

ST. PAUL EDUCATION REGIONAL DIVISION NO. 1

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PRESS RELEASE

Board Accepts Provincial Framework

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St. Paul Education Regional Division No. 1 is announcing that it will accept the four-year Framework Agreement reached by the Alberta Teachers Association and the Province.

Several boards have expressed concerns over portions of the agreement. Our Board shares many of those same concerns and our support of the agreement is not without some reservations. However, we have concluded that, as in any agreement, there are always compromises and that given the proper assurances the agreement can help the Province address a difficult financial situation.

While the Board has accepted the Framework Agreement in principle, there are areas that remain imprecise and the Board has requested additional clarification and assurances to ensure that student learning is not negatively affected.

The Board respects the tremendous work that teachers do and it is always difficult to be caught between the interests of dedicated valued employees and protecting the best interests of students when limited resources dictate restraint.

The Board is appreciative of the work the ATA and the Province have put into developing the agreement, and is hopeful that, with a few additional qualifications, all parties will be able to move forward to complete the local bargaining piece and once again focus their united efforts on serving students in a collaborative manner.