealand. In 2003, he was inducted as an individual athlete into the Saskatchewan Sports Hall of Fame.

He was elected as a Trustee for Prairie Spirit School Division when the Division was formed through amalgamation in 2006, representing Subdivision 5 (Perdue, Asquith, Eagle Creek Colony and Sunnydale Colony). He was elected Board Chair in 2011, a position he has held ever since.

Larry was awarded a Life Membership in the Saskatchewan School Boards Association (SSBA) last year. He served on a number of provincial education committees, including the Provincial Panel on Student Achievement, the Provincial Capital Restructuring Committee, the Provincial Infrastructure Advisory Committee and several others.

At the end of his term, it's a good time to look back and reflect on his 12 years with the Prairie Spirit Board of Education.

# What has changed the most since you started as a Trustee in 2006?

"I've seen a huge change in adult learning in our school division. I see schools and staff working together and learning from each other."

#### What has been challenging about your work on the Board?

"Since 2012, Prairie Spirit has had major reductions in resources. As a Board, we've had to make many difficult decisions regarding where to spend the money we have. The Board has worked so hard to support staff."

#### What are you proud of?

"I like the focus on *My Prairie Spirit Classroom*. I've enjoyed Learning for Life presentations. I also appreciate the focus on personal goals that match school goals; school goals that align with Division goals and the overall focus on the Education Sector Strategic Plan (ESSP).

I sincerely appreciate being a part of all the great work that Administration and staff have done with students over the years."

#### What will you miss?

"I will miss the work with staff and Trustees. Some of it has been challenging, but it's all been good work because it's supporting staff and students.

I'll miss my interactions with students at the Hutterite colonies, in particular. I enjoy listening to them read and taking them hockey sticks and baseball bats."

#### What work still needs to be done?

"We need to continue our work with First Nations and Métis partners, communities, parents and students.

We need to continue to support staff in their adult learning. I've seen great gains and staff satisfaction from the support from each other and the learning they're engaged in."

Thank you and best wishes, Larry!

Vice-Chair Sam Dyck will move into the role of Board Chair. The Board elected Ken Crush to serve as Vice-Chair. These positions will remain in effect until the Board's annual organizational meeting in November.



Meeting with Minister of Education Russ Marchuk (third from left) in 2012.



Speaking to the media in 2013, following the announcement of the P3 schools project.



Participating in the sod-turning ceremony for Traditions Elementary School in Warman in 2015 (Minister of Education Don Morgan, centre).

## The Prairie Spirit Board of Education



Subdivision 1

Pam Wieler

Blaine Lake

Laird

Leask

Waldheim

Green Leaf, Riverbend

and Leask Colonies



Subdivision 2
Trina Miller
Duck Lake
Hague
Rosthern



Subdivision 3 Ken Crush Borden Langham



Subdivision 4
George Janzen
Dalmeny
Hepburn
Osler



Subdivision 5
Larry Pavloff
Board Chair
Asquith
Perdue
Eagle Creek Colony
Sunnydale Colony



Subdivision 6
Bernie Howe
Delisle
Pike Lake
Vanscoy
Willow Park Colony



Subdivision 7

Dawne Badrock

Clavet

Dundurn

Hanley

South Corman Park

Hillcrest Colony

Lost River Colony



Subdivision 8
Garth Hetterly
Aberdeen
Allan
Colonsay
Riverview Colony



Subdivision 9
Bonnie Hope
Martensville



Subdivision 10 Sam Dyck Board Vice-Chair Warman



Subdivision 11
Kimberly Greyeyes
Muskeg Lake
Cree Nation



**Celebration of Indigenous Peoples Day** continued from page 1...

The Junior Sky Boyz drum group from Stobart Community School (grade 5 and 6 students) performed a flag song and an honour song.

Nichol highlighted the school division's current partnerships, including Instructional Shared Services Initiatives (ISSI) with Muskeg Lake Cree Nation and with Beardy's and Okemasis First Nation.

He also described the Ministry of Education's First Nations and Métis Achievement Grant. Prairie Spirit will use this grant to fund a First Nations and Métis Education Learning Support Facilitator for the school division this fall. Charmain Laroque was introduced at the celebration as she will move into this role next year.

Approximately 50 people attended the event, including representation from Muskeg Lake Cree Nation, Beardy's and Okemasis First Nation, the Prairie Spirit Board of Education, Division Office staff, Stobart Community School, Blaine Lake Composite School and Leask Community School.



The Junior Sky Boyz Drum group from Stobart Community School presented two songs, including a flag song and an honour song.