Board Meeting Brief

August 24, 2022

Board Priority 1

STUDENT LEARNING
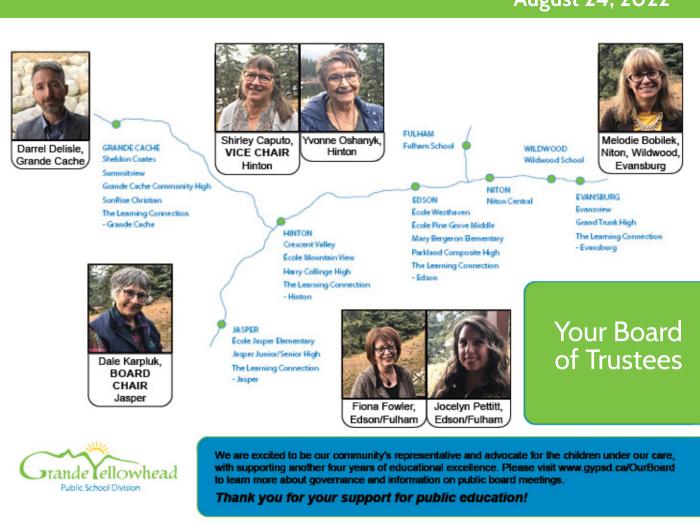
September 6th is *Read a Book Day* and September 8th is *International Literacy Day*; Board Chair Karpluk encouraged everyone to share their favourite book on the Division's and schools' Facebook pages in support of Literacy #MyFavouriteRead!

The Board heard from Keaton Morley, recent Parkland High School graduate. Keaton joined the Transportation Team as a work experience student in the Bus Shop during summer school. The opportunity provided Keaton with credits and an inspiring experience for his career goal of becoming a heavy-duty mechanic.

Summer School principal Adam Fragomeni shared the success of hydrid programming to provide both in-person or online learning access. Summer school provides important opportunities for high school students to work ahead or expand their learning options beyond the two semester school year.

Board Priority 2

TEACHING AND LEADERSHIP EXCELLENCE

The Board received an update from each department head on the substantial work completed during the summer months to prepare the Division for the new school year. July and August are the busiest times for the Facility and Technology teams to get into schools for major renovations, upgrades and installations. Division buses completed their bi-annual inspection and servicing before being outfitted with Wi-Fi and new cameras. Wi-Fi service will support rural students to access their Google classrooms, Numeracy, and Literacy resources during their bus rides. The teams from Human Resources, Learning Services, and Inclusive Education worked throughout the summer to ensure staffing, curriculum supports, and resources are in place for the new school year.

Superintendent Lewis met with the Assistant Deputy Minister of First Nations, Metis and Inuit Education to discuss GYPSD's ongoing commitment to the TRC Calls to Action.

Assistant Principal Ryan Hall attended the meeting to share that the Welding Program at Parkland has received a grant from Alberta Education. The funds will support the expansion of the Welding Program to include Pipefitting, providing students more Career Pathway options. The Dual Credit Grant Funding was announced during the Minister of Education's tour of Parkland in June.

Assistant Superintendent of Learning Services, Carra Aschenmeier, shared the session platform and keynote speakers for Kick Off 2022 - a Division-wide Professional Learning event for all GYPSD staff.

The Board received a report from Chief Deputy Superintendent Kastrinos suggesting the creation of an Ad Hoc committee to review the Board's Health and Wellness Policy - Board Policy 20, and the Division's range of wellness initiatives and supports for students, families, and staff.

Board Priority 3

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

Board Chair Karpluk shared a response from Minister LaGrange in regards to GYPSD's advocacy for the continued funding of the Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA). ASCA provides valuable resources, support, and professional learning for school councils; Chair Karpluk encouraged School Council Chairs to engage ASCA to strengthen the council's work in GYPSD schools.

The Trustees will be touring schools and meeting with principals in September and October and holding stakeholder engagement events in Grande Cache and Hinton.

Following significant feedback from stakeholders living at the Jasper Park Lodge, the Transportation Department will be piloting a bus route operation to the JPL during the 2022/23 school year.

The Board moved the following action items and approved:
- a Thank You Letter to the Minister of Education for the reinstatement of the Fuel Price Contingency Program;
- the Board's goals for the 2022/23 school year;
- the Superintendent's goals for the 2022/23 school year;
- the Alberta School Board Association (ASBA) Community Engagement Award submission for Hinton stakeholder engagement done in April and May.