EVERY STUDENT IS

- Known
- Valued
- Believed In



March 11, 2020

FROM THE BOARD TABLE

Data highlights student achievement in reading, math and credit attainment

Growth in reading and math achievement along with high school credit attainment were highlighted for trustees during the Board of Education meeting held March 10.

Academic excellence is one of the four student goals in the board's strategic plan. The mid-year update to trustees included data on three measures used to monitor academic progress: Grade 3 reading achievement, mathematics test scores for Grade 8 students, and credit attainment for Grade 10 students.

To support a renewed emphasis on foundational reading skills (phonological awareness and phonics), two new reading assessments for Grade 3 students were introduced last fall. A random sampling of results in nine schools showed a nine per cent increase in phonics skills mastered and a 29 per cent jump in phonological awareness skills between September and January.

In Grade 8, data drawn from mathematics test scores shows a steady increase during the past five years in students' ability to perform whole number operations. Teachers from kindergarten to Grade 12 consistently report that students' ability to do math has improved significantly.

At the high school level, Grade 10 credit attainment is an indicator of whether students are on track to graduate with the required 24 credits within the three-year and five-year timelines. Of the students who attempted four or more credits during the first semester, 90.3 per cent earned four or more credits. Division-wide, a total of 8,172 credits were attempted by Grade 10 students and 7,525 credits were earned, a 92.1 per cent attainment rate.

Reports and information presented at board meetings can be found at <u>saskatoonpublicschools.ca</u>. The next meeting of the Board of Education is Tuesday, April 6, 2020, at 7 p.m. The public is welcome to attend.

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