

Board News

November 18, 2015

Our Board of Trustees is comprised of Brenda Rosadiuk, *Chair*, John Stitzenberger, *Vice Chair*, Shirley Caputo, Betsy DeClercq, Carol DeMong, Ken Fate, and Joan Zaporosky

Bullying Prevention Awareness Week is Nov. 15th to 21st. It is the goal of this annual event to increase awareness around the importance of preventing bullying by building healthy and respectful relationships. So please, remember to always ... **“Be Inclusive. Be Kind. Be Respectful.”** - our world will be a better place for it.

Approval of 3YEP/AERR

Leslee Jodry, Assistant Superintendent of Learning Services, gave a detailed presentation on the 2015-2018 Three Year Education Plan (3YEP) and the Annual Education Results Report (AERR) for the Board to approve for submission to Alberta Education by its deadline of November 30th. The Report details the division's Accountability Pillar Survey results, diploma exam and other provincial student assessment results, financial information as well as the current educational priorities and issues identified by the Board. Board Chair, Brenda Rosadiuk noted: "We are proud to be a Board that works collaboratively with community and staff to provide welcoming, caring and respectful learning environments where each student can learn at high levels." The approved document will also be posted on the division's website by the end of November.

Other News in Brief

- Yvonne Rempel, a Community Health Promotion Facilitator from Alberta Health Services, gave an informative presentation on a new community initiative on cancer prevention that is being piloted in 16 communities across Alberta including Edson, Hinton and Evansburg.
- A new participation agreement and amendments to the Alberta School Boards' Association's Supplemental Integrated Pension Plan was approved by trustees.
- Trustees were pleased to support GYPSD's Board Chair Rosadiuk who was asked to co-chair of the Regional Health Team along with Alberta Health Services for the Alberta School Boards' Association.
- GYPSD's Board of Trustees echoed the sentiments expressed by Education Minister Eggen on the defeat of the emergent motion brought forward at yesterday's Fall General Meeting of the Alberta School Boards' Association on the LGBTQ policy issue. Board Chair Brenda Rosadiuk noted, "Grande Yellowhead has always been, and will always be, 100% behind the rights of all our students to receive their education inclusive of

physical ability, mental ability, gender identity and gender expression, sexual orientation, cultural and linguistic diversity, race, ancestry, gender, religious beliefs, socio-economic status, or family composition, and receive that education in a safe and caring environment that promotes mutual respect, tolerance and acceptance. Although our division already has this language in our policies and procedures, we are in full support of the Minister's recent directive to ensure that all school divisions have policies that address discrimination against LGBTQ students and staff. Our Board will also continue to regularly review, and make any necessary changes, to our own policies in this regard."

- As part of the original land transfer agreement between the division and the Municipality of Jasper, work continues on finalizing the landscaping plan on the old Jasper Junior/ Senior High School site. A year's extension to December 31, 2016 has been recently granted in order for all landscaping to complete any last outstanding landscaping items on the site.
- During the 2014-15 school year, Jasper Junior/Senior High School (JJSHS) was pleased to host two international students from Germany for the second term. International students may choose to attend school for one semester up to registering in a full time program, or may also participate in short term stay programs from 4 to 12 weeks. JJSHS Principal Mark Crozier and Assistant Supt.-Learning Services, Leslee Jodry, both continue to represent the division in regards to the international student program.
- Ewen Murray, Deputy Superintendent, presented an update on current staffing levels throughout the division for this school year. Hiring needs for the division fluctuate throughout the year due to staffing changes in response to retirements, resignations, secondments, job sharing, student learning needs and enrolment pressures. Along with teaching, administrative and support staff, at the division level GYPSD employs a number of other support personnel including 14 Family School Liaison Counsellors/ Success Coaches, a Speech Language Pathologist and an Occupational Therapist.

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