

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

## Capital Projects Update

Facility Services provided their regular updates to the Board on two current capital projects in the Division: the modernization project for Grande Cache Community High School (GCCHS) and the new replacement school in Edson, Mary Bergeron Elementary.

**GCCHS:** All of the interior finishing work is near completion and the installation of the gym flooring and polished concrete floor has begun. The next two weeks will mostly consist of close-out items and training for staff and maintenance personnel. We are targeting the end of April for substantial completion of this project with only seasonal work remaining, dependent on weather conditions.

**Edson:** The concrete slab in the east wing has been poured and interior block walls are almost complete. The west wing and gymnasium have been hoarded in. The contractor is targeting the first part of May to have the building completely enclosed and all concrete slabs poured. An inspection of the modular classrooms was conducted on March 24<sup>th</sup> and it is anticipated that the new modulars will be picked up around the end of April and stored at lot in Edson prior to installation on the school site.

## Other News in Brief

- May 1-5 is Education Week which is celebrated throughout Alberta. This year's theme is 'Learning is a Journey' and schools across the division have several activities and presentations planned. A full listing of events will be posted on the division's website but everyone is encouraged to contact their local school for updates as more events continue to be added.
- Dual credit opportunities for students continue to expand as the program enters its third year at GYPSD. Partnering with Grande Prairie Regional College and local employers, high school students are able to enrol in first year college courses while attending high school to earn credits at both institutions. Currently twelve students from four high schools have enrolled in power engineering, oil and gas petroleum operator, medical terminology, or psychology courses under the Dual Credit program.
- An update on GYPSD's participation in the province's High School Redesign Pilot Project was provided to trustees. High School Redesign is an evolving project initiated by the Alberta Education designed to transform the high school experience for students, teachers, administrators, and parents. It focuses on nine key pillars that are meant to engage students in their learning experience by developing meaningful relationships, personalizing learning, ensuring flexible learning environments in a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe setting. It stresses the importance of home and community involvement, mastery learning of a rigorous and relevant curriculum, best assessment practices, and empowers teachers to seek professional development to improve their pedagogy.
- The 2017-18 School Calendar received final approval as well as the 2019-20 School Calendar was approved, in principle. The 2018-19 School Calendar was approved in principle in April of 2016. Divisional calendars are developed in alignment with Board Policy 18 - School Calendar which notes the number of annual instructional days to be assigned as well as when holiday breaks and non-instructional days are to be designated. Division calendars can be viewed on the website at [www.gypsd.ca/view.php?action=documents&id=1](http://www.gypsd.ca/view.php?action=documents&id=1)
- Trustees approved changes to Policy 12 - Role of the Superintendent including an emphasis on increasing student engagement in their learning.
- A schedule for public board meeting dates for the upcoming school year was established.