



# News Release

For Immediate Release: September 12, 2019

## **Chief Superintendent Brett Lough Announces Retirement**

Brett Lough, Chief Superintendent has announced his retirement after 38 years in public education. Mr. Lough recently advised the Board of Trustees of his intentions to retire effective December 31, 2019. He was appointed to the position of Chief Superintendent of St. James-Assiniboia School Division in 2015. Mr. Lough spent his entire education career – both as a student and as an educator – in St. James-Assiniboia School Division. A John Taylor graduate, he began his career as a substitute teacher prior to becoming a physical educator at Brooklands School. Mr. Lough moved on to teach at Ness Junior High before taking on Vice Principal roles at Stevenson-Britannia School, St. James Collegiate, École Golden Gate and Silver Heights Collegiate. He was appointed Principal at both Lincoln Middle School (1997) and Westwood Collegiate (1999) prior to his appointment to the role of Assistant Superintendent in 2001. Brett's immediate plans are to spend more time with his wife of 32 years, Wendy, as well as their children, Demi and Rhett.

"It has been a very humbling but equally rewarding experience to have had the opportunity to serve the St. James-Assiniboia community, alongside so many thoughtful, knowledgeable and passionate staff members," stated Mr. Lough in addressing his retirement. "The commitment of our Board of Trustees and Division staff to meeting the increasing diversity in this community clearly demonstrates the positive impact public education can have on our families. The establishment of the first French immersion middle school in the Division at École Ness, our work in meeting the needs of our most vulnerable families through our gender diversity policies, our ongoing commitment to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and its calls to action, the development of the Peaceful Village Program at St. James Collegiate/George Waters Middle School, as well as our most recent work with the Canadian Centre for Child Protection, are just a few of the significant steps our Division has taken in recent years in support of our ongoing pursuit of improving the safety and quality of the learning experiences of all our students through an equity lens."

Speaking on behalf of the Board of Trustees, Cheryl Smukowich, Chair, thanked Chief Superintendent Lough for his dedication and commitment to the Division. "The Board congratulates Brett on his pending retirement and extends its heartfelt thanks for truly making a difference in our schools. Our students, families and staff have been given the opportunity to be the best that they can be under his strong leadership."

The Board of Trustees will commence a search for a new Chief Superintendent shortly.