



# News Release

For Immediate Release: March 16, 2022

## St. James-Assiniboia School Division 2022/2023 Budget

*Supporting staff and students in our community with a responsive, current, and fiscally responsible education*

The St. James-Assiniboia School Division (SJASD) approved its 2022/2023 budget for the community it serves on Tuesday, March 8, 2022.

The Board of Trustees approved an Operating Budget of \$118,092,259 for 2022/2023, which is a 5.11% increase of \$5,742,517 from 2021/2022. Reductions of \$359,345 were identified through the budget review process. Repair and renovation of school buildings occur through a 5-year plan (\$16 million), along with a 5-year plan for Technology Network upgrades and replacements (\$9.2 million).

The School Taxes for an Average Home (Home Value of \$283,500 in 2022) will decrease by 0.92% or \$15.31 per year. The SJASD continues to provide innovative and quality programming at a low mill rate. The mill rate will decrease from 13.105 to 12.985 in 2022.

"Our School Division has navigated the COVID-19 pandemic by working as a team. The Board of Trustees, senior administration, staff, students, and community members must continue to work together to ensure every student and educator can learn and work in spaces that are safe, supportive, and equitable," said Cheryl Smukowich, Chair of the St. James-Assiniboia School Division Board of Trustees. "We look forward to returning to programs, school events, celebrations and many other activities that have been paused. As community representatives, the SJASD Board of Trustees will ensure that our schools provide the programs and services that are wanted and needed to meet the academic, social, and emotional needs of our students."

The SJASD continues to be compliant with the Provincial direction. Administration costs are budgeted to be 2.51%, which is lower than the Provincial Government's current requirement of 2.70%. Also, the SJASD is projecting a Gross Operating Reserve of \$3,929,339 or 3.3% of the 2022/2023 Operating Expenditures. The Provincial guideline for Operating Reserves is 4.0%.

"Our Board has collaborated closely with our provincial counterparts to ensure that our division received adequate funding to maintain all our programs and services, as well as our small class sizes," said Craig Glennie, Chair of Finance and St. James-Assiniboia School Division Board Trustee. "In addition to maintaining programs and services, we as a board are also delighted to be able to reduce the amount of school property taxes homeowners pay."

For additional information, see our website at [www.sjasd.ca](http://www.sjasd.ca)

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