

Approval: Transfer of Junior High Program at Wildwood School

IMMEDIATE RELEASE – April 3, 2019 At today's Public Board Meeting, the Grande Yellowhead Public School Division's (GYPSD) Board of Trustees approved the transfer of the junior high program (Grades 7-9) from Wildwood School to Grand Trunk High School in Evansburg, beginning the 2019/2020 school year. Wildwood School will continue to provide kindergarten to grade six programming.

Trustees deliberated over the potential benefits and challenges of transferring the program. Superintendent Lewis provided data results from both schools and outlined a thoughtful transition plan for both students and families, which includes orientation nights and school tours between both schools.

Board Chair B. Rosadiuk spoke about the decision. "Our board's first priority is always to make decisions that are in the best interest of students. Declining enrolments combined with a recurring deficit school budget over the last six years has resulted in a program that is no longer sustainable. Our board is not alone in having to make these difficult decisions. There are 41 rural school jurisdictions in the province who are also facing declining enrolments and inequitable program offerings for their students."

Both schools will now finalize plans to assist their families, students and staff in a smooth and positive transition for the upcoming school year.