

**Board
Governance**

Congratulations to our new and returning Trustees!

Board of Education elections were held across the province on November 13 and we are thrilled to welcome five newly-elected Prairie Spirit Trustees and those Trustees returning for another term (right).

The Board of Education plays a pivotal role in guiding and governing the work of our school division, ensuring every decision reflects our commitment to Prairie Spirit students and schools. Trustees serve as champions for public education and their leadership is essential to:

- Advocate for Prairie Spirit students
- Champion Prairie Spirit schools
- Make informed decisions that support educational excellence

Board leadership announcement

We are proud to announce that Kate Kading has been elected as our new Board Chair, with Kimberly MacLean serving as Vice-Chair. These leadership positions are determined by Trustees each November, and we extend our sincere congratulations to both leaders.

Kate Kading, Trustee for Subdivision 2 (Duck Lake, Hague, and Rosthern), steps into her new role as Board Chair after serving as Vice-Chair for the past three years. Kate, who was acclaimed in the recent elections, makes history as the first female Board Chair in Prairie Spirit. "Being the first female Board Chair of Prairie Spirit has a weight of responsibility that is not lost on me," Kate said. "We have a strong team that will look for innovative solutions to our most challenging issues, keeping our students at the heart of every decision, every piece of advocacy."

Kimberly MacLean, Trustee for Subdivision 9 (City of Martensville), first joined the Board through a by-election in November 2023. She was acclaimed in last month's elections and brings a wealth of passion and dedication to her new role as Vice-Chair. "I am deeply honoured to have the opportunity to serve as Vice-Chair of our School Board," Kimberly said. "It is a privilege to work alongside such a dedicated group of individuals committed to the success of our students and schools."

At the Board's organizational meeting, Trustees were also appointed to a variety of committees for the 2024/25 school year.

The Prairie Spirit Board of Education consists of 11 dedicated Trustees representing subdivisions across the Division. Together, they will provide leadership and governance for the next four years (2024-2028).

We look forward to the exciting work ahead and thank our Trustees for their unwavering commitment to Prairie Spirit students, families, and schools.

Provincial Leadership – Congratulations to Trustee Kimberly Greeyes

We are proud to share that Kimberly Greeyes, Prairie Spirit Trustee for Muskeg Lake Cree Nation (Subdivision 11), has once again been entrusted with a leadership role on the provincial stage. At the Saskatchewan School Boards Association (SSBA) annual general meeting last month, Kimberly was re-elected to lead the Indigenous Constituency.

In this key role, Kimberly continues to bring her voice, vision, and commitment to the SSBA's provincial executive. Her re-election is a testament to her dedication and the trust placed in her by peers across the province. Congratulations, Kimberly!

Subdivision 3 by-election - March 19, 2025

The Trustee elected for Subdivision 3 – Borden and Langham – has stepped away from the role. As a result, there will be a by-election in this subdivision on **March 19, 2025**.

In the interim, Prairie Spirit Trustees have stepped in to provide support:

- Cindy Friesen – Borden School
- Kimberly MacLean – Langham schools

If you are interested in becoming a Prairie Spirit Trustee and supporting public education, please watch for nomination details which will be shared in January.



**PRAIRIE SPIRIT
BOARD OF EDUCATION
2024-2028**

Subdivision 1	Wendy Friesen
Subdivision 2	Kate Kading, CHAIR
Subdivision 3	vacant
Subdivision 4	Christa-Ann Willems
Subdivision 5	Cindy Friesen
Subdivision 6	Shelby Poggemiller
Subdivision 7	Bernard Martineau
Subdivision 8	Michael Richards
Subdivision 9	Kimberly MacLean, VICE-CHAIR
Subdivision 10	Adin Dereniwski
Subdivision 11	Kimberly Greeyes




Kate Kading
Board Chair



Kimberly MacLean
Board Vice-Chair



Kimberly Greeyes
Trustee

Thank you and best wishes to departing Trustees

The Board of Education and Prairie Spirit School Division acknowledge and thank the following departing Trustees. Thank you for your dedication, passion, and the countless hours you've poured into serving our school division.

Your commitment has made a lasting impact on our students, staff, and community. The difference you've made will continue to inspire and guide us in the years to come.

Bernie Howe (Subdivision 6: 1991-2024) - A legacy of leadership

For over three decades, Bernie Howe has been a champion for education, serving as a Board of Education Trustee representing Delisle, Vanscoy, Perdue, Pike Lake and Willow Park Hutterite Colony. Bernie was Prairie Spirit Board Chair from 2020-2024.

He was one of the original Board of Education Trustees in the newly created Prairie Spirit School Division in 2005. Prior to 2005, he was a Trustee for the Saskatoon West School Division, where he served as Board Chair. His leadership and vision have shaped education, both locally and provincially. Bernie was the Northern Representative for the provincial school board organization in 1996. He received a Life Membership from the Saskatchewan School Boards Association in 2019.

Bernie's legacy is one of commitment, wisdom and unwavering service. His tireless efforts have left an indelible mark on Prairie Spirit School Division. Thank you, Bernie, for your years of leadership and dedication!

Bernie's reflections: My proudest accomplishments were getting many renovations to all the schools throughout both school divisions and the new school at Pike Lake, maintaining the connection between parents and school in the education of their children, and I always strived to have the school a welcoming place for parents to bring their children. The slogan 'Children First' was started at Saskatoon West by my own school board and was something I always believed in.

Through the years as I served as a Trustee, I met some of the best people in the province, the most committed people to education, as well as some of the smartest people, making the job worth doing and I learned from them all.

I wish the new Board and Trustees all the best and I hope that they remain focused on the education of our children and keep the schools a welcoming place for parents to come and help their children learn.



Prairie Spirit Board of Education, August 2024

Pam Wieler (Subdivision 1: 2008 - 2024) - Building relationships

Since stepping into her role in 2008, Pam Wieler has been a dedicated and passionate advocate for education. Representing the schools of Blaine Lake, Laird, Leask, Waldheim, as well as Green Leaf, Riverbend, and Leask Colonies, Pam has been a champion for students, families, and communities.

Pam's work has always been defined by her ability to build strong, meaningful relationships—with community members, partners, and colleagues. Her leadership and dedication have left a lasting impact, and her commitment to fostering collaboration and community spirit will continue to inspire those around her.

Pam's reflections: My time on the Board has been both challenging and inspiring. A lot has been accomplished including new schools in Duck Lake, Warman, Martensville, Rosthern and Blaine Lake, and major renovations in a variety of other communities.

There is a lot to learn in this position and I have appreciated the Trustees I have learned from and collaborated with. I have had the opportunity to work with four different Directors who all shared their unique talents with this Division. Overall, I have truly enjoyed my experience serving in Prairie Spirit. I have met many wonderful, staff, students, and community members.

One of the most significant contributions a Board can make is to successfully advocate for adequate resources to support our public schools. I really hope we continue to create learning spaces that honour the diversity of all our students.

We have made progress in our response to the TRC Calls to Action and, yet, there is a lot of work to be done. I am certain the Division will continue to work positively in that direction.



Pam (third from left) with other Trustees and the Premier (centre) at the sod-turning for the new Blaine Lake Composite School in 2022

Board Appreciation

Dawne Badrock (Subdivision 7: 2015 - 2024) - Engaging the community

Since being elected in 2015 to represent Subdivision 7—including the communities of Clavet, Dundurn, Hanley, South Corman Park, and Hillcrest Colony—Dawne Badrock has been an advocate for students, families, and schools.

Dawne's passion for parent engagement and her commitment to consulting with the community have been the hallmarks of her leadership. She has always recognized the power of collaboration, ensuring that voices are heard and valued.

Dawne's reflections: I have been privileged to spend ten years in this role. During this time, I worked with three different Boards who all had the interests of the students as their number one priority. Genuinely engaging parents was a goal I held dear. The community survey to determine what our new strategic plan should look like garnered a shocking number of respondents. I am so proud that we are truly trying to involve parents in the schools as kids do best when parents are involved.

I would also like to commend our administration and teachers on all their hard work. You are an amazing group of caring and devoted individuals called to do this work.

Grace Wudrick (Subdivision 8: 2020 - 2024) - Connecting with schools

Grace Wudrick was elected as a Trustee in 2020, representing Subdivision 8 - Aberdeen, Allan, Colonsay, Lost River and Riverview Colony schools. Grace joined the Board after retiring from Prairie Spirit following a 34-year career as an Educational Associate providing speech and language support. She became a Trustee as a way to continue being involved in supporting students.

Her work as a Trustee was about relationships, connection and care. She embraced every opportunity to connect with schools, students and staff.

Grace's reflections: I enjoyed getting to know and learning from Prairie Spirit's exemplary leadership team who always have the best interests of the students they serve at the heart of their decisions. I feel privileged to have worked with this team.

I thoroughly enjoyed my role as a Trustee and value the relationships I formed during the past four years. I appreciated invitations from administrators to attend many school events, such as career fairs, drama productions, Remembrance Day Services, graduations and sod-turning events, to name a few.

Angela Bothner (Subdivision 5: 2020 - 2024) - Navigating change

Angela Bothner was elected as a Trustee in 2020, representing Subdivision 5 - Perdue, Lord Asquith and Eagle Creek and Sunnysdale Colony schools.

As a Prairie Spirit Trustee, she experienced the challenges of the pandemic and contributed to the growth and success of Prairie Spirit School Division through strategic planning and strong relationships.

Angela's reflections:

When I look back over the past four years, the thing that stands out is change. My Trustee term began during the pandemic where our Board meetings were held virtually for almost two years. Navigating through various challenges, our Board grew together becoming more solidified in the goals for our students and families. This was evident in our strategic planning and the strong, positive relationships that were developed with our staff as well as the government.

Much of the Board's work happens behind the scenes, and while it may not always be visible, it is essential to the growth and success of our Division. Our Board Chair always referred to us as "the best Board in the province" and I am privileged to have been a part of this Board and very proud of all the progress that we made during the term.

Change also happened for me personally as I took on new professional roles which do not allow me to continue to do the work required as a Trustee. I wish the new Board continued success in their advocacy for our Prairie Spirit students and public education.



Dawne (next to the signage on the right) with Clavet Composite admin, Trustees, Division and government officials and Bronwyn Eyre, MLA, at the official opening of the renovations at Clavet Composite School in 2023.



Grace (centre left) with Prairie Spirit Trustees and senior leadership following a meeting with local MLAs and the Minister of Education in fall 2023.



Angela (far right) with other Trustees, Division leadership and Clavet Composite School admin following a tour of the school in November 2022.