

Board News

April 18, 2018

Our Board of Trustees is comprised of Brenda Rosadiuk, *Chair*, Joan Zaporosky, *Vice Chair*, Ellen Aust, Shirley Caputo, Ken Fate, Fiona Fowler and Dale Karpluk

- Trustees revised Board Policy 01 – Division Foundational Statement with a new vision, mission and core values for the jurisdiction. Please visit the website to see the new policy in its entirety.

VISION - *Our school division endeavours to provide each student with the opportunity to fulfill their potential and pursue their dreams.*

- The board welcomed the division's new Secretary-Treasurer, Cindy Wang, who spoke to the board in regards to the 2018-19 Budget Allocation Model. Alberta Education's funding framework allocates funds to school boards to provide educational services to students for instruction, transportation, facility operations and maintenance.
- As part of its monthly review process, trustees discussed attendance at upcoming events and celebrations noted in the board's annual work plan.
- Superintendent Lewis provided a current overview of the results from the latest OurSchool Survey data. GYPSD has administered the Our School survey in all schools for students in Grades 4-12 for the past four years. In addition, the OurSchool survey was combined with the Alberta Education's Accountability Pillar survey during the first three years. These surveys afford schools and the division a means to measure their success and challenges in meeting identified objectives, and assess their progress towards meeting their students' learning goals. OurSchool combined with the Alberta Education Accountability Survey questions through the lens of the following measures:
 - social-emotional outcomes
 - physical health outcomes
 - academic outcomes
 - drivers of student outcomes (quality instruction, school context, classroom context, and family context)
- The board received information on carbon tax levy expenses since January 2017. The province implemented a tax on carbon dioxide emissions from burning fossil fuels used for transportation and heating. The transportation department has tracked these expenditures as an additional \$30,000 cost to their budget to date.
- A tentative schedule for the 2018 Education Week events and celebrations happening in schools throughout the division during the week of April 30 to May 4, 2018, was shared with trustees. A full schedule of events will be posted on the division's website at the end of April.
- There are currently nine full time Family School Liaison Counsellors (FSLC) working in all Grande Yellowhead schools who provide additional supports and resources for students and their families. FSLCs have many referrals coming in for support related to family difficulties (ie. domestic violence parent-child relational difficulties, poverty, parental mental health needs requiring hospitalization, divorce and separation), anxiety and depression and lagging social skills.

- Students in Grande Yellowhead are supported by three different Regional Collaborative Response Delivery Systems who enable effective collaboration between Children's Services, Community and Social Services, Education, school authorities, Health, Alberta Health Services, First Nations and community organizations at the local, regional and provincial levels. Funding is to support resources and services needed unique to each community including access to speech language and occupational therapy specialists.
- Superintendent Lewis noted discussions around staffing changes for the upcoming school year are beginning. To support leadership development and succession planning, she is investigating a number of administrative position changes within the division. Schools that currently have principal vacancies are Wildwood School, Grand Trunk High School in Evansburg, and Sheldon Coates School in Grande Cache. In Hinton, Principal Kurt Scobie from Crescent Valley School has been reassigned to École Mountain View School i, and Principal Robin Hengel from Mountain View is reassigned to Crescent Valley as of September 2018, to share their expertise and expand their instructional leadership skills with each other's school communities. A new position for an Assistant Superintendent of Secondary Learning/ Programming was also recently posted for the division. "We have excellent leaders throughout our jurisdiction, but we need to continuously seek opportunities that support their development and instructional leadership skills," noted Superintendent Lewis when presenting to the board. "We have a number of leadership positions currently available, and dependent upon the successful applicants, we may have others open up for other aspiring leaders for the upcoming school year. Busy, but exciting times ahead for GYPSD."



This week's board meeting took place in the beautiful library in Jasper Jr./Sr. High School.