

September 1, 2017


Dear Students, Parents and Guardians,

In recent years we have encouraged our students to utilize technology as much as possible to enhance their educational experience. Past practice has been to allow any Prairie South and personal device unlimited access to our wifi network. As the number of devices in our schools have grown it has put an increased demand on the limited amount of bandwidth each school is allotted.

Last spring, we monitored our school's networks and discovered that a large amount of bandwidth was being utilized by student personal devices for sites that did not necessarily have an educational connection. Each school staff reviewed their results, and provided feedback to a committee to determine if certain websites could be restricted on the student wifi network. After reviewing the feedback, the committee determined the following sites would be restricted on the student wifi network effective September 1, 2017: *Netflix, Snapchat, Facebook Video and iTunes Media Store*. This does not mean that students cannot access these sites, rather they will not be able to access them through the PSSD student wifi network. If a student wishes to access any one of these sites while at school they will need to do so utilizing their own data plan.

Prairie South School Division is committed to providing high quality education. Our hope is by freeing up some of our limited bandwidth we will be able to offer a reliable and stable internet connection that will enhance the educational opportunities for our students. We will continue to monitor our bandwidth and communicate any changes to access in advance to students, parents and guardians.

Sincerely,



Darran Teneycke  
Superintendent of School Operations