

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 replacement school in Edson.

GCCHS: The gym roof has been sealed, and the hallway and gathering area roof will be completed in 2 weeks. The gym floor was poured on January 6th and painting has started in the administration area and the masons have almost completed the new washrooms.

Edson: [Trustees voted on the name for the new school - Mary Bergeron Elementary! Please see the separate press release from today to learn more.](#) One third of the steel structure has been completed with roofing expected to start the 3rd week of January. The gym masonry walls are 3/4 completed. Electrical conduit installation has started and the natural gas line has been installed to the building.

Other News in Brief

- The lease for the Edson Playschool from A.H. Dakin will be changed to reflect its relocation to École Westhaven School effective September 1, 2017. This group provides programming for children aged 3 to 5 years.
- Trustees approved a statement in regards to citing an acknowledgement on treaty lands that will form part of a new division administrative procedure.
- The First Quarter Financial Report was provided to the Board which indicated the 2016-17 Budget is on target with projected revenues and expenses.
- Transportation Services provided an update on route information for the current year. GYPSD currently transports over 2,600 students over 56 routes.
- As part of the division's Health and Wellness Plan, grants of \$60,000 were issued by the province over the last two years for GYPSD to implement mental health initiatives developed under a comprehensive mental wellness plan under the umbrella of self-regulation.
- Two administrative procedures were updated: AP167 Smoke-Free Environment and Prevention of Youth Tobacco Use and AP183 Personal Protective Equipment. AP167 was amended to include the prohibition of e-cigarettes, and allowance for the proper gifting of tobacco to Elders for Indigenous ceremonies. AP183 was amended in regards to the maximum lifetime reimbursement of prescription safety glasses.
- The OurSchool (formerly Tell Them From Me) survey is now open to students in Grades 4 - 12 and must be completed by February 17th. The survey questions students on a number of measures such as social-emotional outcomes, academic goals, physical health, quality instruction and school context. Data from the survey is analyzed to assist the division in meeting the needs of its students' learning goals.
- Kelly Smith, Supervisor-Learning Services, reported on the new 3 Year Technology Vision Plan which outlines a number of goals and initiatives to assist in removing potential barriers to effective implementation of technology in the classroom. The plan includes a review of current policies and procedures in regards to tech use in the division, a 'bring your own device environment', purposeful professional development, a move to the Google platform and cloud-based computing, and future investment into a more robust wireless infrastructure.

- Information on this year's Career and Technology Foundations (CTF) and Career and Technology Studies (CTS) course updates was provided by Sandy Axmann, Supervisor of Learning Services:
 - This past year, a group of teachers from across the division participated in project based environmental studies workshops co-sponsored by the Alberta Council for Environmental Education (ACEE) and GYPSD.
 - Grande Cache Community High School students are enjoying their new their new CTS spaces which includes a new home economics room with all new appliances, and a new construction tech lab with five brand new lathes, a planer and sander. Their Elite shop received new wiring and 5 new welders. The media lab was redone and received a new 3D printer. SonRise and Elite students are also thoroughly enjoying a new course on robotics.
 - Also in Grande Cache, Summitview School is offering different options with a focus on technology, outdoor skills and the arts. Some of the programming includes Enterprise and Innovation, Leadership, Guitar, Outdoor Education, Eagle News, Hunter's Education, Media Studies, Computer Coding, Outdoor Sports, Photography and Drama.
 - In Hinton, Harry Collinge students in Grades 7-12 are enjoying the wide variety of options provided through the CTS/CTF programs. In the first semester there are approximately 250 registrations in a variety of CTS/CTF courses including Art (and multi-media), Communications Technology, Construction Technology, Foods, Stewardship and Home Economics. Students have access to a vinyl cutter and 3D printer to assist with their projects and they continue in-depth learning in adobe programs such as Photoshop. New this year, the photography component has offered school photos to preschools and various families in the community as well as Christmas photo sessions to the public.
 - Grand Trunk High School in Evansburg offers CTS courses in construction, fabrication and foods. Their CTF programs include geography, costume making, cake making, music and drama. They have also started a short film project focussing on costumes, music, sound effects, editing, writing, filming and directing.