



# **PORTAGE LA PRAIRIE SCHOOL DIVISION**

***“Dedicated to the Pursuit of Excellence”***

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August 25, 2020

Dear Zone Colleagues,

As the COVID-19 Pandemic evolves and we prepare for back to school, senior administration colleagues from the South Central Region including Border Land, Garden Valley, Portage la Prairie, Prairie Rose, Prairie Spirit, Red River Valley and Western School Divisions met August 19, 2020 to discuss extracurricular sports programming. There is no prior experience to guide decision making in the context of a pandemic and at this time it is important to simplify divisional programming.

Mitigating risk and maximizing student safety were highlighted as planning priorities for extracurricular sports. With those priorities in mind, several local school divisions, have made the decision to pause extracurricular sports until further notice. At the time of this communication, Garden Valley School Division had not made a final decision on this topic. Local school division administration will give direction with regards to whether or not practicing and skill development sessions can be held.

We value athletics and recognize the impact to sports and will revisit the decision as more information emerges and we learn more about how to plan and program amid COVID-19.

We know this is not the direction you may have wanted and understand there will be disappointment. We thank you for your patience and understanding as we work to navigate this difficult journey.

Sincerely,

R. Todd Cuddington  
Superintendent/Secretary-Treasurer  
Portage la Prairie School Division