

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

## Celebrating Education Week “*Learning is a Journey*”

### **Student Voice: What Students Are Saying & Their Solutions to Succeed**

Trustees received a detailed report from Learning Services on the recent results from the OurSchool Survey (formerly Tell Them From Me) completed by students in Grades 4 to 12 between January 16, 2017 and February 22, 2017. The survey forms part of the province’s annual Accountability Pillar Survey and includes how students respond to:

- Social engagement measures such as sense of belonging & positive relationships;
- Institutional engagement measures such as value of school outcomes & positive behavior at school;
- Intellectual engagement measures such as interest & motivation;
- Emotional health measures such as anxiety & depression;
- Academic measures that reflect on achievement in English, Math and Science; and,
- Quality instruction measures such as effective learning time and relevance.

Carra Aschenmeier, District Lead of Assessment and Mentorship, spoke to the board about the three year trends and the work that schools are currently reviewing in order to assist planning decisions. To also guide the division in responding to the results, mini youth workshops were held at all five high schools with up to 30 students engaged in reviewing their schools’ results and coming up with strategies to address students’ concerns. On May 4<sup>th</sup>, a division wide Youth Symposium will bring together student representatives from all the

high schools in GYPSD to complete a design challenge to plan for positive changes at their schools. Many of the division’s elementary schools are also forming student focus groups to inform school decision-making at that level. Jasper Trustee Betsy DeClercq was very happy to note the high numbers of students across the division who indicated they felt a strong and positive relationship with someone at their school.

#### **News in Brief**

- Trustees approved a revision to Policy 17 - Student Transportation which included an increase to ineligible transportation fees from \$200 to \$300 per student for the 2017-18 school year to help offset some of the transportation costs. The current cost to transport ineligible students is approximately \$600. Ineligible students are defined as students who reside less than 2.4kms from their designated school. The last time transportation fees for ineligible students were increased was in 2006.
- A new AP 290 - Research Studies has been developed to outline the procedures for external individuals or organizations to follow when conducting research opportunities with the division.
- Trustees approved a revision to AP400 - Personnel Selection which included updates to roles and responsibilities of personnel staff.
- Nine student teachers were placed at GYPSD schools during both semesters this school year for both introductory and advanced professional terms. Superintendent Gray offered his sincere appreciation to the mentor teachers who shared their leadership skills with the students. Deputy Superintendent Murray also proudly noted that seven of the ten students had also graduated from Grande Yellowhead high schools.