

## Division NEWS

## New Staffing Announcement -Director of Transportation Services

*Immediate Release: November 30, 2021* - <u>Grande Yellowhead Public School Division</u> (GYPSD) is pleased to announce that Ms. Christine Van Neck has accepted the position of Director of Transportation Services.

For the past eleven years, Ms. Van Neck has worked for <u>Elk Island Public Schools (EIPS</u>) in their transportation department as a Safety and Compliance Supervisor focused on safety, training, and maintaining compliance with provincial regulations. She is also a fully qualified Senior Driving Instructor and has proudly taught a number of students to successfully complete the Mandatory Entry Level Training (MELT) 2S program to obtain their licence to drive a school bus. She is currently on a provincial committee collaborating with Alberta Transportation and other applicable stakeholders in the province to update and enhance the MELT program. She has also worked with the Alberta Student Transportation Advisory Council for the last few years.

Ms. Van Neck focuses on collaboration and building positive relationships while adapting to identified needs. "Through my work at Elk Island Public Schools, I had the privilege to learn and become skilled in many facets of the student transportation industry and assume increasing areas of responsibility. I was the first point of contact for serious safety concerns or accident investigations, and have become skilled at resolving complaints, reducing future risk, and enhancing safety for students. I look forward to using those competencies at GYPSD in my new role."

Prior to her tenure at EIPS, Ms. Van Neck was the operations supervisor for <u>First Student</u> in Edmonton. She has completed courses through the <u>National Association of Pupil Transportation</u> and believes in the importance of lifelong learning.

Ms. Van Neck and her husband will be relocating to Edson and commences duties on December 1, 2021.

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GYPSD's Transportation Services currently operates 51 school bus routes across eight different communities across the Division, transporting almost 2,000 students over 7,000 km each day. GYPSD also provides cooperative busing programs with neighboring school divisions. The department includes a full-service mechanic shop that inspects, repairs and maintains the Division's fleet of vehicles. Driver training is also rovided by certified instructors to over 100 employees in the department.



Grande Yellowhead stretches from Jasper National Park, east to Evansburg, and north to the Town of Grande Cache. The jurisdiction includes seventeen schools, five Learning Connection Centres, approximately 4,500 students, and 600 staff members.