

FROM THE BOARD

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE
JUNE 13, 2024, BOARD MEETING



GSSD.CA

June 13, 2024, Regular Meeting

The Regular Board meeting on June 13, 2024, was held at the Good Spirit Education Complex. The following trustees were present: Chairperson Jaime Johnson, Vice Chair Nicole Pohl, Jade Anderson, Christopher Balyski, Gord Gendur, Shannon Leson, Jan Morrison, Bob Simpson, Lois Smandych, Gilda Dokuchie, and Steve Variyan. Also in attendance were division office staff, including Director of Education/CEO Quintin Robertson, Chief Financial Officer Keith Gervais, Assistant to the Director Lauren Denysek, Superintendent of Schools Amanda Kornaga, and Macdonald School Principal Melissa Johanson.

Meeting Opening

Board Chair Johnson commenced the meeting at 10 am and Trustee Anderson reviewed GSSD's meeting norms and respectfully recognized that the meeting was taking place on Treaty 4 Territory; the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe, Cree, Assiniboine, and homeland of the Métis Peoples.

Approval of Minutes

The meeting package included the minutes for the April 25, 2024, Regular Board Meeting and the May 23, 2024, Special Board Meeting, which were prepared by Chief Financial Officer Keith Gervais. The approved minutes can be accessed on the GSSD website: [GSSD](#) | [Board](#) | [Board Meetings](#) | [April 25, 2024](#) | [May 23, 2024](#)

Delegation

As outlined in Board Policy 7, the Board will make provision for a delegation to make a presentation at a Board meeting in the interest of improving the education provided in Division schools. There were two delegations at the Regular Meeting on June 13, 2024.

Accountability Report

Focusing on Educational Approaches that Prioritize Student Success/Transportation Report

Ryan Hall, Transportation Manager, presented the accountability report.

Ryan outlined that the key measures of the report were to minimize ride times, collaborate with human resources and other divisions to improve recruitment strategies and analyze fuel usage to minimize costs.



Route Cancellations by Month, 23-24 School Year

Month	Sept.	Oct.	Nov.	Dec.	Jan.	Feb.	Mar.	Apr.	May	Totals	Totals (Previous Year)
Mechanical	1	1.5	0.5	1	13	7	10.5	0.5	1.5	36.5	41.5
Weather	1	0.5	18	4	143	25.5	233	3	0	428	416
Medical	26.5	12.5	21	10	12.5	20.5	50	13	35.5	201.5	125.5
Personal	4.5	3.5	6.5	3	6	4	4.5	5.5	7	44.5	25.5
Other	15	6	9	7.5	8.5	23.5	29	24	42.5	165	28

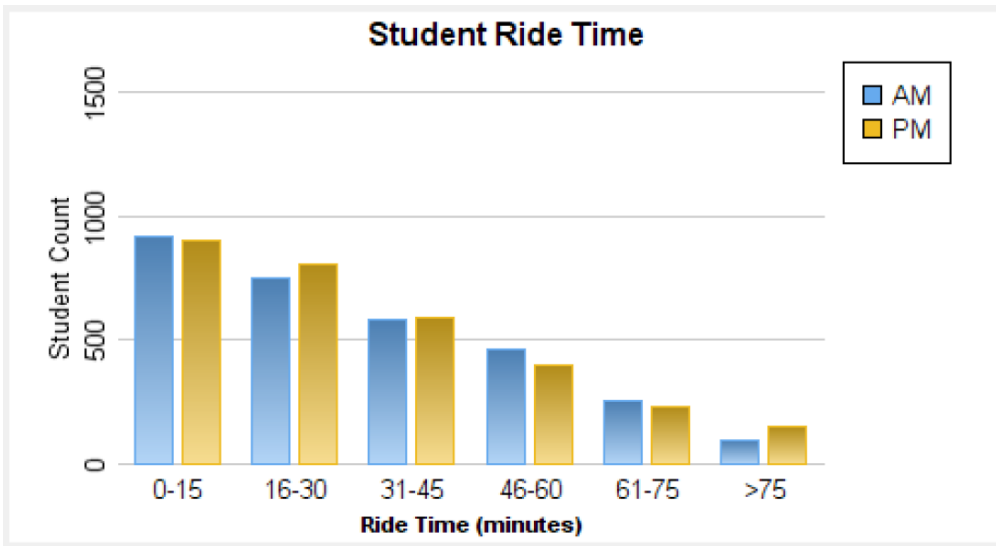
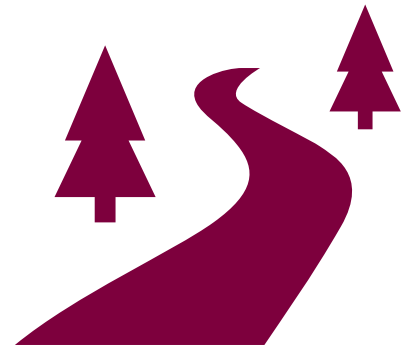
**March 4th and 5th, 2024, were full division-wide bus cancellations, including urban and rural routes.

**A Kamsack route vacancy since late January added considerably to the "Other" totals.

Ryan mentioned that the Kamsack route is now temporarily filled, which will significantly reduce cancellations. Additionally, a Canora route is currently vacant but is posted for immediate filling.

Ride Stats

- 2811 GSSD students, 198 CTT students for a total of 3009 students transported
- 20,425 daily km
- Longest ride time – bus driver’s child – 150 minutes
- Longest ride time – non-bus driver’s child
- Average ride time is 32 minutes



To wrap up the report, Ryan provided information regarding new acquisitions, key strategies and future strategies. Ryan also highlighted GSSD’s new referral bonus for new bus drivers.

To view the accountability report in its entirety visit: [GSSD](#) | [Board](#) | [Board Meetings](#) | [Board Accountability Report – Focusing on Educational Approaches that Prioritize Student Success/Transportation Report](#)



Board Development

Band in the Good Spirit School Division (GSSD)

BOARD DEVELOPMENT
TOPIC: FAST FACTS ON BAND IN GSSD
JUNE 13, 2024, REGULAR BOARD MEETING

STRATEGIC PRIORITY
ENGAGEMENT OF ALL STUDENTS, FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES
HIGH QUALITY TEACHING AND LEARNING

Information for the Board - 10 Fast Facts

- Band is offered in 21 schools in GSSD in Grades 5-12. Approximately 1,300 students participated in the band program in the 2023-24 school year. These students are instructed by eight band teachers who all have specialized training and hold bachelor's degrees in music.
- In Grades 5-9, band is considered a locally determined option. Instruction is guided by the arts education curriculum (music strand) and a ministry band support document. Students must play one or more instruments to meet all outcomes in the arts education curriculum, and band provides an opportunity to do this.
- In Yorkton and area, band is optional at all grade levels. In other schools, band is required for all students at the Grades 5 and 6 level only, except for Macdonald, Grayson, Churchbridge, and Langenburg where band is required up to Grade 9.
- Students in high school can earn credits in Band 10, 20, and 30. These credits fulfill the graduation requirement of two or more PAA or arts education courses. In Yorkton and Melville, students also have the option of taking Instrumental Jazz 10/20/30 and/or Choral 10/20/30 for credit.
- Band students in GSSD participate in a number of concerts, festivals and workshops throughout the year. These may include "head start" clinics for beginners, school concerts, school tours, Regina Optimist Festival, Brandon Jazz Festival, Moose Jaw Band and Choral Festival, Musicfest Canada (national), and other opportunities such as festivals and university workshops in Alberta, BC, Manitoba, and the US.
- All band programs in GSSD have a band parents group that meet regularly to support the programs with co-curricular aspects such as uniforms and fundraising.
- This year GSSD completed a centralized band furniture and equipment audit and refresh. All large equipment was inventoried, assessed, and repaired. In addition, new percussion equipment, chairs, and music stands were purchased for several schools to ensure that every school meets a minimum standard in order to teach the curriculum.
- Band music (or "repertoire") is levelled using a scale of Grade 1-6. Typically, by the end of the first year of instruction, bands play music at a Grade 0.5 level (six notes and basic rhythms). In GSSD, our high school bands are playing at approximately a Grade 3 level. When attending band festivals, there are levelled classes to enter with required repertoire at each level. Grade 5 and 6 level repertoire would typically be reserved for university and professional bands, and only a handful of high schools in Canada.
- Band programs in Saskatchewan are supported by organizations such as the Saskatchewan Band Association, the Canadian Band Association, and the Saskatchewan Music Educators Association.
- There are numerous opportunities for students to be involved in band outside of school, such as summer band camps, honour bands, and community bands. Participation in music can provide students with a sense of belonging and has been shown to have many lifelong benefits.

LEARNING WITHOUT LIMITS...ACHIEVEMENT FOR ALL

Kristen Myers, Superintendent of Schools, presented the Board Development on Band within the Good Spirit School Division.

Band is offered in 21 out of 27 schools within GSSD for Grades 5-12, involving approximately 1,300 students in the 2023-24 school year, taught by eight specialized band teachers. In Grades 5-9, band is a locally determined option guided by the arts education curriculum and ministry support documents. In Yorkton and area, band is optional at all grade levels, whereas in other schools it is mandatory for Grades 5 and 6, and up to Grade 9 in specific schools. High school students can earn credits in Band 10, 20, and 30, as well as in Instrumental Jazz and Choral courses in Yorkton, Esterhazy, and Melville. Band students participate in various concerts, festivals, and workshops throughout the year. All band programs have parent groups that support co-curricular activities like uniforms and fundraising.

This year, GSSD conducted a centralized audit and refresh of band equipment, ensuring all schools meet the necessary standards. Band programs are supported by provincial and national organizations, offering additional opportunities such as summer camps and community bands, which provide students with a sense of belonging and lifelong benefits.

After the presentation, the Trustees emphasized the importance of the band program, noting its frequent recognition and the numerous accolades received over the years. Kristen highlighted the centralized support provided to teachers, helping them balance their schedules as they travel to multiple locations in a day. Trustee Pohl emphasized that the band program engages many students who are not involved in athletics, as well as those who are. Trustee Johnson shared her personal experience, recalling the incredible opportunities she had in the YRHS band, including marching in the 1992 Grey Cup in Winnipeg.

To access the full document of the 10 fast facts on Band in GSSD, visit [GSSD | Board | Board Meetings | Board Development – Band in GSSD](#)

Advocacy Session

Saskatchewan School Boards Association

The Saskatchewan School Boards Association (SSBA) joined the GSSD Board of Trustees for a relationship-building session over lunch. Attendees from the SSBA included President Jaimie Smith-Windsor, Southern Constituency Robert Bachmann, and Executive Director Darren McKee.



Topics discussed included provincial collective bargaining, the connection between educational partners in Saskatchewan, and sustainable funding. Both the SSBA and GSSD emphasized the importance of collaboration among

educational partners to support students and education. The SSBA also touched on the upcoming school board elections and the resources they offer to school boards.

The SSBA expressed their support as GSSD works on revising and developing an orientation plan for new trustees, highlighting the need for professional development. Trustee Simpson noted the importance of networking among trustees from different divisions.

The conversation concluded with a discussion on the Provincial Education Plan and the Inspiring Success Framework, emphasizing the necessity of collaboration. The session wrapped up with thank-yous, appreciation for the positive interactions, and Jaimie Smith-Windsor reassuring the GSSD Board that the SSBA's door is always open.

New Business

Approve the 2024-2025 Budget & Staffing Allocations Plan

Keith Gervais, Chief Financial Officer, presented the budget and staffing allocations plan for the 2024-2025 fiscal year. This plan was made in collaboration with school community councils, school staff, the Good Spirit Teachers' Association (GSTA), the Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE), administration, and stakeholders.

Keith explained the increase in the operating grant for the Good Spirit School Division for the upcoming year, highlighting the importance of investing current funds in today's students. He pointed out that the largest budget increase is dedicated to instructional support, ensuring that students receive the essential resources in schools.

The Board passed a motion to approve the presented 2024-2025 budget. An infographic and detailed report will be provided to stakeholders once finalized.

2024 Trustee Elections

Keith Gervais, Chief Financial Officer, presented items regarding the upcoming 2024 Trustee Election. The items included necessary organizational details such as election remuneration, polling stations, the returning officer, and voting ballots.

The board passed seven motions in relation to the upcoming Board of Education Elections.

- ✓ Motion that the Board approve the remuneration for election workers as established by The Government of Saskatchewan.
- ✓ Motion that the Board of Education of the Good Spirit School Division No. 204, in accordance with Section 22 of the Local Government Election Act, approve polling stations within the following communities for the November 13, 2024, School Board Election:
 - Subdivision #1 – Village of Pelly, Town of Kamsack, and Town of Norquay
 - Subdivision #2 – Town of Preeceville and Town of Sturgis
 - Subdivision #3 – Village of Invermay and Town of Canora
 - Subdivision #4 – Village of Calder, Town of Springside, and within City of Yorkton
 - Subdivision #5 – Town of Churchbridge, Town of Langenburg, and Town of Saltcoats
 - Subdivision #6 – Village of Grayson and City of Melville
 - Subdivision # 7 – Village of Stockholm and Town of Esterhazy
 - Subdivision # 8 – Key First Nation Reserve No. 65
 - At-Large – City of Yorkton as set up by the City
- ✓ Motion that the Board appoint Jennifer Lizuck as the returning officer for the school board elections to be held on November 13, 2024.



- ✓ Motion that the Board require that every candidate submit a criminal record check in the form required by the minister in addition to the nomination paper submitted pursuant to section 67 of The Local Government Election Act, 2015.
- ✓ Motion that the Board require the listing of candidate occupation on Nomination Forms and Ballots.
- ✓ Motion that the Board require the listing of candidates to be in alphabetical order on the ballots.
- ✓ Motion that the Board establish a Mail-In Ballot voting system for the purpose of receiving ballots in an election.

Are you interested in becoming a GSSD Board of Education Trustee? Find out more here:

- [Becoming a GSSD Trustee | Good Spirit School Division](#)
- [2024 Trustee Elections | Good Spirit School Division \(gssd.ca\)](#)
- [Board Resources | Good Spirit School Division \(gssd.ca\)](#)



Policy Review

The Board reviewed meeting dates for the 24-25 school year, which will be reflected in the new Board Policy 2 Appendix A Annual Work Plan that will be released after the August 15, 2024, Regular Board Meeting. Board Policy 19 Enterprise Risk Management, Board Policy 19 Appendix A Enterprise Risk Management Framework, and Board Policy 20 Respect for Human Diversity, were also reviewed. Minor revisions were made to each policy and the updated policies can now to be viewed on our website at [GSSD.ca](#):

- [Board Policy 19 Enterprise Risk Management](#)
- [Board Policy 19 Appendix A Enterprise Risk Management Framework](#)
- [Board Policy 20 Respect for Human Diversity](#)

The updated Policies can be viewed on our website: [GSSD](#) | [Board](#) | [Board Policy Handbook](#)

Director’s Report

Facilities Update and School Tour of Kamsack Comprehensive Institute

Patrick Morrison, Facilities Manager, shared the latest Facilities Update and school tour with the Board.

Current Projects – Active Design

Facility	Description	Life Cycle Stage
Canora Composite School	Roof and envelope issues	Planning
Good Spirit Ed Complex	Parking lot improvements - Rail for walkway and parking	Planning
Esterhazy High School	Entrance way renovation	Planning
Invermay School	Entrance Ramp Accessibility Improvements	Planning
Dr Brass School	Classroom Renos	Planning
Yorkdale Central School	Asphalt Replacement	Planning
Yorkdale Central School	Boiler Replacement and Boiler Room Renovations	Planning

Yorkdale Central School	Corridor Flooring	Planning
Yorkton Regional High School	Shop Ventilation Improvement	Planning
Melville Comprehensive	Home Ec Project	Planning
Victoria School	Foods Lab – SCC Project	Planning
Melville Comprehensive	Revitalization of Track and Football Field	Planning
Victoria School	Support SCC with Kitchen Renovation Project	Design/Funding
Churchbridge Public School	Replace Main Backboards in Gym.	Design

Current Projects - Scheduled

Facility	Description	Scheduled Start
Melville Comprehensive School	Replace grates in Mechanic Room, repair concrete.	2024.07.08
Canora Junior Elementary School	Drainage system for the northwest entrance	2024.07.08
Macdonald School	Remove Broken Concrete	2024.07.08
Davison School	Support SCC with barrier free playground path.	2024.07.02
Churchbridge Public School	Classroom Renos	2024.07.02
Saltcoats School	Classroom Renos	2024.07.02
Saltcoats School	Washroom Renos	2024.07.02
MC Knoll School	Replace HVAC Control System	2024.07.02
Preeceville School	Entranceway, Sensory Room and Kindergarten Reno	2024.07.02
Yorkdale Central School	Perimeter Surveillance System	2024.06.17
Saltcoats School	Perimeter Surveillance System	2024.06.17
Yorkton Regional High School	Add Storage Room in Basement	2024.09.16
Norquay School	Cultural Room	2024.08.06
PJ Gillen	Replace Asphalt Shingles	2024.07.02
Yorkdale Central School	Replace Asphalt Shingles	2024.07.08
Melville Comprehensive	Elevator Replacement	Summer 2025
Yorkton Regional High School	Elevator Replacement	Summer 2025

Current Projects – Work in Progress

Facility	Description	Current Status
Canora Composite School	Home Ec Project	Active – 94% Complete
Saltcoats School	Roof Replacement Sections 1 and 2	Substantially Complete
Yorkdale Central School	Roof Replacement Sections 2,4,7, and 10	Substantially Complete
Preeceville School	Surveillance System	Active – 60% Complete
Melville Comprehensive	Renovation of Washrooms	Active – 5% Complete
Miller School	Revamp office space and Gym Storage	Active – 20% Complete

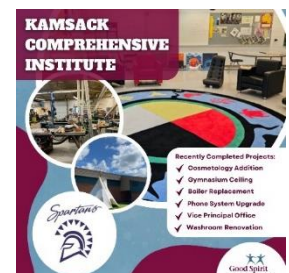
Recently Completed Projects

Facility	Description
Yorkdale Central School	Reconciliation Garden Project

Pat also discussed service requests, noting that over 350 have been completed this year. He mentioned that summer will be a busy time as they work to complete additional service requests in schools.

After Pat’s update, he gave the Board of Education a virtual tour of Kamsack Comprehensive Institute (KCI). To view the tour of KCI, [click here!](#)

[GSSD](#) | [Division](#) | [Facilities](#) | [Kamsack Comprehensive Institute](#)



Financial Update

Keith Gervais, Chief Financial Officer, provided the Board with the latest financial update. He noted that all financials are on track, indicating effective management and adherence to the budget. Keith's detailed report highlighted the positive financial health of the organization, ensuring continued support for our programs and initiatives.

Professional Development Opportunities

Quintin Robertson, Director of Education/CEO, shared an update on professional development (PD) initiatives for the current school year, noting over 50 sessions have been held. Highlights included Dr. Phil McRae discussing Artificial Intelligence with all GSTA and CUPE members, along with internally facilitated sessions on Blended Learning, Day 2, and Grade 9 ELA Writing Engagement. Detailed information on the PD sessions from May and June will be featured in the upcoming Good Spirit School Division's May/June In Focus Media Release.

Administrative Procedures

The Board was informed of the Administrative Procedures that have undergone revision and review since the Regular Board Meeting on April 25, 2024. These procedures are now available on the [GSSD website](#):

- [AP 250 Work-Based Learning Programs](#)
 - [AP 250-1 Work-Based Learning Agreement Form](#)
 - [AP 250-2 Work-Based Learning Agreement and Consent Form](#)
 - [AP 250-3 Pre-Placement Visit Form](#)
 - [AP 250-4 Work-Based Learning Employer Students Performance Evaluation](#)
 - [AP 250-5 Student Information Form](#)
- [AP 251 Apprenticeship Credits](#)
 - [AP 251-1 Apprenticeship Credit Proposal Template Form](#)
 - [AP 251-2 Apprenticeship Roles and Responsibilities](#)
 - [AP 251-3 Apprenticeship Credit Student Log Sheet](#)
 - [AP 251-4 Apprenticeship Credits Supervising Teacher Monitoring Checklist](#)
 - [AP 251-5 Teacher Supervisor and Employer Evaluation of Student](#)
 - [AP 251-6 Student Apprenticeship Exit Interview](#)
- [AP 252 Volunteerism Credit](#)
 - [AP 252-1 Volunteerism Roles and Responsibilities](#)
 - [AP 252-2 Ineligible Volunteerism Activities](#)
 - [AP 252-3 Volunteerism Questions and Answers](#)
 - [AP 252-4 Volunteerism 30 Plan](#)
 - [AP 252-5 Volunteerism 30L Credit Student Log](#)
- [AP 253 Special Project Credit \(updated February 2024\)](#)
 - [AP 253-1 Special Credit Project Proposal Template Form](#)
 - [AP 253-2 Special Project Roles and Responsibilities \(New April 2024\)](#)
 - [AP 253-4 Special Project Daily Log \(New April 2024\)](#)
- [AP 254 Dual Credit](#)
 - [AP 254-1 Lifeguard 30L Dual Credit Form](#)
- [AP 303 Air Quality Guidelines \(NEW May 2024\)](#)
- [AP 435-1 General Evaluation Form](#)
- [AP 435-3 Administrative Assistant Evaluation Report](#)



- [AP 435-4 Caretaker Evaluation Report](#)
- [AP 435-5 Educational Assistant Evaluation Report](#)
- [AP 435-6 Library Technician Evaluation Report](#)
- [AP 479-1 Evaluation for Admin Council](#)
- [AP 479-2 GSEC Evaluation Report](#)
- [AP 479-3 GSEC Evaluation Report - Supervisor](#)
- [AP 479-4 PSP Evaluation Report](#)
- [AP 354 Appendix A Illegal Substance Use Flowchart](#)
- [AP 361 Student Progress and Placement](#)
 - [AP 361-1 \(NEW FORM\) Grade Retention](#)
 - [AP 361-2 \(NEW FORM\) Grade Acceleration](#)
- [AP 205 Citizenship Education](#)
- [AP 552 Transportation of Students in Private Vehicles](#)
 - [AP 552-2 \(NEW FORM\) Transportation of Students in Private Vehicles Parent Consent Form](#)
- [AP 261 Educational Field Trips](#)
 - [AP 261-1 Category A and B In-Province and Out-Of-Province Field Trip Request](#)
 - [AP 261-2 Category C Out of Country Extended Field Trip Form](#)

Conclusion

School Community Councils and Celebrations

Trustee Pohl remarked on the newly completed reconciliation garden at Yorkdale Central School, highlighting its beauty and transformation of a once-unused space into a functional outdoor classroom. Yorkdale is grateful to the sponsors who made this initiative possible: The Good Spirit School Division, The Painted Hand Community Development Corporation, Legacy Co-op, Richardson, and SynergyAG.



Upcoming Important Dates

June 19, 2024	Inter School Year End Pow Wow, Kamsack Comprehensive School
June 19, 2024	Melville Bus Garage BBQ – 11:30am – 1:00pm
June 20, 2024	Yorkton Bus Garage BBQ – 11:30am – 1:00pm
June 21, 2024	Indigenous People’s Day
June 26, 2024	Melville Composite School Grade 12 Grad – 1:30pm @ CN Center
June 26, 2024	Churchbridge Public School Grade 12 Grad – 1:30pm @ CPS Gym
June 27, 2024	Kamsack Comprehensive Institute Grade 12 Grad – 1:00pm
June 27, 2024	YRHS Grade 12 Grad – 1pm @ Anne Portnuff Theatre
June 27, 2024	Canora Composite School Grade 12 Grad – 2pm @ Park
June 27, 2024	Invermay School Grade 12 Grad – 2pm Ceremony @ INV Hall
June 27, 2024	Esterhazy High School Grade 12 Grad – 2pm @ The Hall
August 15, 2024	Regular Board Meeting
September 26, 2024	Board Chairs Council – In-person, Regina, 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
September 30, 2024	Deadline for Submissions for the 2024 Premier’s Board of Education Award for Innovation and Excellence & the 2024 Award of Distinction – 4:30 p.m.
October 9, 2024	Board of Education Nomination Deadline
October 10, 2024	Regular Board Meeting

October 16, 2024	Deadline for Bylaw Amendments (for the AGM) – 4:30 p.m.
October 21, 2024	Board Chairs Council Meeting – via Zoom, 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.
October 31, 2024	Deadline for Resolutions (for the AGM) - 4:30 p.m.
November 13, 2024	Board Election Day
November 18, 2024	Orientation Day
November 21, 2024	Regular Board Meeting & Organizational Meeting
December 1, 2024	Board Chairs Council Meeting – In-person before Fall Assembly, Regina, timing TBC - Directors are invited to this meeting
December 1-3, 2024	Fall General Assembly and AGM – Regina, Delta Hotel
December 12, 2024	Regular Board Meeting

Follow us on Facebook and Instagram to Stay Up to Date on the Latest Celebrations and News from the Division

STUDENTS OF GOOD SPIRIT SCHOOL DIVISION

SUMMER READING CONTEST

JULY 1-SEPTEMBER 1, 2024

Scan here to enter!
*Link in caption and on our Facebook page!

6 PRIZES TO BE WON!

READ A BOOK FROM YOUR PUBLIC OR SCHOOL LIBRARY AND BE ENTERED TO WIN 1 OF 6 \$50 INDIGO GIFT CARDS!

Fill out the form with every book you read! Every book you borrow can be entered to win!

Good Spirit School Division

Every Day Counts, Be Present!

#ShapeYourSuccess

Did you know...

Attending school consistently helps students gain early reading and math skills, build relationships and excel in high school.

Good Spirit School Division

CONGRATULATIONS GRADUATING CLASS OF 2024

Preeceville School

Good Spirit School Division is immensely proud of the graduating class of 2024. These students have demonstrated incredible dedication and perseverance throughout their academic journey, and have achieved a significant milestone in their lives.

Congratulations to the graduating class of 2024 on this outstanding achievement!

Good Spirit School Division

Upcoming Board Meetings: August 15, October 10, 2024

Location & Time: Good Spirit Education Complex at 10am. 5B Schrader Drive, Yorkton, SK S3N 3Z4

To review Board Policy 7 Board Operations, [GSSD](#) | [Board](#) | [Board Policy Handbook](#)

Submissions and Feedback

To submit photos or stories regarding the Board of Education or an individual Trustee in your school community, please contact lauren.denysek@gssd.ca.

Contact Us:
Good Spirit School Division #204

www.gssd.ca

(306) 786-5500

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Good Spirit School Division 204

Students Come First.