

# Board News

February 17, 2016

Our Board of Trustees is comprised of Brenda Rosadiuk, *Chair*, John Stitzenberger, *Vice Chair*, Shirley Caputo, Betsy DeClercq, Carol DeMong, Ken Fate, and Joan Zaporosky

## First Draft Reading of LGBTQ+ Policy

Grande Yellowhead's Board of Trustees discussed the first draft of a proposed new policy for the division, Policy 24 - Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Gender Expression. The draft was proposed by a committee consisting of staff and administration who collaboratively developed the draft that supported the division's recognition and understanding of the additional resources that may be needed in respecting those with diverse sexual orientations, gender identities and gender expressions.

As per the divisional guidelines for the development of all new policies, the Board will be following a four step process which includes seeking feedback from various stakeholder groups before its implementation. A copy of the draft policy is available for viewing on the division's website at [www.gypsd.ca](http://www.gypsd.ca) and feedback can be emailed to [board@gypsd.ca](mailto:board@gypsd.ca). Feedback on the new policy will be collected until February 26<sup>th</sup> for discussion at the next Public Board Meeting on March 2<sup>nd</sup> on suggested amendments to the draft policy.

On January 13<sup>th</sup>, the Province released a set of guidelines respecting students and staff with diverse sexual orientations, gender identities and gender expressions, to assist school divisions in adopting some of the best practices noted in the guidelines. The Province has asked that school divisions adopt new policies and/or procedures that reflect the guidelines by March 31<sup>st</sup>, 2016.

### OTHER News in Brief

- Administrative Procedure AP 180 - Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy, was updated

to include new forms that will greatly assist in processing FOIPP requests in a consistent and expedient manner.

- Budgeting principles for the upcoming 2016-17 school year were approved. Trustees emphasized the importance of achieving the balance between prioritizing education needs within available financial resources.
- Gail Prokopchuk, Director of Transportation Services, provided a summary report to the Board on current transportation funding and rider statistics for the current school year. GYPSD transports students over 2,620 square miles in which the division operates 57 bus routes.

### Capital Projects Update:

GCCHS Modernization - Trustees were pleased to hear that the capital project is moving forward as expected. The first phase of the project has been completed with the addition of six modular classrooms, and the next phase has begun which includes work on the wood shop, home economics, beauty culture and science lab classrooms.

Edson Replacement School - The Project Design Planning Committee met on January 21<sup>st</sup> to complete the design of the new school that determined the layout of classrooms, administration areas, library and gymnasium. Over the next several weeks, the architect will be finalizing drawings and schematics for the facility before submitting them to the Province for approval. Upon approval by Alberta Infrastructure, the project will be ready for tender.

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