

April 10, 2024

BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS



St. Paul Education

Provincial Achievement Tests (PATs)

In response to feedback received from school authorities, Alberta Education has announced that Grade 6 PATs in English Language Arts and math will not be administered in May and June 2024. All grade 6 students are also exempt from the Science 6 PAT this year, as schools are piloting the new curriculum.

Long Service and Retirement Celebration

The Division will host a Long Service and Retirement Celebration for staff in early June.

Summer School

Registration is now open for the Division's Summer School Program being offered from July 2 to 26, 2024. Summer School is a great opportunity for students who want to complete a class before the school year begins or those who need to retake a course or upgrade their marks. Summer School will offer a variety of courses, including Google Productivity Pro, where students will receive a new Chromebook upon completion. For more information, please visit the Division [website](#).

Parent Session

Ariel Haubrich will return on May 2 to facilitate a free session for parents on social media use and mental health in children and youth. The session will be held in the Fine Arts Theatre at St. Paul Regional High School from 6:30 to 8:30 p.m. Registration is not required; however, those who wish to join us for pizza are asked to RSVP. More information is available on the Division [website](#).

Science Fair

The St. Paul and District Steam Society is hosting its second annual Science Fair on Saturday, April 13, 2024. In addition to featuring 32 science fair projects designed by students from St. Paul Education and surrounding divisions, there will also be a variety of educational sessions offered for students and staff. More information is available [here](#).

Ministers Youth Council

The Province is seeking approximately 40 junior and senior high school students from across Alberta between the ages of 14 and 19, representing diverse interests, identities, backgrounds, and perspectives, to join the 2024/25 Minister's Youth Council. Council members will learn about topics related to government and the inner workings of Alberta's education system and have an opportunity to provide their thoughts and ideas on how to strengthen education for all Alberta students. The deadline for submitting student applications is April 30, 2024. For more information, please visit alberta.ca/student-engagement.aspx.

Financial Report

The Division has received its 2024-25 provincial funding profile. Funding rates are primarily unchanged from the current year, but with enrollment decline and adjustments to transportation funding, the Division will receive less provincial support. With decreased funding and increasing costs, early forecasts predict the Division could face a shortfall of approximately \$1,000,000. Administration and trustees will be looking to firm up assumptions in the coming weeks, but it is clear that reductions will be necessary. Like all sectors, education is being hit hard by inflation, and funding is simply not keeping pace.

Political Parties Trustee Elections

The Board is seeking clarification from the provincial government regarding proposed amendments to the Local Authorities Election Act and the Municipal Government Act that could introduce political parties for municipal and school board elections.

For more information, contact:

Mr. Peter Barron
Superintendent of Schools
barrpete@sperd.ca

Learning Together, Growing Together