

# Seasons Greetings from Glen Avon School

December 2020



Decembrrrrr! Mr. Pashko comes in after bus loading looking a little frosty.

*Thank you*

We wish to commend our students on following our new protocols since September. They have practiced new rules of physically distancing, sanitizing, wearing masks and staying in their cohorts. School is very different this year and because our students are abiding to the health standards, schools were able to remain fully open until now. We really enjoy having our school population physically sitting in our classrooms — a little bit of normalcy! Following AHS regulations last week, we now bid our Jr. High students not 'goodbye' but 'so long' until January 11, 2021. We are doing our part to hopefully return to in-class learning for our Jr. High students in the new year. To our remaining Kindergarten to Gr.6, keep up with following all the procedures!

We just wanted to say, "Thank you, to all students, for doing your part in maintaining a safe environment in our school."



## AFTER SCHOOL PICK-UP

*After school student pick-up seems to be running more smoothly. The Gr. 1-3 roundabout is very congested, however, so please be mindful of how your vehicle impacts traffic flow and other vehicles. You should not leave your vehicle if it is in the roundabout nor park behind the vehicles that are parked in the stalls on either side.*



## Festive Farewell

We celebrated Christmas on Friday, November 27 with our Jr. High students since it was their last day to be in school in person until January 11. We had a school wide festive dress up with so many festive shirts, sweaters, hats and accessories. Because we could not do our traditional Christmas dinner, Jr. High students were treated with fancy hot chocolate and donuts before they left for online learning.

This is Mrs. Hladunewich's class activity. Her Grade 4W Phys. Ed. class had a great time outside participating in building their very own large snow ball.





# Panther Update

## Volleyball Ends Basketball Begins

Volleyball has come to an end. The last day for our teams was November 27.

Basketball will start on January 11 as long as there are no further AHS restrictions.

**Skating:** There will be no skating for our students this year.

**Swimming:** We are staying in touch with the Aquatic Centre and may be booking some swimming lessons in the new year. If swimming will take place, only one class will be permitted to attend at a time.

Given the continued uncertainties around COVID-19, St. Paul Education previously made the decision to defer this year's school fee collections until November.

Upon further review, the Board of Trustees have decided to further defer fee collection until the new year. All fees will be reviewed in January 2021, with the possibility of starting fee collections in early February. Please note this does not apply to hot lunch and milk programs, Town of St. Paul busing fees, and specific projects where a cost is incurred by individual students.



## Card Art



The Christmas Card Art Fundraiser is a complex operation, but adds such a personal touch to our holiday season. So many beautiful original artists, it's hard to just pick one! Cards are sent home as orders are filled.



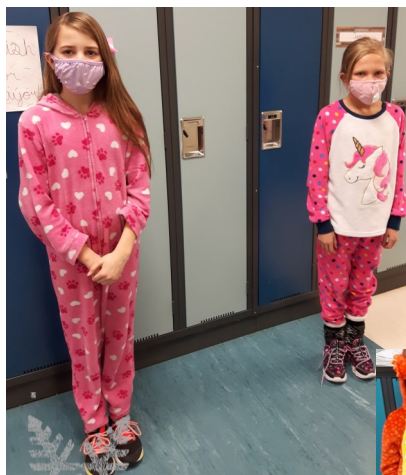
## Adventures in Oobleck

Audrey Fleming and Ben Jackson and the rest of the Grade 5 students discover the liquid-like and solid-like properties of non-Newtonian fluids.



## Pajama Day

Students seemed excited for our first dress-up day this year. There were so many colorful and cozy pajamas worn by students and staff throughout all grades. It was great to see schoolwide participation. The next pajama day is Friday, December 18.







# Extreme Weather:

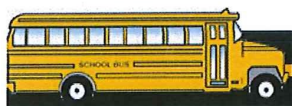
## Is my child's bus running?

## Coming home early?

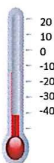
Throughout the winter, weather and road conditions are constantly monitored with the safety of students and staff at the center of all of our decisions. We strive to inform parents of any delays or cancellations as quickly as possible. Here's how you may be notified:

- Bus driver contact
- Call/text from your school
- Local radio stations
- Social Media (Facebook, Twitter and Instagram)
- School/Division website posting  
<https://www.stpauleducation.ab.ca/>

### How we decide:



When temperature and/or wind chill is  $-40^{\circ}\text{C}$  or colder, buses are cancelled. Notice may be given the night before or in the morning.



Weather checks start very early with The Weather Network and phone calls to designated staff living in each local area.



Even if buses are cancelled, schools remain open.

- If your child attends: meaningful learning still occurs
- If your child is absent: efforts will be made to ensure they do not fall behind

If a decision is required around temperature and/or road conditions, the Director of Transportation/Facilities consults with:

- Local bus drivers
- School principals
- Superintendent of Schools



Decision is based on:

- local road conditions
- RCMP travel advisories
- weather and wind warnings
- local municipality input

Your bus driver also has complete discretion to cancel a route should they feel travel is unsafe.

Parents always have the final say about their child's safety and well-being and can always choose whether or not to have their child take the bus.



The Nations of Saddle Lake, Whitefish Lake and Frog Lake make independent decisions about their buses. Please contact them directly for any questions regarding their transportation policies.





**Covid Update:** With cases on the rise both locally and elsewhere, the Division has implemented a couple of additional precautions. Starting in January all School Council meetings will be held via Zoom or GoogleMeet. All staff meetings will also be held strictly via Zoom or GoogleMeet. The recent provincial announcement about restrictions for team sports for Edmonton, Calgary and surrounding areas does not currently apply here as our area is identified as a purple zone. Therefore, at the current time, all Division sports activities for single cohorts will continue with all precautions still in place. The Division has experienced a number of positive cases, however, some of these involved students enrolled in at-home learning or students who were not in attendance at school while infectious. To date, the Division has had six positive cases that impacted 43 staff, 157 students and 8 subs. Note that the Division recently shared changes relating to the daily checklist for students, as announced by the province. Effective Monday, November 2, runny nose and sore throat is no longer listed as a core symptom for children 18 years of age and younger (loss of smell or taste has been added to core symptom list). For more details, [see the Division website](#). As a Division, we commend the work of countless healthcare workers who are working behind the scenes as the pandemic wears on and also acknowledge people in other sectors (e.g., grocery stores) who continue to provide services to the public.

**Ward Bylaw:** As announced at the October meeting, a draft ward bylaw was previously circulated to the public. Trustees passed a motion of approval for first formal reading. The purpose of Bylaw No. 1/20 is to revise ward boundaries to decrease the number of trustees to six and allow more flexibility in the town of St. Paul by removing the line dividing the town into St. Paul South and St. Paul North. The Glen Avon Ward will continue to exist separately and is unchanged. Reducing the number of trustees will achieve future Board efficiencies and has proven to be effective over the past number of months as one of the trustee positions has remained vacant.

**Election Administration:** Municipal elections are scheduled for October 20, 2021. The Division would like to coordinate with other municipalities and is confirming agreements with municipal partners. Since municipalities may need to deal with provincial counts for referendum and senate, the Town of St. Paul has requested that the Division employ their own ballot counters in order to expedite results.

**Family School Liaison Workers Support (FSLW) Letters:** The Division has enjoyed excellent support for the FSLW program from municipal partners. This valuable program provides mental health and well-being support to students and their families, including students enrolled in at-home learning now and all students learning at home during the initial months of the quarantine. Trustees passed a motion to once again send letters to municipal partners asking for financial support for this program.

**Board Policy 5-Role of the Board Chair and Policy 8-Board Committees:** Trustees passed a motion approving revisions to Policy 5-Role of the Board Chair, as presented by Trustee Cook. Policy 8 was tabled to the December meeting. All board policies including the revised Policy 5 can be viewed on [the Division website](#).

**School Fees:** Given the uncertainty of school operations, trustees passed a motion at their August meeting to defer the collection of school fees until November. The majority of schools recommended to further defer fee collection until after Christmas, in consideration of additional expenses incurred during the Christmas season. Trustees supported this recommendation and decided to review the circumstances once again in January with the possibility that fees will be collected as of February 1, 2021.

**Ashmont International Trip:** Due to the increase in liability and cost, the Board of Trustees had previously decided to no longer support international travel trips. Prior to this decision, there was a trip planned for March, 2021 that was put on hold in spring 2020 after the COVID 19 pandemic was declared. The Board of Trustees passed a motion to cover the non-refundable deposit portion of the March, 2021 trip that was previously collected. This is a one time only occasion.

**Insurance:** The Division participates in an insurance consortium with partnering school authorities. The high number of high cost claims around the province has caused insurance premiums to rise substantially, including insurance premiums for contract bus operators who purchase their insurance through the Division. The Division has committed to continue to work with bus contractors who have an interest in pursuing insurance through Alberta Risk Management Insurance Consortium Division (ARMIC), which is the Division's insurance group.

### Superintendent's Report:

- Chromebook purchase program for parents: There are still 25 Chromebooks available for purchase by families.
- Remembrance Day Activities: All school events were held virtually and schools participated in a number of Remembrance Day activities including the Legion poster contest.
- November is Family Violence Prevention month.
- Division-wide local scholarship winners were recently recognized in a social media post. Many thanks to the organizations and individuals that make the scholarship program possible. Of note, the Division was notified that a total of \$96,400 in Rutherford Scholarships was awarded to Division students.
- On December 8, representatives of the Division will be participating in a virtual event in support of Catholic education. The event is hosted by GRACE (Grateful Advocates for Catholic Education).
- The Division is waiting for further provincial direction from the province as it starts preparation for our annual Christmas concerts.
- The Division Accountability Pillar Summary 2019-20 has been prepared and is available [on the Division website](#).

### Financial Report

- The year-end report is currently being prepared to be presented to the audit committee on November 25. This meeting will be broadcast live starting at 11:30 a.m.
- The Division has recently submitted the Nominal Roll to Indigenous Services Canada.

### Capital Projects

- Remediation of the front exterior stairs at Two Hills Menonite School is ongoing and is expected to be completed next week.
- Gravel is being stockpiled for the parking lot at Ashmont School. Once completed work will be suspended for the winter and will resume next spring.

### Correspondence

- Rural Caucus of Alberta School Boards Financial Report
- Alberta Education Curriculum Working Group: Alberta Education has recently called for nominations for teachers to serve on curriculum working groups (CWG). CWG members will provide advice on the draft curriculum through the lens of their subject/discipline knowledge and classroom perspective while also providing targeted feedback to inform the refinement of draft curriculum. Meetings will be held virtually. Trustees held discussion about the challenges of moving forward with curriculum review during a world pandemic and in particular the additional stressors of new curriculum on teachers, who are already working very hard under the present circumstances.



<b>Contact us:</b> <b>4402-42 St.</b> <b>St. Paul, AB T0A 3A3</b>		<b>Phone: 780-645-3237</b> <b>Text Only: 780-547-5772</b> <b>www.glenavonschool.ca</b>				
		1	2	3	4 Silly Hat Day	5
6	7	8 Report Cards Sent Home	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18  Pajama Day  Early Dismissal 2 p.m.	19
20	21	22	23	24	25 <i>Christmas Day</i>	26
<div style="background-color: #f0f0f0; text-align: center; padding: 5px;"> <b>Christmas Break</b> </div>						
27	28	29	30	31	<b>Upcoming Dates:</b> January 4 - Online classes resume Monday for Kin-Gr. 9 January 11 - Students return to school for in-person learning January 29-Teacher PD Day	
<div style="background-color: #f0f0f0; text-align: center; padding: 5px;"> <b>Classes resume Monday January 4</b> </div>						



# December



	<div>Nov. 30th</div> <div>Ham &amp; Cheddar Cheese Sub \$4.00</div> <div>1/2 Ham &amp; Cheddar Sub Small Soup Combo \$4.00</div> <div>Cream of Tomato Soup \$3.00</div>	<div>1</div> <div>Spaghetti and Meat Sauce \$5.00</div> <div>Creole Chicken Gumbo Soup \$3.00</div>	<div>2</div> <div>Beef Pita \$5.00</div> <div>1/2 Wrap and Small Soup Combo \$5.00</div> <div>Wicked Thai Soup \$3.00</div>	<div>3</div> <div>Express Cheese or Hawaiian Pizza \$3.00</div> <div>Minestrone Soup \$3.00</div>	<div>4</div> <div>Roast Beef and Cheddar Wrap \$5.00</div> <div>1/2 Wrap and Small Soup Combo \$5.00</div> <div>Tomato Rotini Soup \$3.00</div>	<div>5</div>
6	<div>7</div> <div>Roast Beef and Cheddar Sub \$4.00</div> <div>1/2 Roast Beef Sub Small Soup Combo \$4.00</div> <div>Cream of Chicken Soup \$3.00</div>	<div>8</div> <div>Penne Alfredo \$5.00</div> <div>Klondike Chili Large - \$4.00 Small -\$3.00</div>	<div>9</div> <div>Donair Pita \$5.00</div> <div>1/2 Donair Pita Small Soup Combo \$5.00</div> <div>Broccoli, Chicken and Cheddar Soup \$3.00</div>	<div>10</div> <div>Express Cheese or Pepperoni and Mushroom Pizza \$3.00</div> <div>Mexican Tortilla Soup \$3.00</div>	<div>11</div> <div>Roast Turkey Wrap \$5.00</div> <div>1/2 Turkey Wrap Small Soup Combo \$5.00</div> <div>Cheesy Cauliflower Soup \$3.00</div>	<div>12</div>
13	<div>14</div> <div>Roast Turkey and Swiss Cheese Sub \$4.00</div> <div>1/2 Turkey Swiss Sub Small Soup Combo \$4.00</div> <div>Chicken Noodle Soup \$3.00</div>	<div>15</div> <div>Lasagna and Meat Sauce \$5.00</div> <div>Cream of Turkey Vegetable Soup \$3.00</div>	<div>16</div> <div>Ham or Falafel Pita \$5.00</div> <div>1/2 Ham or Falafel Pita Small Soup Combo \$5.00</div> <div>Potato Bacon Soup \$3.00</div>	<div>17</div> <div>Express Cheese \$3.00</div> <div>Chicken and Wild Rice Soup \$3.00</div>	<div>18</div> <div>Hearty Beef Stew \$3.00 - Small \$4.00 - Large</div> <div>2:00 p.m. Early Dismissal</div>	<div>19</div>
20	<div>21</div> <div>Christmas Break</div>	<div>22</div>	<div>23</div>	<div>24</div>	<div>25</div>	<div>26</div>
27	<div>28</div>	<div>29</div> <div>Christmas Break</div>	<div>30</div>	<div>31</div>	<div>January 4th</div> <div>Ham and Cheddar Sub\$4.00</div> <div>1/2 Ham Sub &amp; Small Soup \$4.00</div> <div>Tomato Soup \$3.00</div>	<div>January 5th</div> <div>Spaghetti and Meat Sauce \$5.00</div> <div>Minestrone Soup \$3.00</div>

