

August 5<sup>th</sup>, 2020

Dear Parents:

We hope that you and your families have had an enjoyable summer break, and that you are looking forward to some more nice weather between now and the beginning of the school year. Yesterday the Government of Saskatchewan held a press conference related to school reopening, so we wanted to connect with you today.

At the press conference, Minister of Education Gord Wyant announced 8 areas of focus that schools and school divisions will be responsible for in the fall. In general, the first 7 areas were a restatement of information that we previously had, but the 8<sup>th</sup> area was new and included information on possible adjustments to mask protocols, school capacity (number of students) and remote learning in the event that any of these are necessary.

We've had a busy July as we prepare to restart school in accordance with the guidelines provided by the government and the Saskatchewan Health Authority. At Prairie South, our priorities for 2020-2021 are, in order of importance:

- Priority One: Safety, Cleaning and Hygiene
- Priority Two: Parent and Family Engagement
- Priority Three: #learningtogether for All Students
- Priority Four: Student Engagement Beyond the Classroom
- Priority Five: School and Community Management

Later this month, we will communicate in greater detail about these priorities and how school will be different in the fall. As was the case last year, our partnership with parents and caregivers will be critically important as we work through the challenges that the year will bring. We know that by working together we will be able to provide continued great education for your children.

We've had a couple of school supply questions, so here's a tiny glimpse of something that will be different – in the fall, we will be trying to limit the amount of things that are brought to the school by students and staff. If you haven't received a school supply list, it's because schools will be providing materials for students so that all your child will need to bring is a water bottle and a small personal bottle of hand sanitizer. If you've bought some supplies, no problem – you'll use them eventually! For now, please just tuck them away and we'll take care of supplies.

We'll be in touch later in the month – take care of yourselves,



Anthony D. (Tony) Baldwin  
Director of Education



Robert Bachmann  
Chair, Board of Education