

September 9, 2015

**Welcome Back to
another great year!**

Board of Trustees

John Stitzenberger, Chair
Shirley Caputo, Vice Chair
Betsy DeClercq
Carol DeMong
Ken Fate
Brenda Rosadiuk
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Board News

The Board of Trustees accepted the tender of \$16,398,000 from Monteith Building Group Ltd. for the Grande Cache Community High School Modernization, subject to Ministerial approval. The modernization will consist of the demolition of the 2 story section, partial demolition of the existing gym, the addition of 6 modular classrooms, construction of a new gym and complete modernization of the rest of the school.

Local Grande Cache Trustee Ken Fate is pleased that the project is moving forward. "Our Facility Design Committee spent some time in carefully designing a facility that our community could be proud of. I will be happy to tell our community that we are moving onto the next stage. A multi-million dollar project like this modernization takes a little more time than people expect. Once the tender gets the provincial okay, shovels in the ground will soon follow."

The original closing date for tenders was August 18, 2015, but after several requests from contractors and upon the recommendation from the consultant, the date was extended to close on August 27, 2015. Construction of the project is tentatively scheduled to begin this fall/winter once approval of the tender is received from the Province.

Leslee Jodry, Assistant Superintendent - Learning Services, reported on the number of supports and resources that the division is proud to offer to a FNMI education program to GYPSD students. For the upcoming year, GYPSD will continue to strengthen parent and community engagement to support the following priority areas:

- Improve FNMI learner success in ECS to Grade 12;
- Recognize and increase parental and community engagement in the education of FNMI learners;
- Strengthen relationships among FNMI community, their local school, and division;
- Strengthen FNMI student and family relationships with, and knowledge of, post-secondary institutions, vocational schools, apprenticeship providers, industry, and other key education stakeholders; and
- Foster a greater appreciation and understanding of FNMI people among students and staff.

Trustees approved amendments to *Policy 15-School Closures* which were required to align with current provincial regulations, the *School Act* and *Alberta Regulation 231/2012 - Closure of Schools Regulation*.

Individual contracts for administrative staff were approved by the Board. Recommendations for the contract changes are based on a review of the *Alberta School Boards Association's Management Compensation Report*, as well as a comparative analysis of neighboring and like-sized school jurisdictions.

In accordance with *Policy 7 – Board Operations*, clause 11.8.5, the adjustment to Trustee Honoraria for the 2015 - 2016 year is to be one and eight-tenths percent (1.8%) effective September 1, 2015.

The Board's Annual Work Plan was updated for the current school year to ensure that scheduled monthly activities and school events for attendance by Board members were included.

An updated schedule for the transition to a new financial software for the division was provided to trustees. The complete conversion is anticipated to be completed by early in 2016.
