

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

## Supports for Students

Karen Shipka, Assistant Superintendent, Learning Services, provided a detailed report on the inclusive learning supports for students in kindergarten to Grade 12 and information on the Program Unit Funding Report (PUF). Grande Yellowhead supports an Inclusive Learning model "Success For All x All Kids Are Our Kids = One Year's Growth" through a variety of means:

- A **School Linked Team** comprising of speech-language pathologists, occupational therapist, mental health capacity building coordinator, technology lead/literacy lead teachers, PUF coordinator, assessment and mentorship supervisor and divisional psychologists;
- **Family School Liaison Counselors** in each of our schools in four zones, and a Community Outreach worker in Jasper;
- **Mental Health Capacity Building Project** which provides universal mental health programming in four communities;
- **Program Unit Funding** supports a variety of resources for our early childhood services programs;
- Implementation of **Individual School Action Plans** based the identification of a school's greatest areas of need as per data analysis of various assessments, survey results and other sources; and
- Specific **Zone Meetings** which are scheduled on a six week rotation for school-based teams to collaborate on a regular basis with the divisional School Linked Team to ensure supports are in place for every student to achieve 'one year's growth'.

Carra Aschenmeier from Learning Services also provided an update on the creation of this year's Superintendent Youth Council which will be comprised of five high school students per high school, who will meet up to three times

a year with senior division administration including the Superintendent of Schools, Ms. Lewis.

**21<sup>st</sup> Century Learning** involves access to up-to-date technology and trustees were pleased to hear about the exciting new projects and initiatives in place at GYPSD schools. These include the addition of makerspaces, a digital lending library, g:/suite migration and increased infrastructure including an increase in security measures and upgrades. The technology department will also be hosting a world class Google training event for all GYPSD staff in both Hinton and Jasper in October.

### **Other News in Brief**

- Trustees approved their 2016-17 Board Self-Evaluation Report completed during a recent Board workshop. The report outlined the Board's performance over the past year and defines areas of significant emphasis for them to focus on during the upcoming year.
- As per a request from Grande Yellowhead's Board, the Province agreed to fully cover the expense of the re-installation of the playground from Evergreen School to Mary Bergeron Elementary, the division's new replacement school in Edson.
- The approval of the use of special ballots for this year's election process was approved today. The Division recognizes the need to provide electors with the opportunity to vote, even though they are temporarily away from their residence, or unable to utilize either the regular, or advance polls.
- In accordance with Policy 7 - Board Operations, trustee honoraria were reviewed for the 2017-18 school year and the Board moved that amounts would not increase for the upcoming year.
- Representatives from the Hinton Geothermal Project presented to the Board on the current status of the project in the town and the possible partnership opportunities with Grande Yellowhead for the facilities themselves as well as future career pathways for students.

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