FROM THE BOARD HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE MARCH 30, 2023 MEETING

March 30, 2023 Regular Meeting

The March 30, 2023, Regular Board meeting took place at the Good Spirit Education Complex. Trustees who were in attendance included: Chairperson Jaime Johnson, Vice Chairperson Steve Variyan, Jade Anderson, Chris Balyski, Gilda Dokuchie, Gord Gendur, Shannon Leson, Jan Morrison, Bob Simpson, Lois Smandych, and Nicole Pohl. Division office staff in attendance included Director of Education/CEO Quintin Robertson, Chief Financial Officer Keith Gervais, Superintendent of Schools Mick Parmar, and Executive Services Supervisor Heather Morris.

Meeting Opening

Board Chair Johnson welcomed Kelsey Shields, Principal and Wanita Lippai, Vice Prinicipal of PJ Gillen School and Mick Parmar, Superintendent of Schools to the meeting.

Director of Education/CEO Quintin Robertson welcomed attendees and acknowledged the meeting was originating on Treaty 4 Territory, the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe, Cree, Assiniboine, and Homeland of the Métis Peoples.

Approval of Minutes

Executive Services Supervisor Heather Morris provided the March 2, 2023, Regular Board Meeting minutes in the package. The Board approved minutes may be accessed on the website: GSSD | Board | Board Meetings | March 2, 2023 Minutes.

Accountability Report

Utilization of Reserves & Budget Development

Keith Gervais, Chief Financial Officer, presented the accountability report on Utilization of Reserves & Budget Development to the Board.

Gervais shared that the utilization of school division reserves and budget development is an important aspect of financial management in education. Reserves are set aside for unexpected expenses, emergencies, and future projects.

Reserves can be used to help balance budgets, make capital improvements, or cover unexpected costs.

In collaboration with Admin Council, Gervais strives to develop a balanced budget in a transparent manner, while adhering to Ministry and accounting guidelines. The Board of Education Budget Development Framework is used to guide when making budget decisions.

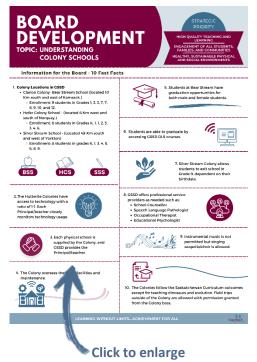


Overall, effective utilization of reserves and budget development requires a strategic approach that considers each school community's unique needs. By prioritizing key programs and initiatives, assessing revenue streams and expenses, and building in flexibility, school divisions can create budgets that meet the needs of their students, staff, and community while ensuring long-term financial stability.

To view the accountability report in its entirety visit: <u>GSSD</u> | <u>Board</u> | <u>Board Meetings</u> | <u>Accountability Report –</u> <u>Utilization of Reserves and Budget Development</u>.

Board Development

Understanding Colony Schools



There are three colony schools within Good Spirit School Division: Bear Stream School, located 10 km south and east of Kamsack on the Clarion Colony; Hofer Colony School, located 6 km west and south of Norquay; and Silver Stream School, located 49 km south and west of Yorkton.

Mark Forsythe, Superintendent of Schools, began by sharing that the relationship between the Colony Manager and the Principal is key to the success of the students.

A teacher employed by GSSD provides instruction to the students from 9 am to 3:30 pm. The students also receive instruction from the German teacher prior to and after the regular school day.

To access the 10 fast facts on Colony schools, visit <u>GSSD</u> | <u>Board</u> | <u>Board</u> | <u>Board</u> | <u>Board</u> | <u>Board</u> Development – <u>Understanding Colony Schools</u>.

Relationship Building/Advocacy Session

School Gay-Straight Alliance Representatives

The Board of Education and Senior Administration had the extreme pleasure of having lunch and a visit with two students, their parents, and a teacher from the Yorkton Regional High School Rainbow Club.

The intent of the relationship building session was to focus on fostering stronger connections and enhancing the understanding of each other. Robertson stated, "Building relationships is the process of establishing and maintaining meaningful connections with others based on trust, respect, and open communication. Using someone's preferred pronouns is a way to show respect and validate their identity. By focusing on pronoun usage, we aim to create an environment in which all students and staff feel safe, seen, valued, and respected."

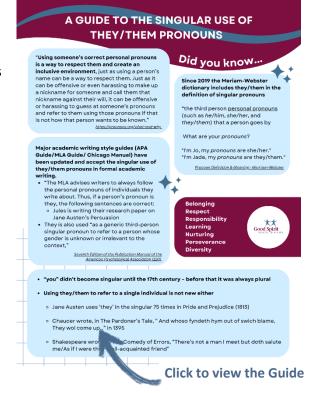
To begin the conversation, a "Guide to Misgendering, Pronouns, and Their Importance" was reviewed. Pronouns are words to refer to a person after initially using their name, instead of repeating their name every time you talk about them. Some people are comfortable with using more than one set of pronouns (e.g. She/Her, He/Him, They/Them). Reasons why pronouns are important:

- Using people's preferred pronouns shows respect;
- Normalizing asking pronouns and including your own pronouns in your everyday life creates a safe space for others who may be afraid to share their pronouns;

- Using the wrong pronouns can make someone feel sad, uncomfortable, and insecure; and,
- If you make a mistake and use the wrong pronouns towards someone, just correct yourself and move on.
 Misgendering is when a person refers to someone using pronouns or a gender identity that does not reflect their actual identity; making assumptions about someone's gender identity and/or pronouns based on physical appearance (e.g. You see a stranger with long hair and assume they are a girl, but it is really a boy, or you call a stranger "her" when they actually use they/them pronouns). It is important to understand misgendering because incorrectly assuming someone's gender can make them feel anxious and insecure. Using phrases such as "hi guys" or "ladies and gentlemen" do not include people who use they/them or

The students emphasized the importance of having an environment which thrives on inclusivity and creating safe spaces for everyone. Good Spirit School Division values "Belonging, Respect, Responsibility, Learning, Nurturing, Perseverance, and Diversity" and is committed to providing a safe learning environment for everyone.

other pronouns. It is better to say "hello everyone" instead.



Director's Report

Board Policy Review

The Director and Board of Education, as part of their annual work plan, review all policies and appendixes each year, revising these policies as the Board sees fit.

Board Policy 13 Appeals and Hearings Regarding Student Matters and Policy 14 Hearings on Teacher Matters were reviewed. Policy 13 will be revised to reflect current practice and will be brought forward as a decision item during the May 4, 2023, Regular Board Meeting.

To access all Board Policies, visit GSSD | Board | Board Policy Handbook.

Saskatchewan School Board Association

Saskatchewan School Boards were asked to provide feedback with respect to the Saskatchewan School Boards Association (SSBA) position statements. Pursuant to the requirement to review position statements every five years, the following draft position statements were reviewed by Robertson and the Board:

- Position statement on "Development of Position Statements" (resulting from the required cyclical review of existing position statements); and,
- Position statement on "Education Finance" (resulting from a motion made at the January 2023 Executive Meeting to accelerate the review of the existing position statement)

Robertson will submit the feedback for SSBA to review. The revised position statements will be sent out to Boards in August and then will be voted upon as resolutions at the AGM.

The Board reviewed the SSBA Affiliate Membership Discussion Guide and engaged in conversation regarding registered independent schools affiliating with SSBA. Further discussions will occur during the SSBA Spring Assembly.

Upcoming Important Dates

March 2023	One Book, One Province Month; Book: Five Little Indians by Cree author Michelle Good
April 5, 2023	Public Section Executive Meeting – Saskatoon
April 5, 2023	Board Chairs Council, 8:30-11:30 am, Delta Hotels by Marriott, Saskatoon
April 5-6, 2023	Spring Assembly, Saskatoon (Delta Hotels by Marriott)
April 7, 2023	Good Friday
April 10, 2023	Easter Monday
April 25, 2023	School Community Council Symposium (Budget Consultation)
May 1, 2023	ASBA Invitation to Anti-Racism Session
May 4, 2023	Regular Board Meeting
	Christ the Teacher Catholic Schools Session, 5:30 pm
May 4-5, 2023	Employee Benefits Plan Seminars, Regina, Delta Hotel
May 22, 2023	Victoria Day
May 25, 2023	Special Board Meeting, 1-5 pm
May 29, 2023	Board Chairs Council Meeting – via Zoom, 8:30-9:30 am
June 1-2, 2023	Public Section General Meeting and Professional Development Event – Regina
June 6, 2023	GSSD Showcase Track & Field Meet
	School Community Council Symposium (Budget Unpacking)
June 7, 2023	Alternate GSSD Showcase Track Meet Date
June 8-9, 2023	Strategic Planning Retreat/Workshop, Windy Acres
June 15, 2023	Regular Board Meeting
	Retirement Banquet, 5 pm; supper – 6:30 pm
August 16, 2023	Director/Board Evaluation, 9 am-4:30 pm
August 17, 2023	Regular Board Meeting

Facilities Update

Pat Morrison, Facilities Manager, provided an overview on the status of facility projects, maintenance, and other facility related items.

Facility	Description	Life Cycle Stage
Canora Composite School	Home Ec	Design
Canora Composite School	Roof and envelope issues - Phase 1	Design
Grayson School	Replace VCT flooring - South Entrance 100.	Planning
	Parking lot improvements - Rail for walkway and jersey	
Good Spirit Education Complex	barriers.	Planning
Esterhazy Central High School	Computer lab renovation	Design
Davison School	Support SCC with barrier free playground path.	Planning
Churchbridge Public School	Replace Main Backboards in Gym.	Planning
Macdonald School	Water softener addition	Planning
Yorkton Regional High School	Relocation of reset button for the divider wall in the gym.	Planning
Churchbridge Public School	Site Drainage	Planning
Churchbridge Public School	Main Entrance - Flooring	Planning
Saltcoats School	Roof Replacement Sections 1 and 2	Tender
Yorkdale Central School	Roof Replacement Sections 2,4,7, and 10	Tender

Current Projects – Active Design

Current Projects - Scheduled

Facility	Description	Scheduled Start
Langenburg Central School	Install concrete step for early years urinals	2023-04-11
Kamsack Comprehensive Institute	Washroom Upgrades	2023-07-03
P.J. Gillen School	Classroom Upgrades	2023-05-08
Preeceville School	Install floor mounted sinks	2023-04-03

Miller School	Upgrade existing service sink with a floor mounted unit.	2023-04-03
Saltcoats School	Install floor mounted slop sink in Mechanical 125.	2023-04-03
Columbia School	New large storage shed to replace existing sheds	2023-04-03
Melville Comprehensive School	Large storage shed for football and high jump mat.	2023-05-08
Melville Comprehensive School	Replace grates in Mechanic Room, repair concrete.	2023-06-05
	A permanent drainage system for the northwest entrance	
Canora Junior Elementary School	as well as groundwork around perimeter.	2023-05-01
Invermay School	Site Drainage	2023-05-01
Esterhazy Central High School	Site Drainage	2023-05-01
Dr. Brass School	Install floor mounted slop sink 2nd level.	2023-04-03
Sturgis Composite School	Install floor mounted slop sink - main and second floor.	2023-04-03
Yorkdale Central School	Install floor mounted slop sink in Janitorial 129.	2023-04-03
Columbia School	Install floor mounted slop sink.	2023-04-03
Victoria School	Gymnasium Floor Replacement	2023-06-05
Melville Comprehensive School	Butler Building Eavestrough	2023-05-08

Current Projects – Work in Progress

Facility	Description	Current Status	
Churchbridge Public School	Boiler Room Renovation	Active – 1% Complete	
Canora Junior Elementary School	Moving PreK into Canora Junior	Active – 90% Complete	
Canora Junior Elementary School	Phone System Upgrade	Active – 95% Complete	
Yorkton Regional High School	Major Capital Renovation	Active – 55% Complete	
Esterhazy Central High School	Track Repairs	Active – 75% Complete	
Yorkton Regional High School	Daycare flooring and countertops	Active – 75% Complete	
Melville Comprehensive School	Replace railings in upper level corridor	Active – 75% Complete	
Dr. Brass School	Gender Neutral Washroom and SST Office Refresh	Active – 1% Complete	
Dr. Brass School	Front office reno	Active – 50% Complete	
Melville Comprehensive School	Surveillance system replacement	Active – 35% Complete	
Macdonald School	Roof Project	Active – 95% Complete	

Facilities Strategic Plan and Other Facilities Related Items

Item	Note
YRHS Major Capital Project	Classroom Rotation continues
	 Main floor complete
	 Classroom ventilators in position
	 Upper A Classroom rotation
	 Flooring being installed
	 Painting complete
	 Classroom ventilator install complete
	Windows and Cladding – 75% Complete
	Roof replacement– 88% Complete
	Delivery delays – Currently outstanding
	 Key Electrical Components – Continues to be a concern,
	implemented a temporary solution to continue project without
	components

GSSD Safety Management System	 Biweekly meetings have begun. Included from GSSD is Pat Morrison, Chad Rennie, Carmal Kittler and Haley Unyi.
	 Asbestos Management Plan – Submitted for committee review
	 Team Site – Setup and active
	 Occupational Health and Safety Meetings Attended:
	 Langenburg Central
	 Preeceville
	 Columbia
	 Melville Comprehensive

Morrison shared that between February 27 to March 20, 2023, the Facilities Department received 161 service requests, 110 of which have been closed.

Facilities Tour



Norquay School was orginially built in 1971 however, the school received additions in 1974, 1981, 2001 and 2009; these are outlined in the <u>Norquay School Tour</u> document. The Kindergarten to Grade 12 school has an enrolment of 239 students.

Recently completed projects included a renovation to the Home Ec lab, installation of a concrete pad at the main entrance, and a new playground which was fundraised by the Norquay School Community Council.



Morrison noted Norquay School has seen a share of additions, renovations, and projects over the years. As soon as you enter the school you will realize how much the facility means to the people that work there and the community in general. It is clean, well-kept and a great place for students to learn.

Education Update

Michelle Morley, Digital Learning Consultant (DLC), provided the Board with an overview of blended learning. She began by extending her appreciation for the Division's support over the years. It has been instrumental in prioritizing technology infrastructure while providing teacher support. Moving into the future with the implementation of 1-1 devices for Grades 4-12 will be a pivotal step in refining blended learning practices across the Division. Shifting to virtual instruction during the pandemic, provided a unique opportunity for all classrooms and teachers to have some level of experience using digital tools. The DLCs are excited to focus on creating a dynamic learning environments for students.

The DLCs selected six teachers from Grades 1-12 to participate in four half-day Blended Learning Focus Group sessions from Fall 2022 to Spring 2023, with invitations extended to curriculum coaches, an administrator, and a student services consultant. The goal of the focus group is to gather feedback from participating teachers about their experiences with blended learning and identify areas where they may need additional support or training. The group aims to explore the benefits and challenges of blended learning, including best practices for leveraging technology and adjusting pedagogical approaches to support student learning. The insights gathered from the focus group will be used to inform the development of more effective blended learning strategies, as well as to enhance professional development opportunities for teachers.

Morley provided the following key points:

- Blended learning is the combination of active, engaged learning online with active, engaged learning offline to provide students with more control over the time, place, pace, and path of their learning. Tucker, C. (2022)
- Blended learning allows for differentiated instruction and personalized learning, which means that teachers can
 adapt instruction to meet the needs of individual students. This approach to teaching recognizes that students learn
 differently and at different rates, and it allows for individualized support and guidance for all students, regardless of
 their background or learning ability.
- When blended learning is combined with a student-focused classroom approach, educators can create a highly
 personalized and dynamic learning experience that meets the needs of a wide range of learners. By leveraging digital
 resources and tools, teachers can provide students with greater choice and flexibility, while also creating
 opportunities for deeper engagement and collaboration.
- Blended learning supports the Division's Vision "Learning Without Limits... Achievement for All" by providing students with flexibility, personalization, and collaboration, allowing for all students to achieve their full potential.
- Investing in teacher development for blended learning is essential to meet the evolving needs of 21st-century learners.

Chair Johnson thanked Morley and expressed her appreciation for guiding the ever evolving world of technology.

Financial Update

Chief Financial Officer Keith Gervais presented a detailed financial update and Quarter 2 forecast to the Board.

GOOD SPIRIT SCHOOL DIVISION NO.204 Financial Information Report March 30, 2023

Cash/Accrual Basis

	2021-2022	2021-2022	% of Budget	2022-2023 Approved Cash	2022-2023 Year	% of Budget
	Approved Budget	Year to Date	Year to Date	Budget	to Date	Year to Date
REVENUE						
PROPERTY TAXATION	-	4,432	#DIV/0!	-		#DIV/0!
GRANTS	79,155,034	41,124,647	51.95%	83,560,255	43,219,628	51.72%
TUITION & RELATED FEES	1,820,000	1,632,975	89.72%	2,328,847	1,498,689	64.35%
SCHOOL GENERATED FUNDS	2,500,000	1,165,094	46.60%	2,500,000	1,795,712	71.83%
COMPLIMENTARY SERVICES	914,132	103,883	11.36%	927,312	210,127	22.66%
EXTERNAL SERVICES	440,736	206,365	46.82%	412,350	227,785	55.24%
OTHER REVENUE	405,200	148,856	36.74%	377,700	407,201	107.81%
TOTAL REVENUE	85,235,102	44,386,252	52.08%	90,106,464	47,359,142	52.56%
EXPENDITURES						
GOVERNANCE	292,384	161,156	55.12%	295,450	185,249	62.70%
ADMINISTRATION	2,903,577	1,787,375	61.56%	2,954,470	1,757,330	59.48%
INSTRUCTION	56,041,787	38,474,609	68.65%	56,968,219	38,750,954	68.02%
PLANT	10,693,451	9,067,416	84.79%	10,912,895	6,856,202	62.83%
TRANSPORTATION	7,399,115	4,902,537	66.26%	8,417,807	5,538,944	65.80%
TUITION & RELATED FEES	632,200	479,756	75.89%	602,200	321,642	53.41%
SCHOOL GENERATED FUNDS	2,541,000	1,086,721	42.77%	2,541,000	1,752,857	68.98%
COMPLIMENTARY SERVICES & PROGRAMS	896,407	581,732	64.90%	862,688	665,200	77.119
EXTERNAL SERVICES	464,256	265,747	57.24%	426,021	311,701	73.17%
OTHER EXPENSES	18,043	34,574	191.62%	7,805	4,110	52.66%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	81,882,220	56,841,623	69.42%	83,988,555	56,144,189	66.85%
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	3,352,882	(12,455,371)		6,117,909	(8,785,047)	
TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS						
Less Purchases	9,630,000	2,426,012		11,278,000	7,038,766	
Plus Proceeds from disposals				-		
ONG TERM DEBT						
Less Repayments of the year	344,524	171,928		348,862	179,200	
Plus Debt issued during the year	890,000	89,196		-	-	
NON-CASH GAIN/EXPENSES						
Plus Amortization Expense	5,731,642	3,343,458		4.003.953	2.335.639	
Less Gain on Disposals of Tangible Capital Assets	-			-	,,	
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR		(11,620,658)		(1,505,000)	(13,667,373)	
SURFLUS (DEHUII) FUR THE TEAR	-	(11,020,058)		(1,000,000)	(13,001,313)	

HIGHLIGHTS:

- (1) September to February grant payments recorded (6 months)
- (2) Additional funding for ELIS grant, Operating grant to be transferred at year end

(3) Interest revenue will exceed budget due to higher interest rates

- (4) Caretaker subs are tracking to be over budget
- (5) Repair and Maintenance exceeding budget projection due to inflation and shortage of parts

(6) Less tuition paying students that anticipated

GOOD SPIRIT SCHOOL DIVISION NO.204

Financial Information Report March 31, 2023 Cash/Accrual Basis Projected to Year End August 31, 2023 Q2 Forecast

	2021-2022	2022-2023	0/ . C
	Approved Cash Budget	Projected Yr End	% of Budget Year to Date
REVENUE	Lauger		
PROPERTY TAXATION	-	-	#DIV/0!
GRANTS	83,560,255	84,048,000	100.58%
TUITION & RELATED FEES	2,328,847	2,300,000	98.76%
SCHOOL GENERATED FUNDS	2,500,000	2,600,000	104.00%
COMPLIMENTARY SERVICES	927,312	1,027,312	110.78%
EXTERNAL SERVICES	412,350	380,000	92.15%
OTHER REVENUE	377,700	825,000	218.43%
TOTAL REVENUE	90,106,464	91,180,312	101.19%
EXPENDITURES			
GOVERNANCE	295,450	282,000	95.45%
ADMINISTRATION	2.954.470	2.873.000	97.24%
INSTRUCTION	56.968.219	56,790,000	99.69%
PLANT	10.912.895	11.046.000	101.22%
TRANSPORTATION	8.417.807	8.320.000	98.84%
TUITION & RELATED FEES	602,200	340,000	56.46%
SCHOOL GENERATED FUNDS	2,541,000	2,600,000	102.32%
COMPLIMENTARY SERVICES & PROGRAMS	862,688	929,500	107.74%
EXTERNAL SERVICES	426,021	411,806	96.66%
OTHER EXPENSES	7,805	6,300	80.72%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	83,988,555	83,598,606	99.54%
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	6,117,909	7,581,706	
TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS			
Less Purchases	11.278.000	12,705,000	
Plus Proceeds from disposals	-	,,	
LONG TERM DEBT			
Less Repayments of the year	348,862	348,862	
Plus Debt issued during the year	-	-	
NON-CASH GAIN/EXPENSES			
Plus Amortization Expense	4.003,953	4,003,953	
Less Gain on Disposals of Tangible Capital Assets	-	-,000,000	
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	(1.505.000)	(1.468.203)	

HIGHLIGHTS:

- (1) Actual student enrolment was greater than projected
- (2) ELIS Funding \$100K greater than budgeted
- (3) ISSI grant \$20K less than budgeted
- (4) Interest rate increases result in more interest revenue
- (5) Estimating savings in travel & remuneration
- (6) Less tuition paying students than projected
- (7) Increased salary costs, professional and support
- (8) 2 sets of buses expected in 22-23

Governance Budget Report

Gervais provided a detailed Governance budget report and shared that overall, we are on track.

Student Incident Report



Trustees received data related to incidents by consequence, location, and school as well as student discipline hearings. Robertson reported that between February 27 to March 23, 2023, a number of the student incidents were due to vaping. In an effort to eliminate vaping on school property, GSSD will provide posters for schools to display within their buildings.

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Administrative Procedures

Robertson noted the following administrative procedures were reviewed, finalized, and posted to the website:

- <u>AP 354 Drug/Alcohol/Substance Use Intervention</u>
- <u>AP 354 Appendix A Illegal Substance Use</u>
- <u>AP 354 Appendix B Addiction Assessment Offer For Support Meeting</u>

GSSD Professional Development Opportunities

April 5, 2023	Fountas and Pinnell Benchmark Assessment Training (F&P)
April 17, 2023	Building Thinking Classrooms with Peter Liljedahl
May 12, 2023	GSSD Aspiring Leaders: Organizational Management and Conclusion
May 12, 2023	Ages and Stages Questionnaire (ASQ-3) Training
June 16, 19, 20, 2023	Hanen Teacher Talk Training Series

National Congress on Rural Education in Canada

Trustees Anderson and Simpson attended the National Congress on Rural Education in Canada session, virtually, on Sunday, March 26, 2023. The sessions included:

- Dr. Debbie Pushor spoke on parent engagement within the school;
- STF Panel answered questions regarding items such as budget, Saskatchewan Distance Learning Corporation, relationships between STF and the Board;
- LEADS panel focused on the Provincial Education Plan and actions within schools (e.g. land based learning, cultural fair, mental health and wellbeing, signs of suicide training, Indigenous Education);
- Mental Wellness 30 virtual course which teaches coping strategies and self-reflection; and,
- Indian Teacher Education Program (ITEP) offered at the University of Saskatchewan .



Upcoming Board Meetings: May 4, 2023, June 15, 2023, August 17, 2023 Location: Good Spirit Education Complex To review <u>Board Policy 7 Board Operations</u>, visit <u>gssd.ca</u> > <u>Board</u> > <u>Board Policy Handbook</u>.

Submissions & Feedback

To submit photos or stories regarding the Board of Education or an individual Trustee in your school community, please contact <u>Heather.Morris@gssd.ca.</u>

For more information related to the Board of Education, visit our website at <u>gssd.ca</u> > <u>Board</u>

Contact Us Good Spirit School Division #204 Phone: (306)786-5500 Visit us online at <u>www.gssd.ca</u>

Building Strong Foundations to Create Bright Futures