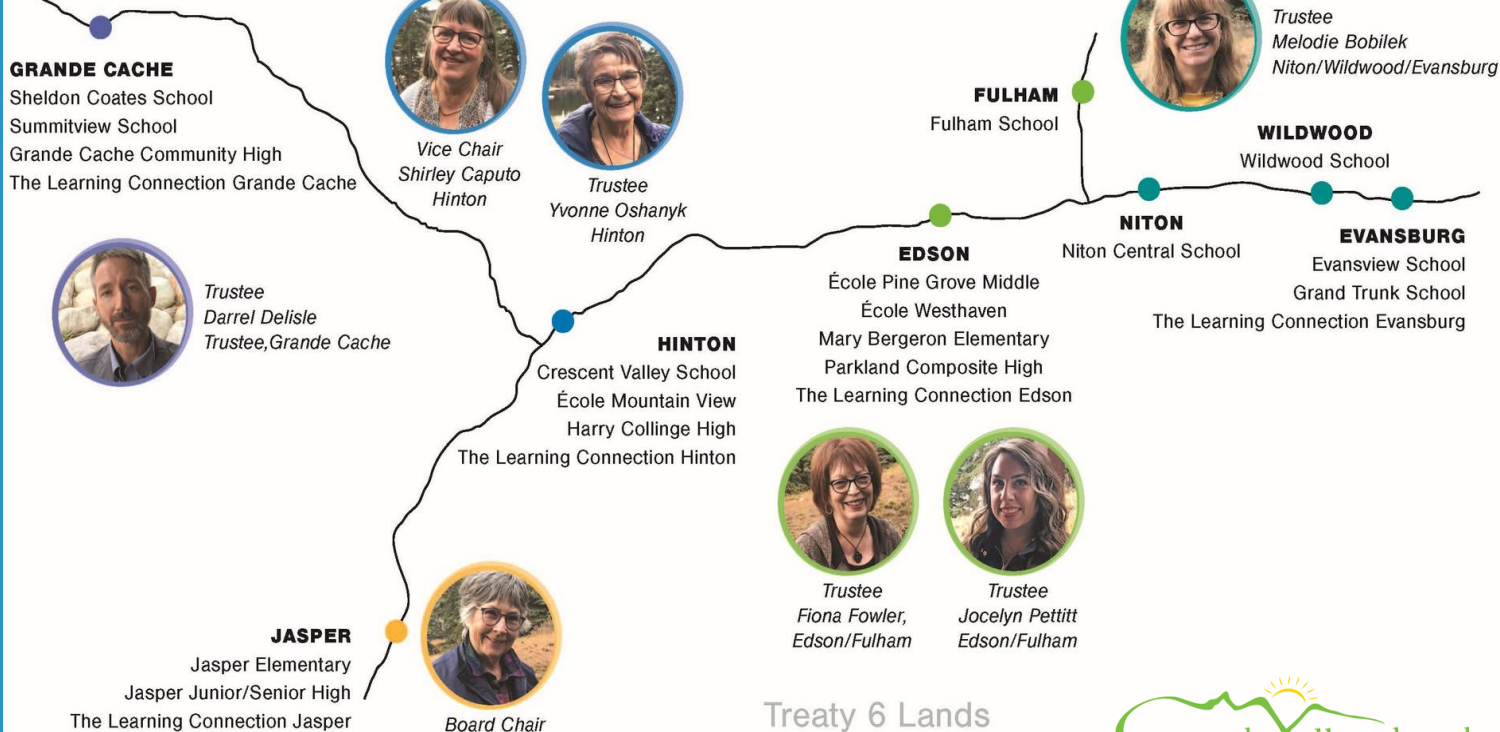


Board Meeting Brief

May 24, 2023

Treaty 8 Lands



GrandeYellowhead
Public School Division

Treaty 6 Lands

Board Priority 1

STUDENT LEARNING

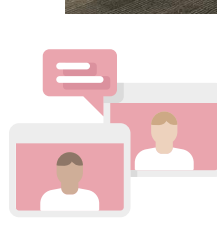
The Board approved GYPSD's [2023-2026 Education Plan](#) submission to Alberta Education. The plan identifies the Board's goals and priorities, the strategies selected to achieve the goals, and the performance data that will be used to assess the effectiveness of the approaches across the Division.

Superintendent Lewis provided an update on the [Superintendent's Youth Council Research Work](#). The SYC students will be presenting their high school leadership project ideas to their principals on May 30th.

Grand Trunk High School's rock band "*So Serious*" performed three songs for the Board of Trustees. Principal Heidi Zadderey praised the students for their commitment to the band even though they had been evacuated from the Lobstick area for over three weeks due to wildfires in the area. The group, led by teacher Brent Watt, is performing in the annual spring *Rock Bank Tour*.



From left: Kaleb Tetz (Gr. 10), (Brett Watt - teacher), Hailey Congo (Gr. 12), Keira Ultri (Gr. 11), Josslyn Miller (Gr. 12)

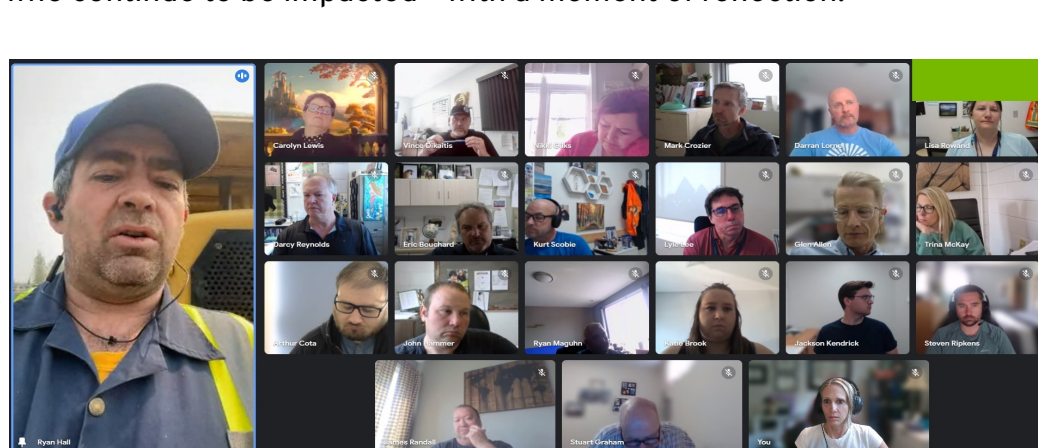


Learning Services is once again offering the CALM course - required for a high school diploma - for students entering high school. The online CALM summer option will run for two weeks in July. [Registration is open.](#)

Board Priority 2

TEACHER, SUPPORT STAFF, AND LEADER EXCELLENCE

Chair Karpluk shared the Board's appreciation for the work of GYPSD staff during the emergency wildfire situation. Director of Facilities, Brian Orge, and OH&S Manager Jackson Kendrick worked alongside GYPSD principals and the senior leadership team to ensure staff and students were safe. Superintendent Lewis acknowledged Transportation Director Christine Van Neck and GYPSD's bus drivers who helped with evacuations. The Board recognized the emergency services personnel, many staff and students who personally engaged in fighting the wildfire - and those who continue to be impacted - with a moment of reflection.



The Board approved GYPSD's [2023/24 Budget](#) submission, thanking Secretary-Treasurer Sean Nicholson and his team for their management of the Division's funds which reflects the mission, vision, values, goals, and priorities of the Board.

Superintendent Lewis acknowledged the leadership of principals, personally thanking the local leaders in attendance of the Board meeting: Principal Debra Boos from [Ecole Westhaven](#), Principal Darran Lorne from [Ecole Pine Grove](#), Principal Steven Ripkens from [Niton Central](#), Principal Heidi Zadderey from [Grand Trunk](#), and Ryan Hall from [Parkland Composite](#). Highlights from her [report](#) included:

- leading the emergency response team for GYPSD
- GYPSD's Education Plan submission and 2023/24 Budget submission
- CUPE negotiations

Trustees and Superintendent Lewis will be attending the ASBA Zone 2/3 Awards Banquet in Edmonton on May 25th to cheer on [GYPSD's Edwin Parr Award submission for provincial recognition: Jaia Sthankiya.](#)

Board Priority 3

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT

As part of the Education Plan submission, the Board reflected on the many [community conversations and stakeholder events](#) it held this past school year, including a [school use review in Grande Cache](#), an attendance area update in Hinton, [mental health and wellness round table discussions in Jasper, Edson, and the Lobstick](#), and a beginning conversation with Niton parents about the junior high program - in addition to the annual GYPSD Online Education Survey.

The Board Chair welcomed questions from Ecole Westhaven parent Krystal Baier for the opportunity to explain the process of collaborative decisions made in response to [emergency situations](#).

GYPSD representation at the Edson Trade Show provided an opportunity to share information on programs, careers, and services.

The Board approved the following actions:

- to approve the 2023/24 Budget submission
- to approve the 2023-2026 Education Plan submission
- to send a letter of advocacy to the [Alberta School Employee Benefit Plan](#) for a review of premium costs
- updates to Policy 14, [Hearings on Teacher Transfers](#)
- updates to Policy 21, [Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Gender Expression](#)

Board Priority 4

SYSTEM HEALTH and WELLNESS



During the Principals' Planning Retreat, [EdCan Well at Work](#) consultant Gail Markin led the school leaders through a school health model based on the belief that "people can only give their best when they're feeling their best." She led the principals and central leadership staff through three domains of staff well-being: **Individual** (self-awareness and good choices); **Collaborative** (supportive community, relationships, healthy and welcoming spaces); and, **Systemic** (practices, policies, culture). Markin's session was another layer towards implementing the **College of Alberta School Superintendents' Workplace Wellness framework**, ensuring all GYPSD staff have the [information, professional development, and connection to resources](#) they require to support their wellness and contribute to a positive, healthy workspace and school culture. This year, the Board added the fourth priority on *System Health and Wellness* in response to concerns for the [mental health of students](#) and staff following the pandemic. In addition to updating [Board Policy 20](#), and [21](#), the Division's HR team has held on-site benefit workshops for all staff; the [Inclusive Education](#) team provides monthly updates to the Board sharing the ongoing work of our BEST coaches and Family School Liaison Counsellors. This fall, each of the five GYPSD high schools will have a *Wellness Navigator* to support students in developing, implementing, and deepening their understanding of wellness and the practices known to contribute to positive health outcomes.