Friday, October 20, 2023 – Media Release

On Thursday, October 19, 2023, at approximately 6:00 AM, there was a localized fire at Provost Public School in the area of the shop classroom. The fire was contained and the situation was addressed quickly thanks to the Provost Fire Department and key BTPS staff members including the facilities staff and school administration. Everyone is safe as there was no one in the building at the time of the incident.

At this time, the area impacted by the fire is being investigated. Initial information indicates the cause of the fire was not intentional. Buffalo Trail can share that the fire department, insurance consultants, and the Alberta Government are involved in understanding the incident.

The school shop classroom will require extensive repair and will be closed until further notice. Due to the smoke damage throughout the school, a remediation plan is being implemented that will see all areas impacted by the smoke cleaned and ready for when staff and students are back in the building. This is being done by, and with, a restoration company that has extensive expertise in similar events with school buildings.

"We used Thursday and Friday as non-operational days while the fire department and our insurance consultants assess the school and ensure it is safe for staff and students. We appreciate this can be difficult for some families to accommodate and apologize for the inconvenience. The safety of staff and students continues to be of utmost importance."
  - Superintendent Michelle Webb

Provost Public School administration and staff are exploring short-term solutions for what learning will look like for our students next week. The school will continue to communicate information as it becomes available, and anticipate having a plan on Saturday for Provost families.

Buffalo Trail Public Schools would like to thank everyone for their patience and understanding during this time. Please know everyone is safe and we will be resuming learning at the school as soon as possible.

Buffalo Trail Public Schools is committed to maximizing student learning, in a safe and caring environment, supported by a highly effective team.