



Turtle River School Division

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Turtle River School Division is comprised of 7 schools in 7 communities. No community is the same. With the K-12 Education Review <https://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/educationreview/index.html> that began in 2019, much focus was placed on keeping local voices in charge of making local choices. Of the 75 recommendations made by the Commission on the K-12 Education review, that heard from thousands of parents, teachers, business owners, farmers, and municipalities throughout the province of Manitoba, NONE of these recommendations have been addressed in the release of the K-12 Education review of March 15, 2021. The Better Education Starts Today (BEST) https://manitoba.ca/asset_library/en/proactive/2020_2021/putting-students-first-presentation-march152021.pdf is disrespectful to those that work so hard every day to ensure that the children of Manitoba are getting the best education with what our Province gives us to work with.

This new commitment by our elected PC government says it is putting students first. As if to say to date this has not been the case. How will this happen you ask?

- 1) Removing all 37 elected school boards except for DSFM (Division scolaire franco-manitobaine) which will remain in tact
- 2) Appointing ONE Provincial Education Authority
- 3) Requesting volunteer school community councils be established in each school to make recommendations to principals on teacher evaluations, transportation and curriculum delivery in their schools
- 4) Provincial Education Authority will administer Provincial bargaining for unions, Information Technology will be centralized, transportation of students will be provincially administered
- 5) Removal of principals from the MTS union
- 6) Moratorium on school closures is being eliminated

Consider the local effects of the health care system changes that have taken place over the years. As the regional health authorities were combined, regions grew larger. Front line workers may not have been affected immediately however administration jobs were cut in the small communities and centralized. Jobs in every local community have been reduced or lost completely and services have been drastically reduced.

Now consider the proposed changes to the education system. Moving from 37 locally elected school boards to 15 regions throughout the province with only one appointed representative per region. Turtle River School Division will be in a region that will include Mountain View School Division and Swan Valley School Division. How will one person be able to know what is going on in each community within this region and effectively advocate for all of the students? Smaller

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schools may be closed by the government forcing students to be transported to larger communities which may mean for some being on the bus for well over an hour twice per day.

Many questions have been raised since this release of March 15, 2021. So far your local Turtle River School Division board has reached out for answers, but have received none. We want to share with our communities that we are staying involved and up to date on these changes as they occur. We will continue to operate our schools in the best interests of our local students. As local community members we understand what is best for the students in our schools vs. one person who may not even know where Ste. Rose, Laurier, McCreary, Alonsa, Glenella, Parkview Colony and Grass River Colony even are.

We hope that you will also continue to stay informed by watching for updates on our social media platforms Our website <http://www.trsd.ca/> Twitter <https://twitter.com/TurtleRiverSD>

as well as your local school's website

<http://www.alonsaschool.ca/>

<http://www.glenellaschool.ca/>

<http://www.trsd.ca/grassriverschool.html>

<http://www.ecolelaurier.ca/>

<http://www.mccrearyschool.ca/>

<http://www.trsd.ca/parkviewschool.html>

<http://www.steroseschool.ca/>

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