



Board of Education
Regular Meeting of the Board
Monday, October 16, 2023 - 1:30 p.m.
Boardroom (420 22nd Street East)

AGENDA

1.0 Welcome

- 1.1 Call to Order – Chair D. Boyko
- 1.2 Land Acknowledgement
- 1.3 Opening Prayer – Trustee R. Boechler
- 1.4 Adoption of the Agenda
- 1.5 Declaration of Conflict of Interest

2.0 Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the September 11, 2023 Regular Meeting of the Board of Education

3.0 Delegations and Special Presentations

4.0 Post Meeting Assignments

5.0 Consent Items

The Chair will ask for a motion to receive the items, which are starred, and to approve all recommendations contained therein. Prior to approving the motion, any trustee may request a star(s) be removed.

6.0 Discussion/Decision

- 6.1 Improving Student Learning and Achievement Monitoring Report: Part 1
Early Years Evaluation and Reading, Writing & Math
 - 6.2 Promoting Stewardship Monitoring Report
 - 6.3 Financial Statements (May-July)
 - 6.4 2023-2024 Student Enrolment
 - 6.5 2023 Remembrance Day Service
 - 6.6 Premier's Board of Education Award for Innovation and Excellence in Education
 - 6.7 St. Frances Cree Bilingual School
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7.0 Correspondence

- 7.1 Expressions of Gratitude – posted on Bulletin Board
 - 7.2 Reading File – copies circulated at meeting
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8.0 Reports and Good News

- 8.1 Report of the Director of Education
 - 8.2 Board Activity
 - 8.3 Board Linkage
 - 8.4 Board Linkage – Catholic School Community Councils
 - 8.5 Convention Reports
 - 8.6 Committee/Partnership Reports
 - Joint Operations – Trustees W. Stus and S. Zakreski-Werbicki
 - Together in Faith and Action – Trustees S. Zakreski-Werbicki and T. Jelinski
 - Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools Foundation – Trustees H. Byblow and B. Elliott
 - māmawohkamātowin Partnership (Saskatoon Tribal Council) – Chair D. Boyko and Trustees D. Case and S. Zakreski-Werbicki
 - nākatēyimitowin Educational Partnership (CUMFI) – Chair D. Boyko and Trustee W. Stus
 - Division Committee on Reconciliation and Healing – Trustee T. Jelinski
 - 8.7 Saskatchewan Catholic School Boards Association – Trustee B. Elliott
 - 8.8 Saskatchewan School Boards Association
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9.0 Committee of the Whole

10.0 Closing Prayer – Trustee R. Boechler

11.0 Adjournment

12.0 Sign of Peace

Present: Chair Boyko, Vice-chair Boechler, Trustees Byblow, Case (Teams), Elliott, Jelinski, Stus, Zakreski-Werbicki (Teams)

Also: Director of Education Rivard
Superintendent of Education Gay (Secretary to the Board)

The meeting was called to order by Chair Boyko at 1:31 p.m. and began by acknowledging that we are on Treaty 6 Territory—traditional territories of First Nations including Cree, Dene, Nakota, Lakota, Dakota and Saulteaux—and homeland of the Métis Nation. We pay our respect to the First Nation and Métis ancestors of this place, and we reaffirm our relationship with one another in the spirit of Reconciliation.

The opening prayer was led by Trustee W. Stus.

Adoption of Agenda

Motion: Moved by Trustees B. Elliott and W. Stus that the agenda be approved as circulated.
CARRIED

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Moved by Trustees B. Elliott and D. Case that the minutes of the regular meeting of June 26, 2023 be adopted as circulated.
CARRIED

Discussion/Decision

6.1 Catholic School Community Councils 2023-2024 Engagement Plan

Motion: Moved by Trustees R. Boechler and T. Jelinski that the Board of Education receive the information as presented and approve the Catholic School Community Councils 2023-2024 Engagement Plan.

CARRIED

6.2 2023-2024 Trustee School Liaison Program

Motion: Moved by Trustees D. Case and R. Boechler that the Board of Education receive the information as presented and approve the recommended 2023-2024 schedule for the Trustee School Liaison Program, pending any revisions.

CARRIED

6.3 Trustee Vacancy

Motion: Moved by Trustees W. Stus and R. Boechler that the Board of Education request a Minister's Order to maintain the Humboldt subdivision seat, but leave the position vacant until the next school board election at the latest, provided no other changes occur.

CARRIED

[Motion: Moved by Trustee R. Boechler that the Board move into committee.]

CARRIED

[Motion: Moved by Trustee B. Elliott that the Board move out of committee.]

CARRIED

[Motion: Moved by Trustee R. Boechler that the Board move back into committee.]

CARRIED

[Motion: Moved by Trustee B. Elliott that the Board move back out of committee.]

CARRIED

Adjournment

Motion: Moved by Trustee R. Boechler that the meeting be adjourned at 1:55 p.m.

CARRIED

Secretary

Chair

6.1 Improving Student Learning and Achievement: Part 1 Early Years Evaluation and Reading, Writing & Mathematics



Board Priority:

- Improving Student Learning and Achievement

Early Years Evaluation

Presented by: Superintendent J. Vangool, Coordinator Rosalie Roesch and Consultant Heidi Hale

Background Information:

Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools (GSCS) places a strong emphasis on providing high-quality and culturally affirming early learning environments for all students, while actively engaging families. We understand that effective early childhood programs lay the foundation for lifelong learning and well-being. Our goals continued to align with the Provincial Early Years Outcome (2014-2020 and into 2023 with an interim plan) even as we awaited direction within the new Provincial Education Plan following the pandemic.

Provincial and Division Based Goal:

By June 30, 2022, children aged 0-6 years will be supported in their development to ensure that at least 90% of students exiting Kindergarten are ready for learning in the primary grades.

Early Years Evaluation – Teacher Assessment

The Early Years Evaluation-Teacher Assessment (EYE-TA) is a readiness-screening tool that is administrated upon kindergarten entry in the fall and then once again in the spring. It provides information about each child's development and learning with a focus on reading readiness skills. Results from the EYE-TA allow educators and school-based interdisciplinary teams to quickly identify the students most likely to require extra support during the kindergarten year, based on their levels of skill development in five key domains at school entry. In addition to results for specific domains, children are also assigned a comprehensive score known as a Responsive Tiered Instruction (RTI) level. RTI is a preventive approach that allows educators, school teams and divisions to respond early and continuously, rather than waiting until a student experiences failure before providing a response.

Kindergarten EYE is a statistically significant leading indicator of a student's likelihood of reading at grade-level in Grade 3. Longitudinal analyses in the province show children who begin Kindergarten with good skills (Tier 1) in key areas, or who develop good levels of skill during their Kindergarten year, are far more likely to become grade-level readers by the end of Grade 3 in comparison to students who leave Kindergarten programs with lower levels of assessed skills.

Despite great effort by school divisions over the last nine years, the provincial/division goal to ensure that at least 90% of children exit kindergarten with the skills ready for learning in the primary grades has not been achieved locally or provincially. While we have seen improvements in school effectiveness and individual growth, the overall trend (both provincially and locally) continues to demonstrate that approximately 20% of children lack the

skills necessary for learning in the primary grades. Since the pandemic, we have also seen that readiness upon entry to kindergarten has decreased, especially in certain demographics.

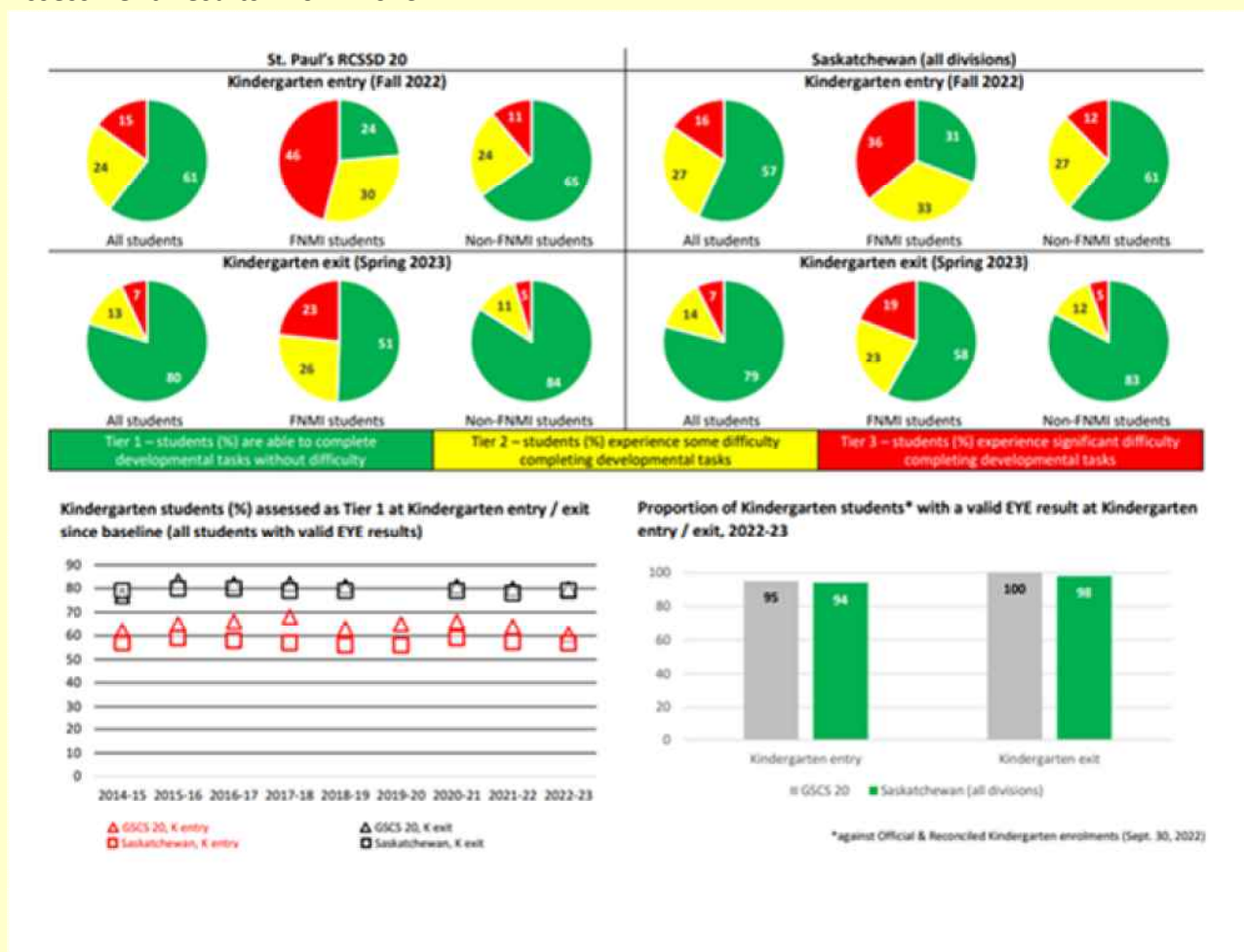
Impact of the COVID-19 Pandemic:

During the past three school years, the COVID-19 pandemic had impacted utilization rates in both Prekindergarten and Kindergarten programs within the division. Many of the children who met the vulnerability criteria did not attend Prekindergarten programs in 2020-21 or 2021-2022 prior to coming to kindergarten in 2022-2023. Community access to children's services were also limited during these years. Children were less likely to socialize with other children during this time, thus impacting language development, social skills and family engagement. During the last few years, there was an approximate 21-percentage point discrepancy in school readiness upon entry in some targeted GSCS schools in comparison to the rest of the division.

GSCS employed several strategies to enhance early learning outcomes:

- Full-time Kindergarten programming was offered in ten targeted schools.
- Early Learning educators focused on welcoming and engaging children and families using GSCS Kindergarten and Prekindergarten Start-up Road Maps.
- Staggered starts were implemented in Early Learning classrooms to support a smooth transition and enhance family engagement.
- Professional development and instruction focused on early and emergent literacy skills, particularly language development and phonemic awareness.
- Educators attended training on: self-regulation for early learners, the Early Years Evaluation (EYE), and the use of Edsby for assessment and communication.
- Collaborative efforts with various organizations, including KidsFirst, Saskatoon Tribal Council, Central Urban Métis Federation Inc., and Opening Doors Society.
- Programs emphasizing land-based learning received ongoing support and new learnings.
- Schools hosted family engagement days and Honoring our Voices events to replace traditional parent/student conferences.
- The Early Learning Intensive Support program supported over 34 children within a Prekindergarten setting.
- A teacher on assignment supported those accessing Early Learning Intensive Support programming.
- Speech and Language supports were provided in PreK programs.
- GSCS Early Learning team served on the advisory board to the Saskatoon Family Resource Centre and focussed on engaging families with children 0-5 year of age.
- Over 40 educators attended the Walk Alongside International Conference, which focused on Family Engagement.
- Job-embedded support was provided to new early learning educators and those requiring additional assistance.

Assessment Results - 2022-2023:



During the 2022-2023 school year, GSCS provided full-time Kindergarten in ten targeted schools and half-time programming in the remaining 33 elementary schools. A total of 1,507 students were assessed in the spring of 2023 using the Early Years Evaluation.

Key Findings:

- The trend continues to demonstrate that GSCS students do slightly better than the province when measuring school readiness upon kindergarten exit.
- The trend also continues to demonstrate a discrepancy between Self-declared First Nations and Métis students and non-self-declared First Nations and Métis students both locally and provincially. Although it appears that GSCS fell below the provincial average, the gap between school readiness upon entry had widened from previous years. The overall EYE effectiveness improved by 2-percentage points during the 2022-2023 school year.
- 39% of all students entered Kindergarten without the skills ready for school (scoring in Tier 2 or 3), compared to 36% in the previous year.
- 80% of GSCS Kindergarten students exited with the skills needed for primary years learning. 20% exited Kindergarten without the skills required for primary years learning (scoring in Tier 2 or 3), consistent with the previous year. There was a difference of 19.2-percentage points from entrance to exit (16-percentage points the previous year).

Focus on First Nations and Métis Students:

- 76% of Self-declared First Nations and Métis students entered Kindergarten without the skills ready for school, in comparison to 66.2% the previous year.
- 51% of Self-declared First Nations and Métis students exited Kindergarten with the skills needed for primary years learning, compared to 59% the previous year. There was a difference of 27-percentage points from entrance to exit (25-percentage points the previous year).

Full Day Kindergarten School Level EYE Effectiveness:

- When comparing pre-Covid 2018-2019 half time program outcomes with post-Covid 2022-2023 Full Time Kindergarten program outcomes, the data demonstrates an average of 12-percentage point increase in overall effectiveness (% of tier 2/3 students who improved) and a 17-percentage point improvement in effectiveness to tier 1 (% of tier 2/3 students who improved to tier 1).
- There was a range of effectiveness from school to school depending on a variety of factors.

Conclusion:

GSCS remains committed to addressing academic and social outcome gaps, especially for FNMI students, both prior to school entry and beyond. As we transition to the new Provincial Education Plan, our work continues to support our youngest learners and their families.

Additional Notes:

Attendance levels for all students have not yet returned to pre-COVID levels. We will continue to address this concern within our new Area of Focus priorities.

GSCS will continue to provide Full Time Kindergarten at St. Mary's Community School as well as at St. Michael's Michif School of Excellence.

Recommendation:

That the Board of Education receive the information as presented in the Improving Student Learning and Achievement Monitoring Report: Part 1 – Early Years Evaluation.

Reading, Writing and Mathematics

Presented by: Superintendent T. Fradette, Coordinators Cynthia Saleski, Lauren Willey, Brian Boutin and Consultants Lori Sampson and Claire McTavish

Background Information:

The Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools' Student Learning Model ensures that all students have consistent and systematic access to the learning supports they require in order to help them achieve the greatest academic progress possible. The foundation of our Student Learning Model has supported how we respond when students struggle or require enrichment.

Within the Student Learning Model, we have developed a common language of Quality Core Instruction. Our Classroom Commitment defines Quality Core Instruction within the key aspects of curriculum, environment, instruction and assessment that we strive for within each of our classrooms. Culturally responsive and relational pedagogy is connected to criteria and indicators within Quality Core Instruction. Our commitment supports the actualization of a quality learning experience for all students.

Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools uses the Student Learning Model and Quality Core Instruction to support professional practice that is guided by current research. Throughout the year, coordinators and consultants design and deliver professional learning opportunities for teachers supporting evidence-based professional practice in literacy and mathematics.

Each year a broad-based division committee works together to review the Board Goals and Priorities, the Provincial Education Plan and division student assessment information in order to support strategic planning in the area of reading, writing and mathematics. The committee meets four times throughout the year to review student data and collaboratively develop and monitor actions to support teachers and students.

Schools continue to engage in strategic planning aligned to board goals. School teams annually collaborate to review student data and develop Learning Improvement Plans that support student achievement. School staff reflect on quality core instructional strategies and actualize the selected strategies while monitoring the impact on student outcomes. This action research cycle is embedded within professional learning communities using short cycles of improvement called Sprints. Teacher professional learning within a job-embedded framework supports an ongoing student-centred development model.

Student achievement information is provided through a variety of assessments that support the division, school teams and teachers in monitoring student outcomes.

Student achievement in reading and mathematics is monitored using the Canadian Achievement Test 4 (CAT4) within Grades 4 and 7, providing a snapshot of how our students are doing relative to their Canadian peers at the same grade level (norm-referenced) as well as how students performed relative to pre-defined performance criteria (criterion-referenced). This assessment is administered in October each year.

Teachers use a variety of assessments within their classrooms to inform instruction throughout the year. Within reading, writing and mathematics the division collects additional information using the following assessments in June each year.

Reading – a comprehensive one-on-one assessment is used that provides teachers with valuable information regarding students’ accuracy, fluency and comprehension when reading leveled text.

Writing – a provincial writing rubric is used in Grades 4 and 7 to assess year-end student writing outcomes.

Mathematics – a provincial mathematics number strand rubric is used in Grades 2, 5 and 8 to assess year-end student mathematics outcomes within the number strand.

The report presented provides information on the division reading, writing and mathematics area of focus actions during the 2022-23 school year, including student assessment information from June 2023 and the October 2022 CAT4 assessment.

As we move forward, our current area of focus plans continue to use of evidence-based approaches with targeted supports aligned to our division’s strategic commitment to Indigenous student success.

Recommendation:

That the Board of Education receive the information as presented in the Improving Student Learning and Achievement Monitoring Report: Part 1 – Reading, Writing and Mathematics.

Board Priority:

- Promoting Stewardship

Presented by: CFO J. Lloyd, Superintendents K. Kowal and T. Hickey, Assistant Superintendent R. Martin, and Managers Kathryn Holmes and Laurier Langlois

Background Information:

Our board priority of promoting stewardship and subsequent goals guides our work in various areas. To report on our progress, the information included in this report is aligned to goals that are defined under this priority:

Rationale: Catholic education includes a calling to take care of God's abundant gifts. As stewards, board members are entrusted with the gifts of people, financial resources, facilities and the environment. We seek to receive these gifts gratefully and tend to them responsibly so that our work contributes to the greater good of the school division, our communities and our world. The Board of Education will continue to define and implement practices to achieve and sustain excellent board governance.

1. Human Resource Services

Board Goal: To support and nurture all of God's people who minister in Catholic education within Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools.

Department Goal – Healthy and safe workplaces where a culture of safety and wellness is embraced.

Rationale:

- When our employees are healthy, well, and at work, they, their families, our students and our school division benefit.
- Student outcomes are enhanced by consistent staff presence.
- Staff morale is enhanced.
- WCB premium surcharges and costs associated with injury-related absenteeism detract from our ability to better resource the learning program and needs of our classrooms.

Actions:

- Creating a safety culture is a priority of our division and has been supported from every level of our organization.
- Injuries and near misses are investigated with the intention of correction and future injury prevention.
- Return-to-work plans emphasize the safe and timely return to work with a wide range of accommodations made available.
- We have secured priority physical and occupational therapy access to facilitate more timely return to wellness for our employees.
- Continued review of historic WCB files to ensure appropriateness of determination with request for appeals/reconsideration/cost relief as appropriate.

- Active WCB claims management and advocacy to ensure fair determinations and claims management including progressive return to work planning.
- Division-wide Workplace Safety committee continue to meet to direct and support overall employee well-being.
- Our Employee and Family Assistance Plan (EFAP) continues to be well utilized with very positive feedback from employees. Our plan provisions provide for professional counselling support to our employees and their immediate families and is the most generous within the province. We have three providers available: Navera Community Connections (formerly Catholic Family Services), PPC (Professional Psychologists and Counsellors), and Alma Counselling Place (added in 2022).

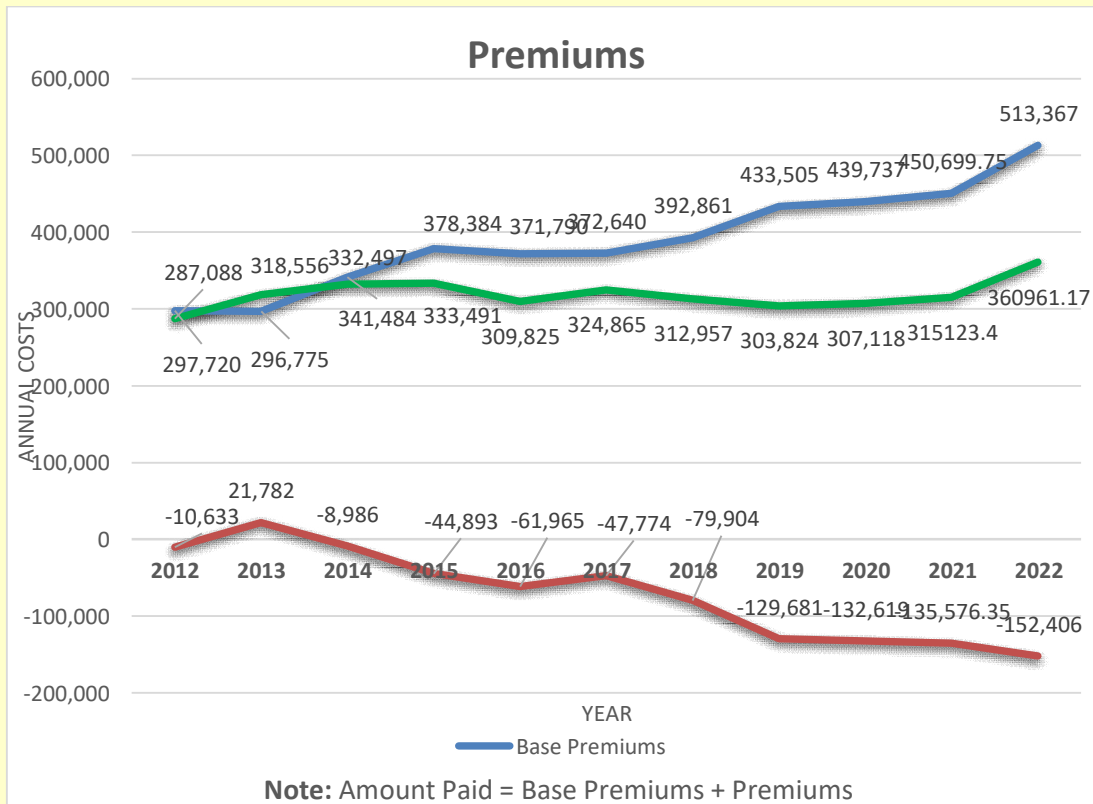
Our Results:

We are in a 16% premium discount position with WCB, which returned \$81,981.26 in premiums savings alone, with additional savings to be found in reduction to WCB top up as required by Collective Agreements. While only aggregate data is available for our industry code, it is fair to state that we are amongst the leaders of school divisions in this province in this regard. Furthermore, our experience rating would positively impact the provincial average/industry code, so our rating is perhaps even more impressive given this fact. This is the eighth consecutive year Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools has been in a rebate position. The graphs on the following page illustrate significant progress made in our experience ratings.

Experience determines rates. Our 2021 data influences 50% of our 2023 rate (2020 data 33%; 2019 data 17%). Our diligence and consistency have allowed our rebate position to be our new normal.

Now What...

- Continue to develop and promote a safety culture that emphasizes the fact that every injury is preventable. Continue to encourage and educate employees regarding the importance of timely reporting. While returning employees to work quickly and safely following an injury is laudable, we need to be even better in our efforts to be pro-active to prevent injuries from occurring in the first place.
- Continue supporting and encouraging occupational health care services to facilitate wellness and return-to-work.
- Increased focus on practices to support and encourage mental and emotional wellness for employees and their families through utilization of EFAP offerings.



Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Initiatives

Department Goal – Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools will reflect the student and community population that it serves at every level of the organization.

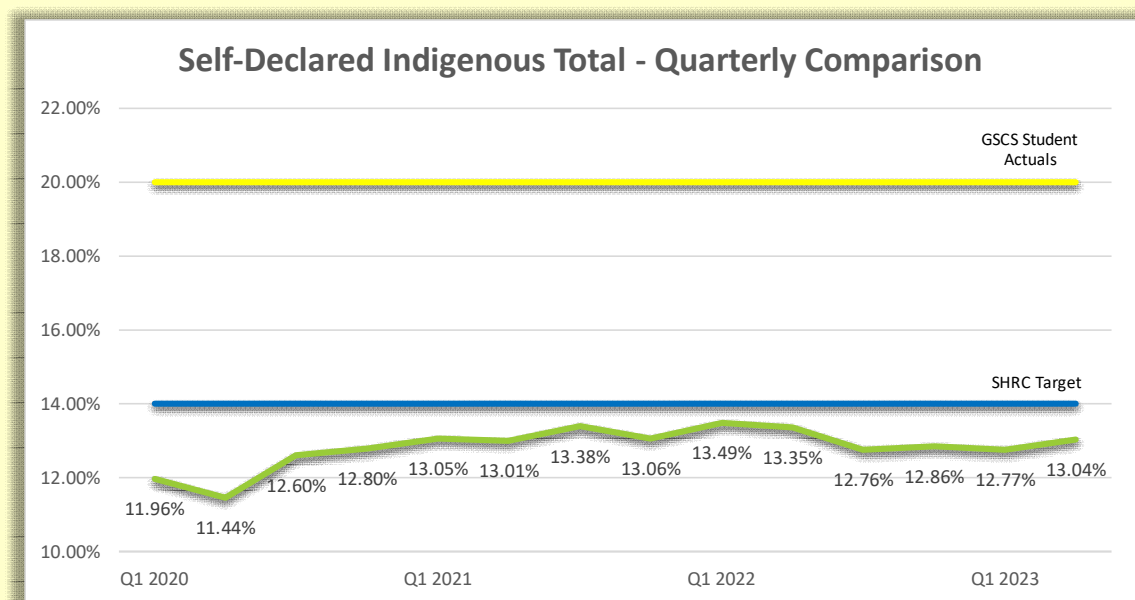
Rationale:

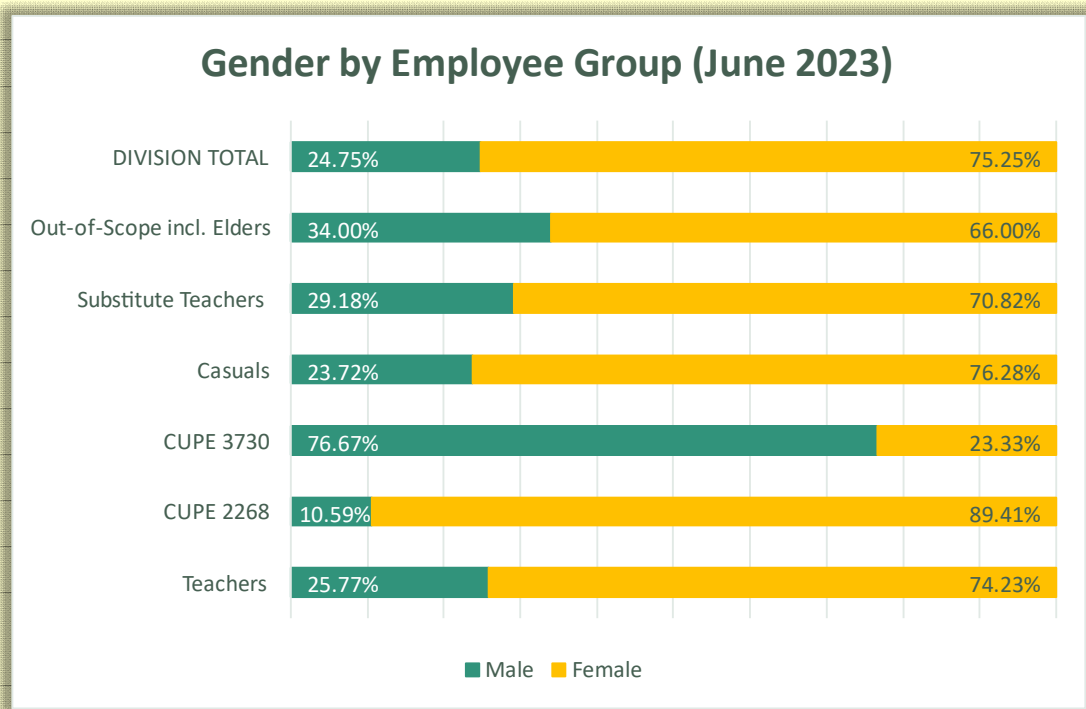
Diversity, equity and inclusion initiatives are designed to remove barriers to employment and ensure that current and prospective employees can fully participate in the many opportunities at Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools. As one human family created in the image and likeness of God, we are committed to listen, learn and collaborate with community partners as we strive for schools and workplaces that are welcoming and inclusive. Continued monitoring of the diversity and inclusion strategic plan provides opportunity to remain accountable to the goals we've set while adapting to the needs and aspirations of those we serve.

Actions:

- Successful intake of a new Indigenous Leadership Cohort comprised of five participants and the completion of two professional learning sessions in the 2022-2023 school year.
- Continued collaboration with community and organizational partners including SaskAbilities, Saskatoon Open Door Society, YWCA Employment and Learning Centre, and Quint Development Corporation to establish partnerships and connect with job seekers.
- Partnership renewal with International Women of Saskatoon's employment training program to host a 6-week voluntary work placement.
- Relationship building with the Northern Saskatchewan Indigenous Teacher Education Program (NSITEP) based in Air Ronge and continued collaboration with other Indigenous teacher education programs in the province.

Our Results:





Now What...

- Expand reporting methods to monitor employee retention and develop initiatives to retain equity group members.
- Collaborate with the Saskatoon Trades and Skills Centre to develop a unique curriculum and training program for prospective Educational Assistants.
- Renew diversity, equity and inclusion goals and priority areas in an updated five-year strategy (existing three-year strategy for the period 2021-2023).

Leadership Formation

Department Goal: To provide opportunities for specific leadership development and capacity building within Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools.

Rationale:

Leadership matters and enhances student outcomes. Leadership in Catholic education is unique, and we are called to provide leadership development opportunities for our staff.

Actions:

With board support, Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools has been able to provide the following leadership development opportunities for our staff:

- Newman Theological College Program
- Indigenous Leadership Cohort
- Administrator Mentorship Program

Results:

- Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools' teacher participation continues in the Newman Theological College Program. Teachers continue to grow in their personal faith journeys and are exhibiting faith leadership in formal and informal ways. Seven (7) teachers are set to complete their MRE this school year. A new cohort is set to begin in January 2024.
- Continue with Indigenous Leadership Cohort and graduate participants who have been part of the cohort since its inception in 2021.
- Administrator mentorship pairings continue to succeed in both vice-principal and principal categories.

Now What....

- Continued priority, support, and promotion of the Newman Theological College Program.
- Continued refinement of our 'in-house' Leadership Development Programs to ensure currency both in terms of content and participant need.

2. Technology Services

Board Goal: To responsibly allocate and utilize financial resources.

Cyber School

Students in Grade 4 through Grade 12 registered with any school division in Saskatchewan are able to access online learning through Saskatoon Catholic Cyber School.

High School Online Learning: Grade 9-12

The High School Online Learning Program provides access to all required high school course as well as many elective courses. The courses provide Saskatchewan curricula through an online, asynchronous delivery model. Students work through the content with the support of a teacher. Assignments are graded and marks provided. Regular credit is granted upon successful completion. There are approximately 2,000 credits being accessed by 1,500 students.

Information Technology Department Reorganization

The department went through a reorganization during the month of August to ensure human resource allocations and budget expenditures are assigned to where the needs are based on a multiyear plan. This work will continue into the 2023-24 school year to ensure the school division can actively respond to the changing needs of students and staff.

Microsoft Settlement

The school division applied for settlement funds through a class action lawsuit with Microsoft. Applications were submitted for each school which resulted in \$125,000 of hardware credits and \$1,100,000 of software credits. These credits will allow the school division to enhance the cyber security footprint across all school with no additional cost to the annual operating budget.

3. Administrative Services

Board Goal: To responsibly allocate, protect, and use financial resources in the most efficient way possible.

Purchase Card (PCard)

The BMO PCard Program for the past school year returned to the increase of usage by existing card holders, ghost cards, and the addition of new internal card holders. Rebate revenues this year resulted in almost \$64,880 in annual revenue which is an increase of 2.9%. The overall number of transactions saw an increase from the prior year to approximately 22,700 transactions annually or a 11.4% increase. The number of PCards issued across the school division decreased 5.3% to 546 cards.

Contracts

On-going Long-Term Contracts

- Office and Classroom Supplies – Participated in the provincial-wide school divisions collaborated RFP with a 5-year contract with Supreme Basics, an estimated annual savings of \$30,000. Annual Rebate based on annual spend was \$11,105.
- Multi-functional and high-volume digital copiers – RFP process resulted in a 5-year contract with Konica Minolta. Rebate from Konica was \$83,838.
- Natural Gas – RFQ process resulted in a 4-year agreement with a fixed rate of \$2.61 per gigajoule until October 2024.
- Building Appraisal Services – RFP process resulted in a 5-year contract with Loss Control Consultants Ltd. The estimated savings is \$4,000 annually.
- Fire Safety Systems Inspections – Request for Proposal (RFP) process resulted in a 5-year contract with \$4,600 annual savings.
- Transportation – RFP process resulted in a 7-year joint agreement with First Student and Saskatoon Public Schools. The new agreement includes installation of GPS in all buses to assist with efficient route management, and implementation of key performance indicators to assess company performance throughout the life of the Contract. The projected savings of the joint tender is \$500,000 annually for the school division.

- Architectural Services – RFP process resulted in a 3-year contract with and a 2-year extension with Edwards Edwards McEwen Architects.
- Reactive Maintenance Services for building controls, HVAC and mechanical – RFP process resulted in a 5-year contract and a potential 5-year extension with Peak Mechanical.
- Student Furniture – RFP process resulted in a 5-year contract with a potential 5-year extension with Concept3 Business Interiors Ltd as the primary provider resulting in annual savings estimated at 30%.
- Caretaking Supplies – RFP process (February 2018) resulted in a 5-year contract and a potential two-year extension, with Veritiv and Swish-Kemsol, with annual savings of \$20,000.
- Driver Education Services – RFP process resulted in a 3-year contract with both Klassen Driving School, Infiniti Driving, and LEAP Professional Driving School.
- Cisco Vendor of Record – 3-year contract to October 2023, with a potential 2-year extension with Charter Telecom Inc. with an estimated savings of \$5,000 annually.
- Audit Services – RFP process resulting in a 3-year contract extended to June 2024 with MNP with an estimated annual savings of \$6,000,
- Snow Removal Services – Request for Quotation (RFQ) process (October 2020) resulted in a 3-year contract with a potential one-year extension with Custom Snow Removal Services.
- Change Air Unit Retrofit – RFQ process (March 2020) resulting in a 5-year contract with Charter Mechanical Ltd. With an estimated savings of \$77,000 annually.
- Filters – RFQ process (March 2020) resulting in a 3-year contract with a potential 2-year extension, with Cypress Sales Partnership and DAFCO Filtration Group with an estimated savings of \$11,200 annually.
- Transportation – RFP process resulted in a 7-year joint agreement with Hertz Northern Bus and Saskatoon Public Schools. The new agreement includes installation of GPS in all buses to assist with efficient route management, a parent communication app and implementation of key performance indicators to assess company performance throughout the life of the Contract. The projected savings of the joint tender is \$400,000 annually for the school division.
- Banking Services – RFP process resulted in a 5-year contact with CIBC with a potential 5-year extension.

New Long-Term Contracts

- School Photographic Services – RFP process (June 2023) with a potential two-year extension, resulted in a 3-year agreement with Edge Imaging Inc. This new agreement includes quality photos, high service levels and equity for all schools within the school division.
- Building Security and Monitoring – RFQ process (June 2023) resulted in a 3-year contact and a potential two-year extension, with an estimated savings of \$7,500 annually. Shadow Integrated Systems was awarded the Contract.
- Gymnasium Floor Refinishing – RFQ process (March 2023) resulted in a 3-year contract and a potential two-year extension, with an estimated savings of \$26,000 per year with Wild Rose Sports Flooring Ltd.
- Fire Extinguisher Inspections – RFQ process (July 2022) resulted in a 3-year contract with a 2-year option with Everguard Fire Safety with an estimated \$5,000 annual savings.

Financial Services

Cash Management

In 2022, the school division tendered our day-to-day banking services, and awarded a new provider, CIBC. The division began using their services in September 2022. Cost and efficiency savings were realized in the following areas:

- Higher interest rate earned on cash balances.
- Lower interest rate on the line of credit.
- Move to an electronic deposit slip template at no cost.
- Cheaper cheque provider.
- No charge for wire transfers.
- ATM cards that schools can use to make paper bill and cheque deposits.

The division continues to pay vendors electronically to increase the security of the payments. During 2022-2023, the percentage of payments made by electronic funds transfer (EFT) remained steady compared to prior years. The division will never reach 100% electronic payments due to the number of small dollar value one-time payments that are made, but we continue to reach out to new repeat and high dollar vendors to set them up to receive EFT payments.

Payment Type	% of Payments	% of Total Dollar Value Paid
Electronic funds transfer	70.9%	93.0%
Cheque	29.1%	7.0%

Since September 2020, the school division has also been using electronic means to collect funds at the school level. Here is the breakdown for 2022-23:

Deposit Type	% of Dollar Value Received
Cash/cheques	68.5%
Electronic (MySchoolBucks, point of sale terminals)	32.5%

The greatest strides have been made in the high school cafeterias, where 60% of payments are now collected electronically. This reduces the chances of incorrect change being given in a high paced environment. The alternative payment method has also increased sales. The value of electronic funds received across the school division should continue to increase as elementary schools continue to adopt MySchoolBucks for their in-school collections.

Cyber Security in the Financial Services Context

Financial Services continues to work the Information Technology department to secure sensitive business and employee data. During the year, another layer of security was added to the division accounting software in the form of multi-factor authentication.

Financial Management

The school division received a clean audit opinion from both the external and provincial auditors for the fiscal year of 2021-2022, and work is currently being done on the 2022-2023 audit. The audit ensures administration is properly reporting financial information to the board and the stakeholders of the school division. Internal controls that protect the school division assets are tested during the audit to ensure sufficient risk mitigation.

4. Facility Services

Board Goal: To proactively maintain, plan and advocate for student-centred facilities to meet our division's current and future needs.

Advocacy

Our school division continues to advocate for appropriate funding to maintain, renew, and expand our facilities. Highlights over the past year include the following:

- Working with all school divisions and the ministry to demonstrate the ongoing need for maintenance funding, unfortunately our Preventative Maintenance and Renewal funding decreased from \$4,202,695 (2022-2023) to \$3,828,252 (2023-2024).
- Our school division submitted three proposals for capital improvement projects: a Joint Use Holmwood Suburban Centre Catholic High School, a new Joint Use Catholic Middle / High School within the Martensville and Warman Region of Corman Park and a Joint Use Brighton Catholic Elementary School.
- The new St. Frances Cree Bilingual School project was approved by the Ministry of Education in March of 2020. During the past year, the project was approved to proceed to tender and was awarded to Graham Construction. The construction ceremony took place on June 26, 2023 with construction starting June 28. The project is scheduled for completion in August 2025.

Maintenance

Our school division utilizes Preventative Maintenance and Renewal (PMR) funds to maintain our 53 sites. The majority of these funds were spent on the renewal of roofing systems and mechanical upgrades. A detailed report on this is provided to the board each fall.

Air Conditioning Modernizations

Over the course of 2022-2023, a number of central cooling systems were added to portions of schools that previously did not have cooling. In addition, several existing systems reaching end of life were replaced. At school sites that previously did not have air conditioning, the addition of cooling equipment has provided more stable learning and working environments for staff and students. These additions have been welcomed by our school communities at St. Michael, École St. Paul and St. Philip. Several systems that were original to the construction of the school were also replaced during the last year. All of the equipment that was replaced had outlived its useful life and was inefficient. The new replacements will continue to provide stable work and learning environments while using less electricity. Central air conditioning plants were replaced at St. Angela, St. Volodymyr, St. Mark, St. George and St. Bernard. This work was publicly tendered and subsequently completed by Peak Mechanical and Sask. West Mechanical.

Planning for our Future – Expansion and Renewal

Advocacy continues to ensure our facilities will meet the demands of future growth. The following schools received relocatable classrooms as part of the January 2023 allocation:

- Bishop Filevich Ukrainian Bilingual School – 2 classrooms
- Holy Cross High School – 2 classrooms
- St. Joseph High School – 1 classroom
- St. Kateri Tekakwitha Catholic School – 2 classrooms

- St. Lorenzo Ruiz Catholic School – 1 classroom
- St. Nicholas Catholic School – 3 classrooms
- St. Therese Catholic School – 3 classrooms

In addition to the relocatable classrooms that were added to the above listed schools, several spaces have been renovated by our facilities staff in order to accommodate the record growth we have experienced. In total there have been 13 unplanned room renovations successfully completed to meet the needs of our families that have chosen Catholic education.

Stewardship and Sustainability

Board Goal: To support school communities as they help students learn to care for God's creation through sustainable stewardship of the land.

In an effort to continuously improve, Facility Services aspires to be good stewards of the resources entrusted to us. We are proud to report on the following initiatives which demonstrate our school division's commitment to sustainability.

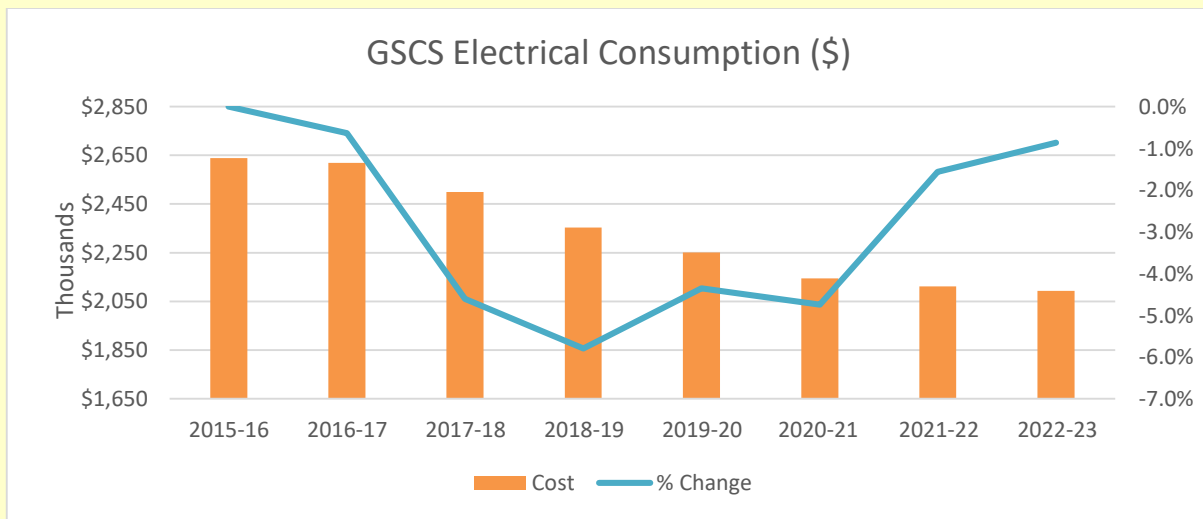
LED Lighting Retrofit Program

In 2017, the board approved a project to retrofit all of our gymnasiums with LED light fixtures. The program has been an overwhelming success. In 2019-2020, the Ministry of Education launched a Sector Savings Advisory Group which explored cost savings across the Education sector. LED was identified as one of the top opportunities and the province initiated a procurement process that included qualified vendors school divisions may choose to work with. In 2020-2021, our division took advantage of this opportunity and partnered with Saskatchewan based vendor Brilliant Lighting Solutions.

Since 2017, 52 of 53 of our facilities have now been converted to LED lighting. The Board Office is the last remaining facility to retrofit and was mostly complete by August 2023. The balance of the facility will be completed during 2023-2024. The reduced maintenance burden on our caretaking staff and maintenance electricians will be equivalent to five fulltime caretaking positions across our 52 facilities. This time now can be repurposed to more meaningful tasks within the school. LED is a great initiative to display our division's commitment to sustainability.

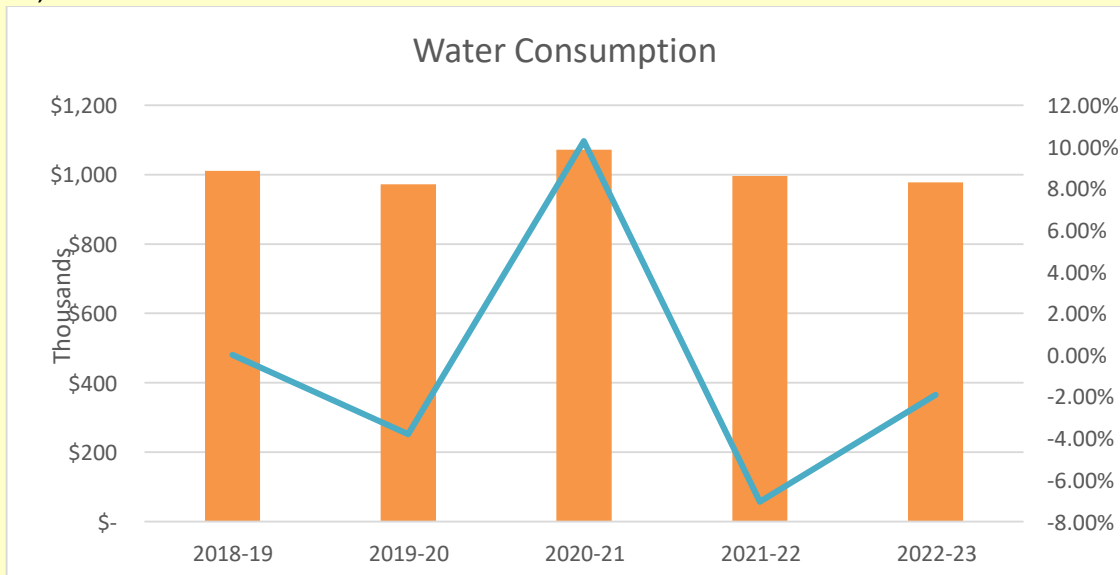
Electrical Utility Savings

- Reduction of our electrical consumption has been a key focus and connects with our LED lighting retrofit initiative. There are several projects in addition to LED that have supported our overall reduction in electrical consumption such as roof replacements, mechanical upgrades and window upgrades.
- From September 2016 to August 2023, we have reduced our electrical consumption by \$546,000.
- In order to continue our reduction in electrical consumption, HVAC equipment modernizations will continue to be prioritized as will HVAC digital controls upgrades. This will allow us to better control and schedule equipment as well as remotely monitor when Help Desk tickets are submitted to schools specific to comfort. This will also assist in realizing savings specific to natural gas consumption.



Water Utility Savings

- Reducing our water consumption as a school division has been a focus now for several years and we are seeing the benefits of this work.
- Replacement of antiquated urinal flush tank systems and high-water volume toilets has been part of this work.
- Process has been developed to identify any schools that are showing signs of higher than normal water consumption. This triggers a site visit the school to meet with our school-based caretaking teams to review the facility. Reasons for higher than normal water consumption may not immediately present themselves and we want to support our school based teams in this investigation.
- From September 2020 to August 2023, we have reduced our water consumption by over \$94,000.



Recommendation:

That the Board of Education receive the information as presented in the Promoting Stewardship Monitoring Report.

6.3 Financial Statements

Board Priority:

- Promoting Stewardship

Presented by: CFO J. Lloyd

Background Information:

I certify the following data to be accurate for the period ending **July 31, 2023**:

Board Policy prohibits the development of fiscal jeopardy or loss of allocation integrity further specified as five constraints:

1. Reduce or liquidate fixed or restricted assets. - No fixed assets were disposed of.
2. Cause the organization to become indebted in an amount greater than can be repaid by specified revenues. - Accounts payable and salaries payable have all been met in a timely manner by cash on hand. There have been no overdue accounts or late payments.
3. Allow cash to drop below the amount needed to settle debts in a timely manner. - Accounts payable and salaries payable have all been met in a timely manner by cash on hand. There have been no overdue accounts or late payments.
4. Allow actual allocations to deviate substantially from approved budget expenditure. - Year-to-date actual allocations of funds to outcome areas are consistent with those previously approved as acceptable ranges by the board.
5. Violates Generally Accepted Accounting Principles. - No such violation exists.

Accounts Paid

Accounts paid by cheque and electronic funds transfer for the following periods are as detailed:

May 1, 2023 to May 31, 2023

Business Account	\$ 5,050,468.52
Payroll Account	10,069,406.19
	<u>\$ 15,119,874.71</u>

June 1, 2023 to June 30, 2023:

Business Account	\$ 7,962,180.40
Payroll Account	10,283,790.99
	<u>\$ 18,245,971.39</u>

July 1, 2023 to July 31, 2023:

Business Account	\$ 5,755,080.84
Payroll Account	1,318,914.39
	<u>\$ 7,073,995.23</u>

It should be noted that full particulars of account payments are available for review at any time.

Financial Statements

The Statements of Financial Position and Operations have been prepared in accordance with The Education Act, 1995, using accounting principles prescribed by the Ministry of Education and are considered appropriate for Saskatchewan School Divisions.

Recommendation:

That the Board of Education approve the accounts paid for the period May 1, 2023 to May 31, 2023; June 1, 2023 to June 30, 2023 and July 1, 2023 to July 31, 2023 and receive the financial statements for the period ended July 31, 2023.

St. Paul's R.C.S.S.D. No. 20
Statement of Financial Position
Funds: Current Year/Previous Year
For the Period from September 1, 2022 to July 31, 2023
(Amounts are in CDN)
(Includes G/L Budget Name: MB2022/23)

Description	Current Year Actual	Prior Year Actual	Current Year Prior Year
Assets			
Cash	15,498,838	24,689,882	-9,191,045
Taxes Receivable	142,808	214,212	-71,404
Provincial Grants Receivable	2,792,146	1,178,026	1,614,119
Other Receivables	997,927	596,348	401,579
Total Assets	19,431,718	26,678,469	-7,246,751
Liabilities			
Other Payables	7,973,860	4,257,791	3,716,069
Capital Loans	24,118,047	26,080,844	-1,962,797
Accrued Employee Future Benefits	6,326,800	6,174,600	152,200
Other Liabilities	2,629,445	3,133,618	-504,173
Capital Lease	361,722	557,878	-196,156
Total Liabilities	41,409,875	40,204,732	1,205,143
Net Financial Assets	-21,978,157	-13,526,263	-8,451,894
Non-Financial Assets			
Physical Assets	271,852,310	269,565,164	2,287,146
Prepaid Items	1,017,572	365,198	652,374
Total Non Financial Assets	272,869,882	269,930,362	2,939,520
Net Assets	250,891,725	256,404,099	-5,512,374
Accumulated Surplus (Deficit)			
Accumulated Surplus Previous Year	258,550,354	276,828,133	-18,277,779
Change in Accumulated Remeasurement Gains/Losses			
Earnings from Operations	-7,651,901	-20,410,834	12,758,933
Total Accumulated Surplus	250,898,453	256,417,299	-5,518,846

St. Paul's R.C.S.S.D. No. 20
Statement of Operations
Variance: Current Year/Previous Year/Current Year
For the Period from September 1, 2022 to July 31, 2023
(Amounts are in CDN)
(Includes G/L Budget Name: MB2022/23)

Description	Current Year Actual	Budget For Period	Budget Remaining	Budget % Remaining	Prior Year Actual	Current Year Prior Year
Revenue						
Property Taxation	44,813,992	50,738,609	5,924,617	-11.68	44,928,589	-114,597
Grants	156,190,568	163,309,231	7,118,663	-4.36	139,407,056	16,783,512
Tuition and Related Fees	2,437,017	2,128,094	-308,923	14.52	1,445,342	991,674
School Generated Funds	3,236,152	2,885,649	-350,503	12.15	2,633,786	602,366
Complementary Services	2,450,546	2,350,546	-100,000	4.25	2,309,517	141,029
External Services	100,000	120,000	20,000	-16.67	120,000	-20,000
Other	2,831,897	2,121,227	-710,670	33.50	1,603,712	1,228,184
Total Revenues	212,060,171	223,653,356	11,593,185	-5.18	192,448,003	19,612,168
Expenditures						
Governance	551,267	656,438	105,170	16.02	564,103	-12,836
Administration	4,755,556	5,231,604	476,048	9.10	4,585,803	169,753
Instruction	165,548,792	164,781,663	-767,129	-0.47	161,809,267	3,739,525
Plant	33,783,619	34,207,901	424,282	1.24	31,873,254	1,910,365
Transportation	9,146,355	9,447,058	300,703	3.18	8,602,569	543,786
Tuition and Related Fees	37,838	158,864	121,026	76.18	102,190	-64,352
School Generated Funds	3,039,262	2,885,649	-153,613	-5.32	2,166,100	873,162
Complementary Services	1,694,054	2,144,897	450,843	21.02	1,648,203	45,851
External Services	5,000	120,000	115,000	95.83	115,250	-110,250
Interest and Bank Charges	1,150,328	1,320,592	170,264	12.89	1,392,097	-241,769
Total Expenditures	219,712,072	220,954,665	1,242,593	0.56	212,858,837	6,853,236
Surplus (Deficit) for the Period	-7,651,901	2,698,691	10,350,592	-383.54	-20,410,834	12,758,933
Change in Accum. Remeas. Gains/Losses						
Opening Accumulated Surplus	258,550,354		-258,550,354		276,828,133	-18,277,779
Closing Accumulated Surplus	250,898,453	2,698,691	-248,199,762	9,197.04	256,417,299	-5,518,846
Opening Physical Assets	270,799,941		-270,799,941		273,607,869	-2,807,928
Current Year Fixed Asset Purchases	1,052,369	2,842,643	1,790,274	62.98	-4,042,705	5,095,074
Total Physical Assets	271,852,310	2,842,643	-269,009,667	-9,463.36	269,565,164	2,287,146

Variance Analysis

St. Pauls R.C.S.S.D. No. 20

Page 1

Date Filter

09/01/22..07/31/23

Budget Filter

MB2022/23

	Current Year Actual	Budget For Period	Budget Remaining	Budget % Remaining	Expected Budget % Remaining	Difference	Notes
Revenue							
Property Taxation	44,813,992	50,738,609	5,924,617	11.68%	8.33%	3.34%	1
Grants	156,190,568	163,309,231	7,118,663	4.36%	8.33%	-3.97%	1
Tuition and Related Fees	2,437,017	2,128,094	-308,923	-14.52%	0.00%	-14.52%	2
School Generated Funds	3,236,152	2,885,649	-350,503	-12.15%	0.00%	-12.15%	3
Complementary Services	2,450,546	2,350,546	-100,000	-4.25%	0.00%	-4.25%	4
External Services	100,000.00	120,000	20,000	16.67%	0.00%	16.67%	5
Other	2,831,897	2,121,227	-710,670	-33.50%	8.33%	-41.84%	6
Total Revenues	212,060,172	223,653,356	11,593,184	5.18%			
Expenditures							
Governance	551,267	656,438	105,171	16.02%	8.33%	7.69%	7
Administration	4,755,556	5,231,604	476,048	9.10%	8.33%	0.77%	
Instruction	165,548,792	164,781,663	-767,129	-0.47%	0.00%	-0.47%	8
Plant	33,783,619	34,207,901	424,282	1.24%	8.33%	-7.09%	9
Transportation	9,146,355	9,447,058	300,703	3.18%	8.33%	-5.15%	
Tuition and Related Fees	37,838	158,864	121,026	76.18%	8.33%	67.85%	10
School Generated Funds	3,039,262	2,885,649	-153,613	-5.32%	0.00%	-5.32%	
Complementary Services	1,694,054	2,144,897	450,843	21.02%	0.00%	21.02%	11
External Services	5,000	120,000	115,000	95.83%	0.00%	95.83%	12
Interest and Bank Charges	1,150,328	1,320,592	170,264	12.89%	8.33%	4.56%	
Total Expenditures	219,712,071	220,954,666	1,242,595	0.56%			
Surplus (Deficit) for the Period	-7,651,899	2,698,690	10,350,589				
Change in Accum. Remeas. Gains/Losses							
Opening Accumulated Surplus	121,433,929		-121,433,929				

Closing Accumulated Surplus	113,782,030	2,698,690	-111,083,340
Opening Physical Assets	146,803,823		-146,803,823
Current Year Fixed Asset Purchases	1,052,369	2,842,643	1,790,274
Total Physical Assets	147,856,192	2,842,643	-145,013,549

Notes

1. It is expected that the total of property taxes and grants will be over budget by \$3 million due to being 500 students over enrolment projections on September 30th.
2. \$150,000 in tuition collected in advance for the 2023-24 school year to be adjusted at year-end.
3. Funds raised at the school level higher than anticipated.
4. Early learning intervention funding received in excess of budget.
5. Invitational Shared Services Agreement funding was budgeted at the prior year value and was awarded at the lower value.
6. Interest revenue and cafeteria sales are trending to be over budget, while noon lunch supervision fee is under budget due to later implementation.
7. Governance expected to be on budget by year-end.
8. Instruction will be over budget due to being over enrolment projections by +1,200 students with the ministry only funding 500 of those students.
9. Expected that the 2023-24 PMR allocation will be fully expended by the end of 2022-23.
10. Tuition and related fees expenses are incurred unevenly during the year.
11. Pre-kindergarten program is under projection and allocated resources were redeployed to support kindergarten programs students.
12. Invitational Shared Services grant will be fully expended by the end of the year.

6.4 2023-2024 Student Enrolment Report



Board Priority:

- Celebrating and Promoting Catholic Identity
- Improving Student Learning and Achievement

Presented by: Superintendent L. Giocoli Clark

Background Information:

The following enrolment report is based on students served as of September 30, 2023. These enrolment numbers are part of the official numbers submitted to the Ministry.

Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools had an overall enrolment of 22,089 students which is an increase of 1590 students from September 30, 2022.

Saskatoon City Schools

The Saskatoon city schools have a combined enrolment of 20,553 students.

The breakdown of the enrolment is as follows:

	Sept. 30, 2022	Sept. 30, 2023	Difference
Elementary Schools (Pre K to 8)	13,028	13,831	+803
High Schools (Grades 9 to 12)	5,676	6,202	+526
Home School	311	342	+31
Students 22 years and older	14	21	+7
SIOS	(not reported)	157	+157
Total	19,029	20,553	+1524

Greater Saskatoon Area Schools

Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools operates five schools surrounding the city of Saskatoon. St. Augustine (Humboldt), St. Dominic (Humboldt), St. Gabriel (Biggar), École Holy Mary (Martensville), and Holy Trinity (Warman) have a combined enrolment of 1,536 students. This is an increase of 66 students year over year.

The enrolment is as follows:

	Sept. 30, 2022	Sept. 30, 2023	Difference
Elementary Schools (PreK to Grades 9)	1,470	1,536	+66

Language Program Enrolments

Area	Sept. 30, 2022	Sept. 30, 2023	Difference
French Immersion Program	3,414	3,463	+49
Cree Bilingual Program	533	539	+6
Ukrainian Bilingual Program	295	313	+18
Michif Bilingual Program	49	71	+22

In addition, Humboldt Collegiate Institute (HCI) has 394 Grade 9-12 students. This is an increase of 19 students year over year. Humboldt Collegiate Institute is a jointly run school between Horizon School Division and Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools. This total is not factored into our overall division enrolment.

Recommendation:

That the Board of Education receive the information as presented and approve the 2023-2024 Student Enrolment report.

6.5 Remembrance Day Service



Board Priority:

- Celebrating and Promoting Catholic Identity
- Building Relationships and Partnerships

Presented by: Chair D. Boyko

Background Information:

The Remembrance Day Committee of Saskatoon will be honouring our veterans on Saturday, November 11, 2023 at SaskTel Centre. The Remembrance Committee invites you to honour and remember the sacrifices made by our Veterans.

At this time, a wreath has been ordered by the division and can be pre-laid by an usher at the Remembrance Day Service and our participation will be acknowledged at the service through the Teletron display or if a trustee will be in attendance to lay the wreath, they are asked to please be at SaskTel Centre between **9:45-10:00 a.m. on November 11**. The trustee will be given our wreath and shown to their seat. Ushers will then escort you to the Cenotaph where our wreath will be laid. They will be escorted back to their seat for the remainder of the service.

Recommendation:

That the Board of Education receive the information as presented and determine trustee attendance at the 2023 Remembrance Day Service.

6.6 Premier's Board of Education Award for Innovation and Excellence in Education



Board Priority:

- Improving Student Learning and Achievement
- Building Relationships and Partnerships

Presented by: Director F. Rivard and Superintendent L. Giocoli Clark

Background Information:

The Saskatchewan School Boards Association annually calls for nominations to the Premier's Board of Education Award for Innovation and Excellence in Education. The board was pleased to submit Reaching out to Transform the World: Ukrainian Bilingual Education as its nomination for 2023. The complete nomination package is attached.

The board wishes to acknowledge the many staff members that have worked so hard to make this program successful.

Recommendation:

That the Board of Education receive the information as presented and approve the submission for the Premier's Board of Education Award for Innovation and Excellence in Education.

Rooted. Growing. Reaching. Transforming.



Reaching out to Transform the World: Ukrainian Bilingual Education

A Nomination by:

Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools

for the

**2023 Premier's Board of Education Award for
Innovation and Excellence in Education**

September 2023

Board Chair: Diane Boyko
Director of Education: François Rivard

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About the Project

The Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools Board of Education has a long history in supporting and promoting innovative language and cultural learning. This is evidenced in the success of the Cree, French, Michif and Ukrainian language schools. Ukrainian education programming within GSCS has been a priority of the board for over 40 years. The board's understanding of the benefits of a bilingual education, as described within the Ministry of Education's *Bilingual Education Framework*, has allowed for Ukrainian language, culture and faith to thrive.

"Academic achievement is enhanced by access to learning experiences that are meaningful, engaging, relevant, and responsive to the cultural and linguistic background of students and families. The Ministry of Education recognizes the diversity of Saskatchewan families and supports the development of multilingual skills and cultural identity through language programs in provincial schools and heritage language communities." Bilingual Education Framework, Saskatchewan Ministry of Education, 2014 82988-bilingual-education-integrated-curriculum-K-3.pdf.

Bishop Filevich Ukrainian Bilingual School is entering its 44th year of providing Kindergarten to Grade 8 Ukrainian bilingual education to the students within Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools. Currently, Bishop Filevich Ukrainian Bilingual School is the only school in Saskatchewan offering Ukrainian bilingual education. The idea of initiating a Ukrainian bilingual program came from members of the Ukrainian community who appealed to our Board of Education. Parents advocated for a school in which Ukrainian heritage would flourish through the learning of language, faith, culture, and tradition. In 1979, the dream became a reality. Ukrainian education began from humble beginnings of 15 students in Kindergarten within St. Maria Goretti School to a current thriving Bishop Filevich Ukrainian Bilingual School with over 250 Kindergarten to Grade 8 students, as well as high school and online Ukrainian classes. Since the program's inception in 1979, the following elementary subjects are taught in Ukrainian: Ukrainian Language Arts, Social Studies, Religion, Health, Physical Education, and Arts Education. The remaining core subject areas (Math, Science, English Language Arts) are taught in English.

Bethlehem Catholic High School continues the long tradition of offering Grades 9 -12 courses in Ukrainian Christian Ethics and Ukrainian Language Arts. They also offer Core Ukrainian for students in Grades 9 - 12. Students have an opportunity to earn a bilingual certificate from the school recognizing the learning they have experienced in taking a minimum of two Ukrainian credits per year. Prior to 2007, the high school program was supported at E.D. Feehan Catholic High School. Students have also had the opportunity to travel to Ukraine and host students from Ukraine in their high school exchange program. Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools has developed Core Ukrainian learning opportunities through our Cyber School, allowing all students in the division, and province, access to learning the Ukrainian language online.

Program Goals

Bishop Filevich Ukrainian Bilingual School programming is guided by the following goals:

- To provide children with the opportunity to learn to communicate in two languages: English and Ukrainian.
- To develop an understanding and appreciation of the Ukrainian cultural and religious heritage (in the Byzantine rite) in Canada.
- To develop positive attitudes about other languages, cultures and traditions.

Board Influence and Participation

While the spark for the Ukrainian Bilingual Program originated in the Ukrainian community, our Board of Education has fanned the flame for over 40 years. Board members have actively participated at numerous community partnership events that take place regularly as the students, staff and community celebrate the Ukrainian culture. As members of the Ukrainian Catholic community themselves, a number of trustees have been invaluable in helping the division navigate structures of various organizations, build partnerships, grow relationships, and champion Saskatchewan's only Ukrainian bilingual program, establishing it as an important member of the Ukrainian Catholic community. Partnerships and events include:

- Visits to St. Joseph's Home, Ilarion Residence and St. Volodymyr Villa (seniors' residents in Saskatoon).
- Children's Corner at FolkFest Ukrainian Pavilion.
- Singing at the Legislature for the Holodomor Commemoration.
- Yearly Christmas Concerts and door-to-door carolling (an important part of Christmas celebrations for Ukrainians).
- Singing O Canada in Ukrainian at the Saskatoon Blades Hockey Club (Western Hockey League) game yearly.
- The bilingual program recorded a Christmas CD of Ukrainian music for the 25th anniversary.
- Recorded O Canada in Ukrainian for CBC Radio Canada—an initiative of celebrating Canada 150
- Performing at Shevchenko Concerts every March.
- Singing at Vesna Festival in May.
- Singing the Ukrainian National Anthem for Brainsport's Run for Ukraine.
- Two visits by the Papal Nunzio (the Vatican's official representative in Canada); and
- Hosting numerous VIPs such as five Ukrainian Ambassadors to Canada, Patriarch Sviatoslav Shevchuk (Major Archbishop of the Ukrainian Greek Catholic Church), former Minister of Education Ken Krawetz, Ukrainian poet Dmytro Pavlychko, Ukrainian Catholic Cardinal Lubachivsky, former Premier Roy Romanow, former Governor-General Ray Hnatyshyn, and former Lieutenant-Governor Sylvia Fedoruk.

In 2020, as a part of the 40th anniversary of the school, a committee of parents, staff and community members spent a year reflecting on 40 years of Ukrainian bilingual education in order to plan for sustainable programming for future generations. The committee reviewed current second language research, school goals, and sought parental and community input on current Ukrainian programming. The results of the work were presented to the Board of Education. A summary infographic of the work is

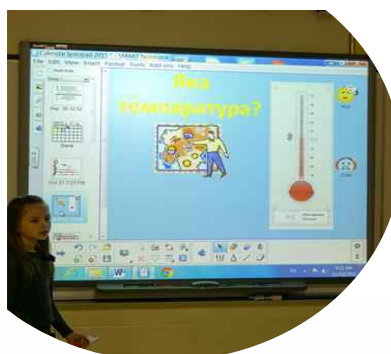
attached (Appendix A). Ukrainian programming, and especially Bishop Filevich Ukrainian Bilingual School, has helped enrich the faith of everyone in the division by exposing those in the Latin rite to the rich expressions of the Catholic faith in the Byzantine tradition.



Sustainability and Innovations

At the time, creating Ukrainian bilingual programming was very innovative, and the most obvious sign of sustainability is its 44—year history within Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools. The current Kindergarten to Grade 8 enrolments at Bishop Filevich Ukrainian Bilingual School is 271 students. Bishop Filevich serves an integral part within the Ukrainian community in Saskatoon. Students from 52 Saskatoon neighbourhoods and from the cities of Martensville and Warman come together at the school. The student population is currently comprised of a majority number of students new to Canada mixed in with Canadian students all seeking a rich Ukrainian cultural and language learning program. Long-standing partnerships with the Settlement Support Workers in Schools (SWIS) from the Saskatoon Open Door Society are an example of collaborative work done to serve the students who are newcomers from Ukraine in the program.

As the only Ukrainian bilingual school in the province, the Ministry of Education sought the support of the staff from Bishop Filevich to develop resources for the schools in Saskatchewan to support transition of Ukrainian newcomers—caused by the Russian invasion of Ukraine—into the community. The resources focus on the demographic, socio-economic, and cultural overview of Ukraine, as well as effective practices and approaches in supporting students and families arriving in Saskatchewan. It consists of the following items: a fact sheet on Ukraine, a recorded webinar developed and presented by Olena Gnyp-Kovpak, an English as an Additional Language specialist, and Stacia Horbay-Ugalde, principal of the school. It also includes a resource for educators to assist in supporting newly arrived learners from Ukraine develop English language proficiency.



Client Support for Innovation

In February of 2022, with the Russian invasion of Ukraine, the benefits of the unique programming at Bishop Filevich were once again brought to the forefront. Canada's (more specifically Western Canada's) large Ukrainian diaspora made Saskatchewan a natural place for many Ukrainians to find support. The province's only Ukrainian language and cultural program became a school of choice for many families. With open arms, the staff, students and community welcomed over 50 students between May and June of 2022. Over the summer, another 30 students were welcomed. The school saw a growth of over 50 per cent. During the 2022-2023 school year, the school's population rose to over 300 students. Generally speaking, the school has doubled in size since 2021!

The school's support for and within the Ukrainian community came in two significant ways: direct aid for people in Ukraine during the invasion, and support for new students and families in Saskatoon.

As a school community they collected first-aid materials to send to Ukraine. Each class brought a specific item and they delivered three vehicle loads of materials to an organization who was sending it to Ukraine. The school conducted weekly fundraisers: hat day, lucky bucket raffles, bracelets and ribbon campaigns, along with a donation basket. Some of this money was sent to help ship the first aid material to Ukraine. Family connections of staff and parents proved to be beneficial to ensure aid could quickly get to areas and people in Ukraine who most needed help.

With new students arriving, there was great need to help the families joining the Bishop Filevich school family. Once students began to arrive, the staff started to see the need for school supplies and running shoes, and so the collection of material for new students began. Every new registrant from Ukraine since April 2022 until June 2023 was able to choose running shoes for physical education, a backpack, lunch kit and water bottle. Students also received all the needed school supplies to make them ready for their first day of school and be like all other students. All of this was made possible through the school fundraisers, other schools within our division sending school supplies, and financial donations from their school, from churches, as well as the incredible support of the Saskatoon community. The school received countless monetary donation to go purchase the items, as well as the school items themselves. The community donated clothing items and blankets, and organizations donated money to pay for registrations for summer camps and activities.

As enrolments increased, so too did the need for English as Additional Language teachers and classroom teachers. When new families would join the school, it took a team of people to ensure they were comfortable. The EAL teacher, office coordinator, and administration would tour students around the school, take them to pick their supplies and answer any questions they had about the school. The caretaker would ensure we had enough desks for the new students and kept very close watch on the inventory. The classroom teachers were welcoming new students daily with open arms.

In the weeks immediately following the Russian invasion, our Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools' Tragic Response Team supported the school community. Extra counselling support was also provided to ensure that the mental and emotional needs of members of the school family were supported. The Catholic School Community Council supported all endeavours within the school, to include new families in school events, as well as purchased supplies when we needed them. The entire school came together to do what was needed to ensure a soft landing for our new students.

The culturally sensitive supports and atmosphere wrapped around newcomers to help them feel welcomed are a testament of the strong partnerships developed over the more than four decades of Ukrainian education within Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools. Support letters from parents and community members are attached in Appendices B-D.

“Sometimes we take the words ‘warm’ and ‘welcoming’ in our division’s mission for granted. It’s what we try to do day-in and day-out, so maybe it becomes a bit mundane. Being the school of choice for so many families escaping conflict in Ukraine has been a humbling experience, and it has really invigorated our purpose to be a warm and welcoming place—a place where students and families can immediately feel like they belong, fit in, and grow. It has really strengthened our sense of community and purpose.”

Stacia Horbay Ugalde, Principal Bishop Filevich Ukrainian Bilingual School

Evidence of Improved Student Achievement

Ukrainian language curriculum in Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools has been on a journey of renewal since 2014 beginning with Kindergarten to Grade 3. In 2014, the Saskatchewan Ministry of Education developed a Kindergarten to Grade 3 Bilingual Education Integrated Framework which has been used to support primary Ukrainian language acquisition in Kindergarten to Grade 3 over the past eight years. In 2021, the division began to develop renewed Ukrainian language curriculum for Grades 4-8. Draft curriculum was developed by a division team and is now being piloted by teachers at Bishop Filevich in order to gather feedback for revision and finalization. The development of renewed curriculum was supported by French immersion curriculum and the Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). The renewed curriculum updates the previous curriculum developed in 1995. Supporting resources for these grade levels also include language portfolios, inquiry units with essential questions for students to explore, and a grammar scope and sequence.

Current curriculum renewal for Ukrainian 10-12 is currently in use in draft form. This curriculum includes Core Ukrainian 10, 20 and 30, typically used for Bishop Filevich students who attend high schools other than Bethlehem Catholic High School and is provided online within our Cyber School. Grade 10-12 Ukrainian - English Bilingual Education: Ukrainian Language Arts draft form will be available for use in the second semester of this school year.

Student success in the Ukrainian bilingual programs is evidenced in a strong academic program, permeation of Ukrainian culture, language and faith, as well as a robust community service and partnership focus. The very existence of the Ukrainian program has facilitated the Ukrainian language culture and Byzantine faith to thrive. A high proportion of students graduating from the Ukrainian bilingual program are graduating with honours.

Conclusion

Bishop Filevich Ukrainian Bilingual School and the Ukrainian language programming within Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools are unique and innovative programs within Saskatchewan. The Board of Education, the Ukrainian community and the province of Saskatchewan have mutually benefitted from this programming. The continued success of the Ukrainian programming has played an integral role in developing a stronger community built on cultural diversity. With recent global events, the school, program and community are well-positioned to serve and strengthen communities.

Appendix A: Summary infographic

Bishop Filevich Ukrainian Bilingual School School Goals Feedback Summary

Reflecting on 40 years of Ukrainian bilingual education prompts us to look forward to ensure we provide a sustainable program for future generations.

Rooted. Growing.
Reaching. Transforming.



KEY FINDINGS

104 FAMILIES
SURVEYED

54 SURVEY
RESPONSES

Ukrainian Bilingual Education in Saskatchewan

Celebrating 40 YEARS Святкуймо

Української двомовної освіти у Саскачевані

Important Themes and Aspects of Bishop Filevich



Language Learning



Celebration of Faith



Maintain Heritage and
Culture within Canada



Welcoming Community



Connecting to Ukraine



Providing Future Opportunities

IN YOUR WORDS...



Coming to Saskatchewan, we have experienced such an overwhelming feeling of inclusion, of being part of the community that is proud of its language, religion and culture. The Ukrainian bilingual program is what keeps this community together while teaching young generations to treasure their roots.

Вивчити мову без вивчення культури просто неможливо. Культура, традиції, релігія, мова - це все одне ціле і ми не можемо і не маємо права порушувати цей зв'язок. To learn a language without learning about the culture is challenging. Culture, traditions, religion, language—it is all one whole.

Learning an additional language is good for a student's cognitive development. It expands their general understanding of communicating with other people. It expands their understanding of how language is constructed.

This program allows students to become proficient in a second language, so children have an appreciation for other languages and the differences. I also think it creates a greater connection to our history if we can speak the language.



MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

To ensure a sustainable Ukrainian bilingual school community, we need to work on:

- Supporting both fluent Ukrainian speakers and students learning Ukrainian as an additional language;
- Teaching contemporary Standard Ukrainian while respecting traditional or geographical variations;
- Building Ukrainian cultural identity in Canada;
- Being present in the community; and
- Growing, adapting and keeping a global perspective.

Thank you to all the families who took time to complete the survey and share your thoughts and opinions!

Щиро дякуємо вам за участь.

Appendix B: Letter of Support - Eparchy



UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC EPARCHY OF SASKATOON

Українська Католицька Єпархія Саскатун

214 Ave. M South, Saskatoon, SK, S7M 2K4 CANADA

Tel: 306-653-0138 Fax: 306-665-2569

Web: skeparchy.org/wordpress E-mail: admin.skeparchy@sasktel.net

September 14th, 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Слава Ісусу Христу! Glory be to Jesus Christ!

On behalf of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Saskatoon, please accept this letter of support for Bishop Filevich Ukrainian Bilingual School, as they apply for the Premier's Award for Innovations and Excellence. The Ukrainian Bilingual Program in Saskatoon has achieved many important milestones throughout the years, as it is the only program of its kind in Saskatchewan.

For over forty years, the Ukrainian Bilingual program has helped families and their children preserve their faith, language and culture. We recognize that at this time more than ever, their school community has gone above and beyond in ensuring new families are welcomed into their school. Bishop Filevich School are an integral part of the Ukrainian community and an essential partner with the Eparchy. We have enjoyed the close relationship that has been developed with the Bishop Filevich community over the last four decades.

The Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy congratulates Bishop Filevich Ukrainian Bilingual School with their continued work of deepening faith, growing language, and preserving culture in the Ukrainian community. We pray that God continues to bless their endeavors for the next forty years!

In Christ,

Viktoriia Marko

Youth and Young Adult Minister

Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Saskatoon

Appendix C: Letter of Support – UCC



Конгрес Українців Канади – Саскатунський відділ
CONGRES UKRAINIEN-CANADIEN SUCCURSALES DE SASKATOON
UKRAINIAN CANADIAN CONGRESS – SASKATOON BRANCH

PO Box #1592, Saskatoon, SK S7K 3R3

September 15th, 2023

Ms. Stacia Horbay Ugalde
Principal
Bishop Filevich Ukrainian Bilingual School
125 105th St W
Saskatoon, SK S7N 1N3

Re: Premiers Award Application Letter of Support

Dear Selection committee for the Premiers Award for Innovation and Excellence,

On behalf of the UCC - Saskatoon Branch, please accept this letter of support for Bishop Filevich Ukrainian Bilingual School's application to the Premiers Award 2022. As the only Ukrainian bilingual program in Saskatchewan, Bishop Filevich provides a creative, culturally relevant, and innovative learning environment and community for their students from kindergarten to Grade 8.

Since the first Ukrainian immigrants settled in Saskatchewan in 1891, Ukrainian language was, and continues to be, a cornerstone of our culture and is essential to Ukrainian identity. Bishop Filevich Ukrainian Bilingual School is deeply committed to ensuring the passage of Ukrainian language, culture, and faith to our children and is a source of pride for the Ukrainian community in Saskatoon and Saskatchewan.

The school has achieved many great accomplishments both academically and culturally in the province and has created friendships and partnerships within the Ukrainian Community. The school takes pride in helping the children culturally and providing opportunities to deepen their faith. With their work, they have strengthened the personal bonds within the community ensuring that the Ukrainian bilingual program continues to thrive as an essential part of Saskatoon.

The Ukrainian Canadian Congress - Saskatoon Branch (UCC - SB) congratulates Bishop Filevich Ukrainian Bilingual School on their nomination and offers our support for many more years of bilingual education in our city and province.

Sincerely,

Ukrainian Canadian Congress — Saskatoon

Pat Tymchatyn
President

Appendix D: Letter of Support-Parent Letter

Sept. 15th, 2023

To whom it may concern,

I have been a parent of students at Bishop Filevich for over 10 years and have been blessed to be a part of the school family. The school has created a place to learn, gather and a community like no other.

When we came to Canada from Ukraine, Bishop Filevich was our first experience of education and community. We were blessed to have our traditions, culture, language and faith practiced and taught. We were welcomed and made to feel like this was more than an educational institution, but a family that appreciated and loved all children who walked through their doors.

Though this has been a very challenging and emotional year for our community, the school has done incredible things to welcome, include and educate. They have given our new students and families an incredible place to be. All families I have spoken to, cannot say enough about Bishop Filevich School.

The education that the school provides is done in a matter that excites learning, stretches all student's minds and creates a safe place to be. The teachers and administration recognize the importance of the whole child, both academically and socially. I am so proud to say my children have attended and attend Bishop Filevich and cannot imagine a more deserving school for this recognition.

Sincerely,

Nataliia Garmasar
Parent at Bishop Filevich School

Rooted. Growing. Reaching. Transforming.



Трансформуємо Світ: Українська Двомовна Освіта

Об'єднана Система Католицьких Шкіл Саскатуну
номінує

на прем'єрську нагороду у галузі освітніх інновацій та досягнень 2023 року

Вересень 2023

Голова Шкільної Ради: Діяна Бойко
Директор Освіти: Франсва Рівард

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Інформація про Проект

Рада Освіти Об'єднаної Системи Католицьких Шкіл Саскатуну (Board of Education, Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools, GSCS) віддавна підтримує та заохочує інновації у сфері вивчення мови та культури. Прикладом цього є успіх мовних шкіл, де вивчають крі (Cree), французьку, мічіф (Michif), та українську мови. Українська програма знаходиться під опікою Об'єднаної Системи Католицьких Шкіл Саскатуну вже понад 40 років. Рада Освіти вважає пріоритетом двомовну освіту через її величезні переваги як вони є описаними у документі Міністерства Освіти *Bilingual Education Framework*. Завдяки цьому українська мова, культура, та релігія проводжують розвиватися у Саскачевані.

«Культурна та мовна спадщина учнів має позитивний вплив на їхні академічні досягнення. Міністерство Освіти визнає культурне різноманіття саскачеванських родин та підтримує розвиток багатомовних навичок та культурних ідентичностей через мовні програми у провінційних школах та мовних групах.» Bilingual Education Framework, Saskatchewan Ministry of Education, 2014 82988-bilingual-education-integrated-curriculum-K-3.pdf.

Українська двомовна школа ім. Владики Філевича наразі є єдиною українською школою у Саскачевані. Члени української громади свого часу звернулися до Ради Освіти з ідеєю про створення такої програми. Батьки активно виступали за створення школи де б українська спадщина процвітала через вивчення мови, релігії, культури, та традицій. У 1979 році це нарешті стало реальністю. Українська програма, яка почалася з невеличкого початкового класу з 15 учнів, організованого при школі Св. Марії Горетті, вже переросла у сучасну процвітаючу школу ім. Владики Філевича, яка налічує 250 учнів від початкового до 8 класу. Учні середньої школи можуть також брати онлайн-курси української мови. Від початку заснування програми у 1979 році, наступні предмети викладаються українською мовою: українська мова, суспільні науки, релігія, здоров'я, фізкультура, мистецтво. Інші предмети – математика, природничі науки, англійська мова – вивчаються англійською мовою.

Вифліємська католицька середня школа (Bethlehem Catholic High School) продовжує традицію викладання української мови через надання мовних курсів української християнської етики та української мови у 9-12 класах. Там також пропонується курс української мови Core Ukrainian у 9-12 класах. Учні мають змогу отримати сертифікат двомовної програми за умови здобуття як мінімум двох українських кредитів за рік. До 2007 року, програма середньої школи була доступна у Е. Д. Фіян католицькій середній школі (E.D. Feehan Catholic High School). Учні мали змогу поїхати до України та приймати у себе вдома учнів з України за програмою обміну студентів середньої школи. Об'єднана Система Католицьких Шкіл Саскатуну розробила програми вивчення мовного курсу Core Ukrainian через Онлайн Школу (Cyber School), чим надала доступ до вивчення української мови учням зі всієї провінції.

Цілі Україномовної Освітньої Програми

Українська двомовна програма при школі ім. Владики Філевича має наступні цілі:

- Надати учням можливість спілкуватися двома мовами: англійською та українською.
- Розвинути знання про українську культурну та релігійну спадщину візантійського обряду в Канаді та навчитися цінувати її.
- Розвинути позитивне ставлення до інших мов, культур, та традицій.

Рада Освіти та Україномовна Програма

Від початку заснування української двомовної програми в українській громаді, наша Рада Освіти завзято підтримувала її розвиток за останні більше як 40 років. Члени Ради приймали активну участь у різних культурних партнерських проектах, які проводилися в українській громаді за участі учнів та працівників школи. Будучи членами української католицької громади, багато Радників Шкільної Ради надавали неоціненну допомогу у розвитку української двомовної програми у Саскачевані. Така підтримка та партнерство виявлялося у наступному:

- Візити до Будинку Св. Йосипа, резиденції Іларіона та Святого Володимира (будинки для людей похилого віку у Саскатуні).
- Дитячий Куточок в українському павільйоні на фестивалі ФолькФест.
- Спів під час вшанування пам'яті жертв Голодомору (при Законодавчих Зборах).
- Щорічні різдвяні концерти та колядування (важлива традиція під час різдвяних свят в Україні).
- Щорічне виконання гімну Канади українською мовою на хокейних іграх команди Blades.
- Запис різдвяного диску української музики на честь 25-тої річниці програми.
- Запис гімну Канади українською мовою для CBC Radio Canada на честь святкування 150-річчя Канади.
- Виступ на концерті до Дня пам'яті Тараса Шевченка кожного березня.
- Спів на фестивалі «Весна» щороку у травні.
- Виконання українського гімну на змагання з бігу Brainsport's Run for Ukraine.
- Два візити папи Нунція (офійного представника Ватикану у Канаді); та
- Організація зустрічей з відомими людьми та представниками влади, такими як Посол України в Канаді, Патріарх Святослав Шевчук, Верховний Архієпископ Української Греко-Католицької церкви, український поет Дмитро Павличко, Український Католицький Кардинал Любачівський, колишній Прем'єр Романов, генерал-губернатор Рей Гнатишин, та лейтенантка-губернаторка Сильвія Федорук.

У 2020 році до святкування 40ї річниці школи був створений комітет батьків, вчителів та членів громади, завданням якого було підсумовувати досягнення україномовної освітньої програми за останні 40 років та спланувати її майбутній розвиток, який відповідав би запитам теперішнього часу.

Комітет розглянув сучасні дослідження у сфері вивчення іноземної мови, переглянув цілі школи, та дослідив ставлення батьків та членів громади до сучасної української шкільної програми. Результати їхньої роботи були представлені Раді Освіти. Підсумкова іконографіка цього

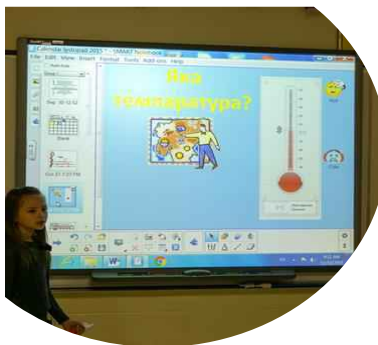
дослідження подана у Додатку А. Українська мовна програма, а особливо школа ім. Владики Філевича, збагатила релігійне життя всіх членів Ради Освіти тим, що ознайомила їх, послідовників латинського обряду, з багатим на свої традиції та історію візантійський обряд.



Україномовна Програма: Сьогодення та Інновації

Українська двомовна програма існує вже сорок 44 рік у рамках Об'єднаної Системи Католицьких Шкіл Саскатуну. Кількість учнів від початкового до 8 класу налічує 271. Школа ім. Владики Філевича бере активну участь у житті української громади міста Саскатун. Учні з 52 районів Саскатуна та від містечка Мартенсвіл відвідують цю школу. Половина дітей школи є новоприбулими з України, в той час як інша половина – це канадці українського походження. Їх об'єднує спільне бажання вивчати українську мову та культуру. Довготривале партнерство з програмою Settlement Support Workers in Schools (SWIS) від організації Saskatoon Open Door Society є прикладом співпраці покликаної якнайкраще допомагати учням які нещодавно прибули з України.

Міністерство Освіти звернулося до вчителів школи ім. Владики Філевича як до єдиної української двомовної школи у провінції з проханням допомогти розробити ресурси для саскачеванських шкіл та допомогти адаптуватися новим українським учням, що прибули до провінції через воєнне вторгнення Росії на територію України. Ці ресурси включали демографічний, соціо-економічний, та культурний огляд справ в Україні, а також надали ефективні поради для підтримки нових учнів та їхніх сімей. Олена Ковпак, яка є вчителем англійської як іноземної мови, та Стася Горбай Уґалдей, директорка школи, підготували та записали вебінар, який піднімав вищезгадані теми. Він також містив ресурси для вчителів, спрямовані на розвиток англійської мови у новоприбулих дітей.



Підтримка Новоприбулих Сімей та Нових Учнів

У лютому 2020 року, від початку повномасштабного вторгнення Росії на територію України, переваги унікальної двомовної програми школи ім. Владики Філевича стали вкотре особливо відчутними. Багато українців почали шукати підтримку в українській діаспорі в Канаді (особливо у Західній Канаді) та переїжджати до Саскачевану. Багато сімей обрали для своїх дітей єдину на всю провінцію українську школу. Вчителі, учні, та члени громади дуже гостинно прийняли до школи понад 50 нових учнів між березнем та червнем 2022 року. Ще 30 дітей зареєструвалися до школи протягом літа. Протягом 2022-2023 навчального року, школа зросла своєю чисельністю більше як на 50 відсотків, досягла понад 300 учнів.

Школа надавала підтримку українській громаді двома головними шляхами: пряма допомога Україні під час воєнних дій та підтримка нових учнів та українських сімей у Саскатуні.

Школа збирала речі першої медичної допомоги та надсилала їх до України. Кожен клас приносив пожертвування, які завантажили у три автомобілі та під наглядом доброчинної організації надіслали до України. Школа проводила щотижневі збори коштів, збираючи гроші від проведення таких заходів як День капелюха, лотереї, продаж браслетів та стрічок, збір пожертв. Частину цих коштів було витрачено на оплату поштових перевезень речей першої медичної допомоги в Україну. Сімейні зв'язки вчителів та батьків були гарантом того, що допомога швидко надходила тим, хто її найбільше потребував в Україні.

Допомоги також потребували нові сім'ї, діти яких стали учнями у школі ім. Владики Філевича. Коли нові учні почали прибувати, працівники школи почали збирати шкільне приладдя та взуття для них. Всі нові учні, зареєстровані від квітня 2022 року до червня 2023 року, отримали взуття для уроків фізкультури, наплічник, сумку для обіду, та пляшку для води. Діти також дістали все необхідне шкільне приладдя і були повністю готові до першого дня школи. Це все стало можливим завдяки зборам коштів у школі та фінансовій допомозі від інших католицьких шкіл, церков, та різних членів саскатунської громади. Крім того, від громади надходили одяг та ковдри, а також грошова допомога для оплати літніх таборів та позакласних занять для новоприбулих дітей.

Коли нові сім'ї прибувають до школи, їх зустрічає ціла команда, яка складається з вчителя англійської мови, секретаря, директорки, та завуча, які проводять екскурсію школою, надають шкільне приладдя, та відповідають на всі запитання. Техпрацівниця приносить нові парти та слідкує за інвентарем. Класні керівники тепло зустрічають нових дітей у своїх класах.

Незавдовго після повномасштабного вторгнення Росії, команда реагування на трагічні події Об'єднаної Системи Католицьких Шкіл Саскатуну почала надавати підтримку школі. Додаткова консультаційна допомога для психологічного здоров'я була доступна для членів шкільної родини. Громадська рада католицьких шкіл також підтримувала школу у прийнятті нових сімей та купівлі необхідних для них речей.

Новоприбулі діти знаходили такі необхідні для них підтримку та розуміння у новій школі, що стало можливим завдяки міцній позиції української двомовної школи у рамках Об'єднаної Системи Католицьких Шкіл Саскатуну.

«Інколи ми сприймаємо слова «тепло» та «доброзичливо», які приписані у статуті-місії нашої шкільної системи за належне. Це те, що ми робимо щодня, тому, певно, це вже така звична для нас справа. Працюючи у школі, яку обирають родини, які втікають від російської агресії, ми по-новому відчули значення цих слів, по-нову оцінили школу як безпечне місце для дітей та їхніх сімей. Школа стала місцем, де їх тепло приймають, розуміють, та зичать лише добра. Ми зміцнили як громада. Ми по-новому сприймаємо свою місію.»

Стася Горбай-Угалдей, директорка школи ім. Владики Філевича

Докази Покращення Успішності Учнів

Навчальний план української мови (від початкового до третього класів) перебуває на стадії оновлення від 2014 року. У 2014 році Міністерство Освіти Саскачевану розробило документ під назвою Kindergarten to Grade 3 Bilingual Education Integrated Framework, який використовується для початкового рівня засвоєння української мови від початкового до третього класу останні 8 років. У 2021 році, Шкільна Рада почала працювати над оновленням навчального плану української мови для 4-8 класів. Проект розроблявся комітетом від Шкільної Ради і тепер тестується вчителями у школі ім. Владики Філевича для того, щоб отримати пропозиції для його покращення та затвердження. У розробці цього нового навчального плану української мови були використані план вивчення системи «занурення» французької мови та Common European Framework of Reference for Languages (CEFR). Оновлений навчальний план замінить план, який був розроблений у 1995 році. Він включає такі ресурси для вивчення української мови у 4-8 класах як мовне портфоліо, дослідження за запитами, та послідовне вивчення граматики.

Навчальний план для 10-12 класів наразі перебуває на стадії розроблення і буде впроваджений у навчання у другому семестрі. Цей навчальний план включає курси української мови під назвами Core Ukrainian 10, 20 and 30 і зазвичай використовується учнями школи ім. Владики Філевича які навчаються в інших середніх школах (не у Вифліємській католицькій середній школі) і викладається в онлайн-школі Cyber School. Навчальний план для 10-12 класів українсько-англійської двомовної програми наразі також перебуває на стадії розроблення і буде впроваджений у другому семестрі цього року у Вифліємській католицькій середній школі.

Головною запорукою успіху учнів української двомовної програми є сильна академічна програма, просякнута українською культурою, мовою, та релігією, а також підсилена міцною громадською роботою та партнерськими зв'язками. Саме існування української мовної програми уможливило процвітання української мови, культури, та візантійської релігійної традиції у Саскачевані. Велика кількість учнів, які закінчують цю програму, отримують дипломи з відзнакою.

Висновок

Школа ім. Владики Філевича та українська мовна програма навчання у рамках Об'єднаної Системи Католицьких Шкіл Саскатуну є унікальною та інноваційною освітньою програмою у Саскачевані. Шкільна Рада, українська громада, та провінція Саскачеван отримуть взаємну користь від існування такої програми. Її подальший успіх є запорукою розвитку міцної громади, побудованої на засадах культурного різноманіття. У світлі нещодавніх подій у світі, школа, освітня програма, та громада довели свою міцну позицію та затребуваність.

Додаток А: Підсумкова Іконографіка

Bishop Filevich Ukrainian Bilingual School School Goals Feedback Summary

Reflecting on 40 years of Ukrainian bilingual education prompts us to look forward to ensure we provide a sustainable program for future generations.

Rooted. Growing.
Reaching. Transforming.



KEY FINDINGS

104 FAMILIES
SURVEYED

54 SURVEY
RESPONSES

Ukrainian Bilingual Education in Saskatchewan

Celebrating 40 Years Святкуймо

Української двомовної освіти у Саскачевані

Important Themes and Aspects of Bishop Filevich



Language Learning



Celebration of Faith



Maintain Heritage and
Culture within Canada



Welcoming Community



Connecting to Ukraine



Providing Future Opportunities

IN YOUR WORDS...



Coming to Saskatchewan, we have experienced such an overwhelming feeling of inclusion, of being part of the community that is proud of its language, religion and culture. The Ukrainian bilingual program is what keeps this community together while teaching young generations to treasure their roots.

Вивчити мову без вивчення культури просто неможливо. Культура, традиції, релігія, мова - це все одне ціле і ми не можемо і не маємо права порушувати цей зв'язок. To learn a language without learning about the culture is challenging. Culture, traditions, religion, language—it is all one whole.

Learning an additional language is good for a student's cognitive development. It expands their general understanding of communicating with other people. It expands their understanding of how language is constructed.

This program allows students to become proficient in a second language, so children have an appreciation for other languages and the differences. I also think it creates a greater connection to our history if we can speak the language.



MOVING FORWARD TOGETHER

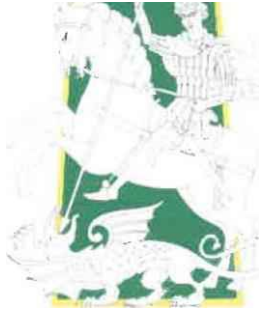
To ensure a sustainable Ukrainian bilingual school community, we need to work on:

- Supporting both fluent Ukrainian speakers and students learning Ukrainian as an additional language;
- Teaching contemporary Standard Ukrainian while respecting traditional or geographical variations;
- Building Ukrainian cultural identity in Canada;
- Being present in the community; and
- Growing, adapting and keeping a global perspective.

Thank you to all the families who took time to complete the survey and share your thoughts and opinions!

Щиро дякуємо вам за участь.

Додаток В: Лист підтримки – єпархія



UKRAINIAN CATHOLIC EPARCHY OF SASKATOON
Українська Католицька Єпархія Саскатун
214 Ave. M South, Saskatoon, SK, S7M 2K4 CANADA
Tel: 306-653-0138 Fax: 306-665-2569
Web: skeparchy.org/wordpress E-mail: admin.skeparchy@sasktel.net

September 24th, 2023

Dear Brothers and Sisters in Christ,

Слава Ісусу Христу! Glory be to Jesus Christ!

On behalf of the Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Saskatoon, please accept this letter of support for Bishop Filevich Ukrainian Bilingual School, as they apply for the Premier's Award for Innovations and Excellence. The Ukrainian Bilingual Program in Saskatoon has achieved many important milestones throughout the years, as it is the only program of its kind in Saskatchewan.

For over forty years, the Ukrainian Bilingual program has helped families and their children preserve their faith, language and culture. We recognize that at this time more than ever, their school community has gone above and beyond in ensuring new families are welcomed into their school. Bishop Filevich School are an integral part of the Ukrainian community and an essential partner with the Eparchy. We have enjoyed the close relationship that has been developed with the Bishop Filevich community over the last four decades.

The Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy congratulates Bishop Filevich Ukrainian Bilingual School with their continued work of deepening faith, growing language, and preserving culture in the Ukrainian community. We pray that God continues to bless their endeavors for the next forty years!

In Christ,

Viktoriia Marko
Youth and Young Adult Minister
Ukrainian Catholic Eparchy of Saskatoon

Додаток С: Лист підтримки-UCC



Конгрес Українців Канади – Саскатунський відділ
CONGRES UKRAINIEN-CANADIEN SUCCURSALES DE SASKATOON
UKRAINIAN CANADIAN CONGRESS – SASKATOON BRANCH
PO Box #1592, Saskatoon, SK S7K 3R3

September 15th, 2023

Ms. Stacia Horbay Ugalde
Principal
Bishop Filevich Ukrainian Bilingual School
125 105th St W
Saskatoon, SK S7N 1N3

Re: Premiers Award Application Letter of Support

Dear Selection committee for the Premiers Award for Innovation and Excellence,

On behalf of the UCC - Saskatoon Branch, please accept this letter of support for Bishop Filevich Ukrainian Bilingual School's application to the Premiers Award 2022. As the only Ukrainian bilingual program in Saskatchewan, Bishop Filevich provides a creative, culturally relevant, and innovative learning environment and community for their students from kindergarten to Grade 8.

Since the first Ukrainian immigrants settled in Saskatchewan in 1891, Ukrainian language was, and continues to be, a cornerstone of our culture and is essential to Ukrainian identity. Bishop Filevich Ukrainian Bilingual School is deeply committed to ensuring the passage of Ukrainian language, culture, and faith to our children and is a source of pride for the Ukrainian community in Saskatoon and Saskatchewan.

The school has achieved many great accomplishments both academically and culturally in the province and has created friendships and partnerships within the Ukrainian Community. The school takes pride in helping the children culturally and providing opportunities to deepen their faith. With their work, they have strengthened the personal bonds within the community ensuring that the Ukrainian bilingual program continues to thrive as an essential part of Saskatoon.

The Ukrainian Canadian Congress - Saskatoon Branch (UCC - SB) congratulates Bishop Filevich Ukrainian Bilingual School on their nomination and offers our support for many more years of bilingual education in our city and province.

Sincerely,

Ukrainian Canadian Congress — Saskatoon

Pat Tymchatyn
President

Додаток D: Лист підтримки- Батьківський лист

Sept. 15th, 2023

To whom it may concern,

I have been a parent of students at Bishop Filevich for over 10 years and have been blessed to be a part of the school family. The school has created a place to learn, gather and a community like no other.

When we came to Canada from Ukraine, Bishop Filevich was our first experience of education and community. We were blessed to have our traditions, culture, language and faith practiced and taught. We were welcomed and made to feel like this was more than an educational institution, but a family that appreciated and loved all children who walked through their doors.

Though this has been a very challenging and emotional year for our community, the school has done incredible things to welcome, include and educate. They have given our new students and families an incredible place to be. All families I have spoken to, cannot say enough about Bishop Filevich School.

The education that the school provides is done in a matter that excites learning, stretches all student's minds and creates a safe place to be. The teachers and administration recognize the importance of the whole child, both academically and socially. I am so proud to say my children have attended and attend Bishop Filevich and cannot imagine a more deserving school for this recognition.

Sincerely,

Nataliia Garماسar
Parent at Bishop Filevich School

Board Priority:

- Building Relationships and Partnerships
- Promoting Stewardship

Presented by: Assistant Superintendent R. Martin

Background Information:

Construction of the new St. Frances Cree Bilingual School continues to progress very well. Although recent rainfall slowed construction activities temporarily, the project remains on schedule. Completion is still currently scheduled for August 2025. The construction team at Graham Construction continues to exceed expectations with the work completed to date as well as the ongoing planning activities that will support upcoming construction phases. Kindrachuk Agrey Architecture and the entire consulting team has continued to support Graham Construction and the project schedule. The high level of collaboration has been exemplary and the construction team has been recognized for their efforts. Site photos have been included for the board's reference in Appendix A. The board can expect the building envelope to be complete by June 2024. This would include the exterior precast panels, roofing, windows and exterior doors. The framing of interior spaces is expected to be complete one year from now.

Although the project is currently on schedule, with some activities ahead of schedule, the board is reminded that this is subject to change due to events beyond the project team's control. The upcoming winter months may impact construction activities beyond what the schedule currently accommodates as well as unforeseen material or equipment delays.

The Ministry of Education has yet to provide the capital funding agreement (CFA). This agreement provides the funding amounts for construction, unfixed furniture, project fees/expenses, and contingency. The school division will not be reimbursed for any construction payments until this agreement is approved by the board and provincial government.

Recommendation:

That the Board of Education receive the information as presented in the construction update for St. Frances Cree Bilingual School project.

Appendix A



9/21/2023 – Northeast Grade Beam Pour



9/24/2023 – Gym Floor Concrete Slab Prep



9/27/2023 – Gym Floor Concrete Slab Prep



9/29/2023 – Plumbing Rough- Ins



9/29/2023 – Gym Floor Rebar & South Wall



9/29/2023 – Grade Beam (Looking Northwest)



9/29/2023 – West Stairwell (Looking East)



9/29/2023 – Trenching for Services



9/29/2023 – Parking Lot (Looking South)



9/29/2023 – Precast Exterior Wall Mockup



9/29/2023 – West Stairwell & Gym Wall (Looking Northwest)



9/29/2023 – Drone View (Looking Northwest)



9/29/2023 – Drone View (Looking Northeast)



10/10/2023 – Exterior Precast Mockup Staining Closeup



10/10/2023 – Exterior Precast Mockup



10/10/2023 – Exterior Precast Mockup



10/10/2023 – Exterior Precast Mockup



10/10/2023 – Exterior Precast Mockup

Student Leadership

On September 21-22, the division was excited to host our annual student leadership conference. Student representatives from each of our elementary schools came together for the conference hosted at Bishop James Mahoney Catholic High School this year. This conference is sponsored largely by the Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools Foundation Inc. and we extend our sincere thanks to them for their sponsorship! Additionally, this conference requires a large planning and hosting committee. Administration and staff from all schools have been involved in planning and hosting. Specific thanks need to go to our large planning committee! They did a wonderful job once again.

Corn Roast – Bosco Homes

The annual Corn Roast Fundraiser to support the Parent and Tot program along with the Farm School took place on September 21. Thanks to Columbus Bosco Saskatoon board and the staff of the school for organizing and hosting the event. The recent changes to the space on the farm are going very well and programming continues to evolve to respond to student needs.

Principal Fall Seminar

September 27-28 was our opportunity to gather for our principal fall seminar. This year we gathered at Queen's House. The opportunity to gather as a leadership group is greatly appreciated. Our time together allows us to learn as a group and build relationship. Special thanks to Fr. M. Ramsey for joining us as well as thanks to our planning committee.

National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – September 30

As the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation was on the weekend this year, our division took the opportunity to commemorate the day throughout the week of September 25. A variety of learning activities took place in our schools as well as at the Board Office and Service Centre. On September 26, members of the Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools' First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education Learning Community, Oskāyak High School staff and members of the Kitotiminawak council journeyed to Eagle Creek for a Pipe Ceremony in the nearly completed lodge. On September 28, the division commemorated Orange Shirt Day. As a part of this day, staff and students participated in walks within their communities. On September 30, Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools (GSCS) participated in the Rock Your Roots Walk to honour survivors of residential schools. Later that day, as well as on October 1, GSCS had the honour of participating in the STC Every Child Matters Pow Wow.

Gideon Bibles

The annual process through which the Gideon Society provides New Testament bibles to all Grade 4 students began with a kickoff celebration at St. Edward School on Thursday, October 5. Representatives from the Gideon Society were on hand to mark the beginning of the process through which they will visit all of our elementary schools. Special thanks to the Gideon Society for their generosity and also to Principal C. Howe and his staff for hosting the event.