



## MEMORANDUM

November 28, 2023  
Regular Board Meeting

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**TO** Board of Trustees

**FROM** Shauna Boyce, Superintendent

**ORIGINATOR** Dr. Meg Miskolzie, Associate Superintendent, Student Supports and Services

**RESOURCES** Christine Ross, Division Principal, Wellness and Community Partnerships  
Bryn Spence, Division Principal, Student Services  
Linda Madge-Arkininstall, Division Principal, Literacy and Lifelong Learning  
Shaye Patras, Division Principal, Numeracy and Achievement  
Dean Bernard, Division Principal, Indigenous and Northern Relations

**GOVERNANCE POLICY** Board Policy 2: Role of the Board (13,14)  
Board Policy 12: Role of the Superintendent (1.1)

**SUBJECT** **COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS REPORT**

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### PURPOSE

For information. No recommendation required.

### BACKGROUND

The Board of Trustees develops ongoing relationships with community partners to strengthen and renew their understanding, skills and abilities to create flexible and responsive learning environments, address the needs of all students, and manage the use of public resources. The Board is also responsible to create and adhere to the Board Annual Work Plan. The Community Partnership Report is in support of these responsibilities.

### REPORT SUMMARY

The Community Partnership Report describes the Division's work of building healthy and sustainable relationships with partners across the region. These partnerships take place in order to enhance a teacher's ability to deliver the Alberta Program of Studies as well as to ensure that children and youth experience success and well-being inside and outside of schools.

Administration would be pleased to respond to any questions.

MM:kz



## COMMUNITY PARTNERSHIPS REPORT

NOVEMBER 2023

Presented to the Board of Trustees, November 28, 2023

Dr. Meg Miskolzie, Associate Superintendent, Student Supports and Services

Resources: Christine Ross, Division Principal, Wellness & Community Partnerships

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*Our Students Possess the confidence, resilience, insight and skills required to thrive in, and positively impact, the world.*

### BACKGROUND

Schools have been shown to be most effective in meeting the needs of children and youth when collaboration occurs among the division, school administration, staff, parents, and community partners. Parkland School Division continues the work of building healthy and sustainable relationships with community partners across the region to support the division's ultimate goal of student success and well-being.

Using a collaborative approach with various partners helps to:

- reduce overlap of and gaps in services;
- enhance relationships among all members of the school community;
- focus on the strengths of the child/youth to promote optimism and motivation; and
- increase the community's capacity to address the needs of children and youth.

*(Alberta Education, Collaboration to Support Student Success)*

For the purpose of this report, Community Partners are defined as agencies or organizations that support, coordinate, fund, and/or provide services related to educational goals including the health and well-being of students and families. These partnerships enhance the school division's ability to meet both the academic and wellness needs of our students.

The Community Partners listed in this report reflect division-level partnerships. Individual schools also work with vendors and partners, specific to the needs of the community that they serve, that are not included in this report. In addition to the partnerships listed, PSD also has an extensive list of vendors that provide support and services to students at a cost, many of which have long standing relationships with the division.

## 2023-2024 PSD Community Partnerships

### Health and Wellness Partners:

- Alberta Health Services (AHS):
  - Addictions & Mental Health
  - Harm Reduction
  - Hospitals & Facilities
  - Mental Health Capacity Building - Fort Chipewyan
  - Mobile Addictions Counselling
  - Public Health
- Alberta Parenting for the Future (APFA)
- Apple Schools - Fort Chipewyan
- Athletics Alberta
- Breakfast Clubs of Canada (BCC)
- Canadian Tire Jumpstart
- CASA Child, Adolescent & Family Mental Health
- Community Churches & Faith Organizations
- Everactive Schools
- Family Supports for Children with Disabilities (FSCD)
- Grocery Stores
- Nunee Health - Fort Chipewyan
- Parkland Food Bank
- President's Choice Children's Charity
- RCMP- Community Policing - Cst. Gord Marshall
- Spruce Grove Family & Community Support Services (FCSS)
- Spruce Grove & Stony Plain Rotarians
- Stony Plain Community and Social Development
- Stony Plain Youth Centre
- TransAlta Tri-Leisure Recreation Centre
- Westview Health Center
- Westview Primary Care Network (PCN)

### Educational Partners:

- Alberta Health Services: Pediatric Rehabilitation Services
- Alberta Regional Professional Development Consortia (ARPD)
- Before & After School Care Providers
- Building Futures- Coventry Homes
- CAREERS The Next Generation **(NEW)**
- CASA Child, Adolescent & Family Mental Health
- Community Outreach Assessment & Support Team (COAST)
- Fort Chipewyan Community High School
- Odyssey- Language Assistant Program **(NEW)**
- Peace Officers and Bylaw Enforcement
- RCMP- School Resource Officer Cst. Bobby Hinman
- Regional Learning Consortiums (in particular: Edmonton, Calgary, Southern Alberta)
- Small Centres - Action for Healthy Communities: Settlements Services
- Spruce Grove Public Library
- Stony Plain Public Library - Indigenous healing garden
- Unlimited Potential Community Services
- Yellowhead Regional Libraries

### Municipal, Indigenous, and Northern Partnerships:

- Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation
- City of Spruce Grove
- Fort Chipewyan Metis Association- Local 125
- Greater Parkland Regional Chamber of Commerce
- Indigenous and Metis Elders
- Mikisew Cree First Nation
- Paul First Nation
- Parkland County
- Rupertsland Institute - Metis Center of Excellence **(NEW)**
- Skydance Indigenous Culture Center **(NEW)**
- Town of Stony Plain

### Tri-Municipal Community VTRA & Intervention Protocol Partners:

- Centre for Trauma Informed Practices (CTIP)
- Aboriginal Parent Link
- Alberta Health Services: Addictions and Mental Health
- Alberta Parenting for the Future
- Alberta Justice and Solicitor General
- Children's Services
- City of Spruce Grove
- Evergreen Catholic Schools
- Grande Yellowhead Public Schools
- Living Waters Christian Academy
- Mother Earth Children's Charter School
- Parkland County
- RCMP
- St. Matthew's Lutheran Academy
- Town of Stony Plain
- Unlimited Potential Community Services

### Sunrise Support Partners:

- Alberta Health Services: Addictions and Mental Health
- Alberta Justice and Solicitor General
- Alberta Parenting for the Future
- Children's Services
- Family Support for Children with Disabilities (FSCD)
- RCMP

## Highlighted Community Partnerships

Although this report is not able to delve into all of PSD's partnerships at length, the following highlights a sampling of the strong Community Partnerships PSD is involved with:

### **Odyssey - Language Assistant Program: French Language Assistants**

In a collaborative partnership with the Government of Canada through the Odyssey Program, Parkland School Division is pleased to be hosting three French Language Assistants for the 2023-2024 school year. Ecole Broxton Park School, Ecole Meridian Heights School, and Spruce Grove Composite High School have each received one French Language Assistant. French Language Assistants work closely with students and staff, to foster language interaction and enhance students' cultural awareness within the context of their language studies (Odyssey Administrative and Financial Guide, 2023, p.2). They prepare engaging activities aimed at supporting oral comprehension and expression, as well as deepening students' appreciation of French culture. The presence of these French Language Assistants within Parkland School Division has been met with overwhelming appreciation from students, staff, and parents alike, underscoring their valuable contributions in supporting our French language learners.

### **Alberta Health Services- Child & Youth Addiction and Mental Health**

Alberta Health Services (AHS) Addiction and Mental Health is an indispensable partner for PSD. In the current school year, AHS and PSD have joined forces to enhance our access to a Mental Health Nurse, expanding their role from 0.22 FTE to a full-time position at 1.0 FTE. This pivotal role is an active member of the Sunrise Support Team, engaging in close collaboration with educators and other professionals to ensure that students' mental health needs are addressed comprehensively. Additionally, the Mental Health Nurse offers invaluable support to students and families enrolled in our specialized programs, aiding them in navigating the healthcare system and facilitating coordination with primary care partners to ensure access to resources and information. Although based at the PSD Division Office and schools, this partnership streamlines access to AHS referrals and services, as the Mental Health Nurse is an AHS employee. Serving as a critical liaison between the school, families, and Alberta Health Services, this role plays a pivotal role in facilitating effective communication and support.

### **Alberta Regional Professional Development Consortia**

The Alberta Regional Professional Development Consortia (ARPDC) is a valuable resource and has been utilized in various ways by Parkland School Division teachers and administrators. The Consortia is dedicated to promoting student learning and achievement, school improvement, and parental engagement in the educational process by providing professional learning opportunities at the local, regional, and provincial levels. ARPDC's website provides teachers with access to professional development opportunities, resources, a learning portal, as well as recordings of sessions, podcasts, and tutorials. ARPDC Facilitators have in-depth knowledge of their subject area and are available to present during PD days and throughout the summer. Additionally, they provide consultation to PSD on a range of topics including the new curriculum, various subject areas, and resource recommendations. PSD is currently working with a facilitator who is providing professional development to our French Immersion teachers on the new French Immersion Language Arts curriculum. They have also provided detailed consultation on English as an Additional Language (EAL) resources.