

Board News

September 23, 2015

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

Financial Highlights

The Board received the fourth quarter Statement of Revenues and Expenses, to August 31st for the year ending August 31, 2015, which also provided a preliminary view of the division's financial operations as reported on the Audited Financial Statements. The 2014-15 year is expected to end with a \$1 million deficit, which is 50% less than budgeted due to unexpected revenues.

Trustees approved the individual employment contract for the Superintendent of Schools. This contract is reviewed annually for any contract adjustments that need to be considered including performance, grants and other factors. The Board also approved a payout and carryover of his last year's vacation leave that was unused in the 2014-15 school year.

Other News in Brief

- Ken Baluch, Director of Facility Services, apprised the Board on the number of facility projects that were completed over the summer which included painting, new cardlock access and other maintenance items at a number of schools.
- Discussions over upcoming Council of Schools' Councils meetings were held to determine if the division should continue to host these annually within the division. GYPSD's Board has hosted an annual meeting in Hinton over the last 8 years for parent/ council representatives to meet to discuss items of mutual interest.
- The quarterly Transportation report to the Board was provided by Gail Prokopchuk, Director of Transportation Services. The update included information on the current status of bus registration progress, student ridership, ineligible students transported, waiting lists and ride times as of the

start of the new school year.

- Two separate transportation appeals were heard in regards to transporting students outside of Policy 17 due to extenuating family circumstances.
- The Board was pleased to hear that the partnership Heritage project with Yellowhead County to install commemorative signs on one room school sites is moving forward. As of September 21st, the County has received applications for 15 signs.



Principal Wilma Knoops received her 35 years of long service recognition from local Edson Trustee, Joan Zaporosky at a Welcome Back Event on Sept. 3rd.

Learning Services Update

Leslee Jodry, Assistant Superintendent - Learning Services, confirmed that grade 3 students in Grande Yellowhead schools are participating in the second year of the pilot Student Learning Assessment (SLA) program from Sept. 14th to Nov. 1st. The new SLAs contribute to realizing the vision of *Inspiring Education* by enabling parents and teachers to be aware of a child's strengths or areas needing improvement at the start of the school year. They support student learning while more effectively assessing literacy, numeracy, and competencies such as innovation, collaboration, creativity, and the ability to apply knowledge to different scenarios. The SLAs are primarily computer-based assessments. All GYPSD students in Grade 6 and 9 will continue to write the Provincial Achievement Tests (PATs) in June 2016.

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*Celebrate World Teacher's Day
With Us On October 5th*

