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**April, 2026**

# Raider News

(Prairie River Junior High School)

## Principal's Message

Make Every Day Count!

If I had just one wish for the last quarter of a school year (56 days as of April 1st), it would be to "Make Every Day Count!" Although we had a very disruptive year, there was still much progress made by students and staff throughout the year.

The next three months are filled with a continued focus on academics, as well as a multitude of special programming designed to give students a wider life experience.

Beginning at the end of April, we will have students complete a variety of Numeracy and Literacy assessments. These assessments are not designed to compare students to each other, rather these assessment help us to measure personal growth for each student over the course of the year. As well, Grade 9 students will be writing their Provincial Achievement Tests in May and June. It is so critical for students to come to school everyday and try their best as they prepare for these, or final exams in other grades.

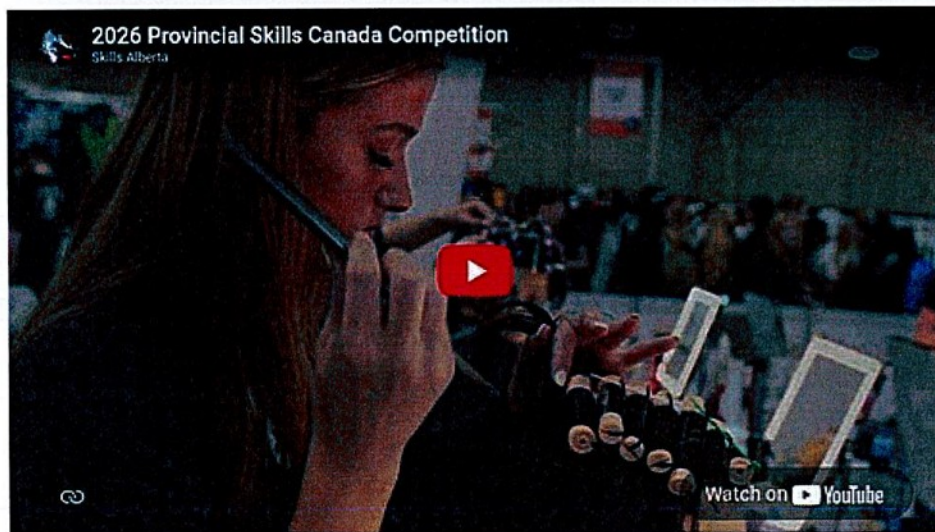
In addition to our focus on academics, we will wrap up competition in Badminton and Track and Field toward the end of the year. As well, we have major adventures planned for students in all grades:

- Gr. 7 - 9: Skills Canada Provincials (Edmonton, May 6<sup>th</sup> & 7th)
- Gr. 8: Camp Yowochas (May 22<sup>nd</sup> - 24th)
- Gr. 9: Vancouver Island (May 13<sup>th</sup> - 19th)

As much as schooling is about academics and personal growth, it is also a time for students to begin exploring opportunities for their lives after high school. We will have students embark on every imagineable path (farming, entrepreneurship, trades training, workplace employment, college or university), and it is important for students to be well-prepared for whatever direction that they choose!

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# Skills Canada Provincials Edmonton, May 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup> Grades 7 -9



At the Junior High Level, Skills Canada Provincials is simply a massive Trades Showcase that features high school and trade school students competing in a wide variety of Trade specific competitions. Culinary Arts is the only competition that allows Junior High students to compete - last year we had two Prairie River students compete for the first time ever. The evaluating chefs commented on how well our students conducted themselves, and how they were surprised to learn that this was their first competition! We will be taking a group of Gr. 7 -9 students to this competition this year - the sign up sheet is up at the office for interested students.

# Upcoming Events and School Information

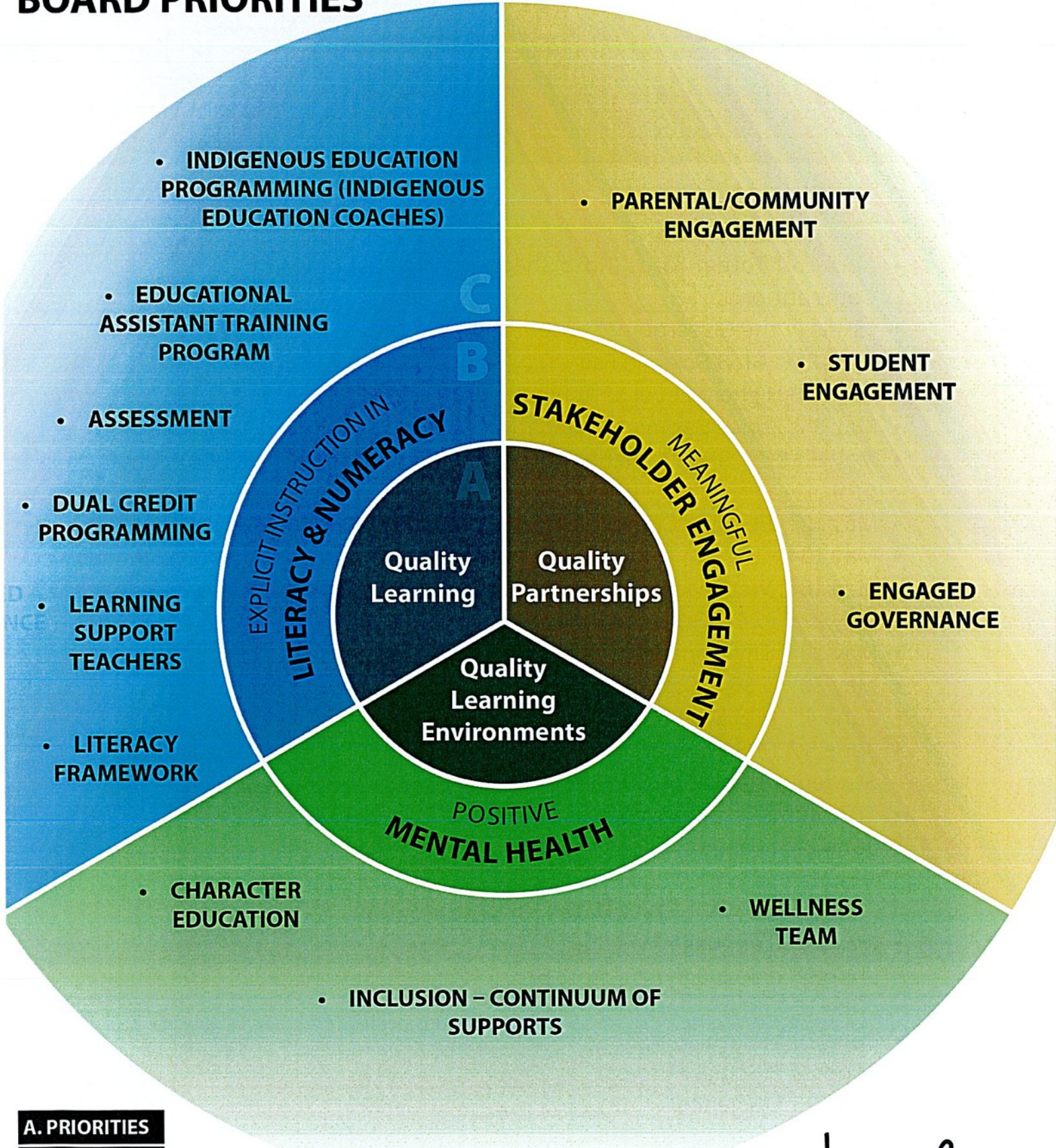


- April 16<sup>th</sup>: Totem Torus (Ross Sheppard High School Math Competition)
- “Skills in the Classroom” presentation (Gr. 9)
- April 27<sup>th</sup>: Gr. 8 Science Fair
- April 30 Highest Level of Achievement Test (HLAT) writing.
- May 2<sup>nd</sup>: Zones Badminton (location TBD)
- May 6<sup>th</sup> & 7<sup>th</sup>: Skills Canada Provincials (Edmonton, overnight on May 6th)
- May 12<sup>th</sup>: Reading Comprehension Assessment Tool (RCAT) writing
- May 13<sup>th</sup> - 19<sup>th</sup>: Gr. 9 Vancouver Island Trip
- May 18<sup>th</sup>: Victoria Day (No School)
- May 22<sup>nd</sup> - 24<sup>th</sup>: Gr. 8's to Camp Yowochas
- May 22<sup>nd</sup>: Divisionals Track and Field
- May 29<sup>th</sup> & 30<sup>th</sup>: Grande Prairie Track and Field
- June 4<sup>th</sup>: PRS Block Party and Incoming Gr.7 Family Welcome
- June 5<sup>th</sup>: PRS Wellness Day; PRS Track & Field (PM); Incoming Gr. 7 Student Orientation
- TBA: June Assembly and Gr. 9 Farewell
- June 24<sup>th</sup>: Last day for students!

## **PAT Dates (Gr. 9 students):**

- May 21<sup>st</sup> (Language Arts, Part A)
- June 9<sup>th</sup> (Language Arts, Part B)
- June 16<sup>th</sup> (Math, Part A)
- June 19<sup>th</sup> (Math, Part B)
- June 22<sup>nd</sup> (Social Studies)
- June 23<sup>rd</sup> (Science)

# HIGH PRAIRIE SCHOOL DIVISION BOARD PRIORITIES



- A. PRIORITIES**
- B. OUTCOMES**
- C. STRATEGIES**

Effective September 2024

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