

Board News

September 25, 2019

Our Board of Trustees is comprised of Brenda Rosadiuk, *Chair*, Joan Zaporosky, *Vice Chair*, Ellen Aust, Shirley Caputo, Ken Fate, Fiona Fowler and Dale Karpluk

On September 25, 2019, Grande Yellowhead Public School Division (GYPSD) held their Public Board Meeting. In attendance was Jessie Smeall - Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA), Anne Auriat – Edson & District Recycling Society, and community members from Niton.

Edson & District Recycling Society

- Anne Auriat from the Edson & District Recycling Society (EDRS) presented to the Board of Trustees on the successful pilot recycling program at École Pine Grove Middle School (PGMS). École Westhaven Elementary School launched a similar recycling program September 2019. The Board of Trustees are proud to witness the efforts of staff and students within our Division actively pursuing environmentally responsible routes in waste management. The Board Chair commended EDRS for the continued support of the schools in Edson and their recycling programs.

School Visits

- The Board of Trustees and Superintendent of Schools, Carolyn Lewis, have visited all schools in the Hinton and Lobstick zones. Upcoming school visits include Jasper on September 26, 2019, Grande Cache and Edson Schools in October. Trustees were pleased to meet with principals, staff, students and school council chairs as well as engage with community partners. Board Chair, Brenda Rosadiuk stated, "as a Board we are very proud of our teachers, principals, educational assistants and students. The learning is exceptional and we need to celebrate that."

Indigenous Education

- Carra Aschenmeier, Director of Curriculum and Assessment, provided a report on Indigenous Education within Grande Yellowhead Public School Division for the 2019/20 school year. Grande Yellowhead Public School Division (GYPSD) supports the Board Priorities of Student Learning, Teaching and Leadership Excellence, and Community Engagement through the investment and support of the Indigenous Relations team. The Indigenous Relations team will support students and staff and serve as

a bridge between the schools and Indigenous peoples. The team is comprised of the Indigenous Relations Manager and Education Coordinator for Edson, Renay Woelfing; the Education Coordinator for Grande Cache, Stephen McDonald; Cree Teacher for Niton, Wildwood, Edson and Grande Cache Schools, Ms. Sandra Davenport; and Teacher Consultant, Mary Andreassen (Education Service Centre).

Palisades Indigenous Camp

- The 9th annual Palisades Indigenous Camp will be held in Jasper National Park October 7-9, 2019. Teacher participants from GYPSD will be in attendance. The Palisades Indigenous Camp supports the implementation of competency five of the Teaching and Leadership Quality Standards. The ongoing partnership between GYPSD and the Edmonton Regional Consortia provides opportunities for school divisions from across the province to participate in the camp which increases the profile of GYPSD as leaders in Indigenous teacher foundational knowledge and pedagogy.

Ministerial Order #034

- The Board of Trustees for Grande Yellowhead Public School Division (GYPSD) supports the advocacy efforts of the Public School Boards' Association of Alberta (PSBAA) in defending the right to use the word public in a district's legal name as well as its public identity. As a proud public school division, the GYPSD Board believes that the inclusion of the word public is just as important for the Division's identity with its stakeholders as the inclusion of Catholic and Roman Catholic is to separate school jurisdictions. The Board of Trustees have sent a letter of support to PSBAA regarding the legal name change and its concerns put forward in a letter to the Minister of Education on September 5th, 2019.