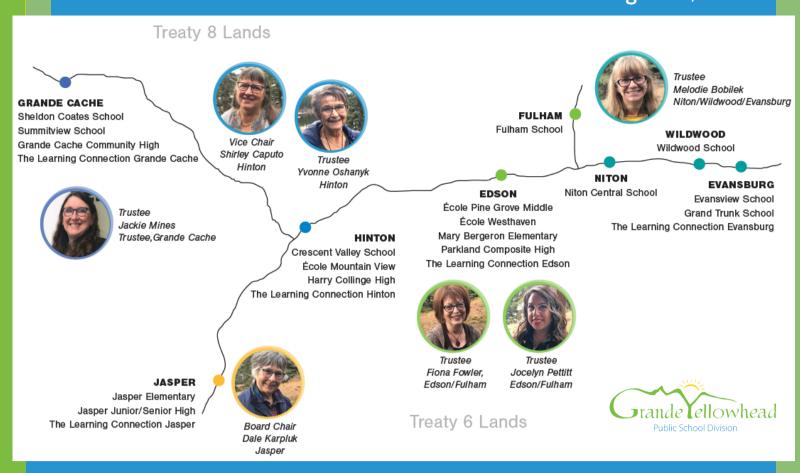
## **Board** Brief

August 21, 2024





**LEARNING** 

In welcoming attendees to the <u>first Public Board Meeting</u> of the 2024/25 school year, Board Chair Karpluk shared the good news that all of **Jasper's students would be starting their school year together on September 17th**. Jasper students will not be behind in their grade level/course curriculum outcomes.

The central office team provided an <u>online information session</u> for Jasper's parents on August 21st to address additional questions regarding their child's school start-up not covered in an <u>FAQ</u> shared on August 19.

Assistant Superintendent Aschenmeier shared that except for École Jasper Elementary, **Alberta Education's** *enhanced early years assessment requirement* will include:

Analysis of the September and Japuary for all students in

- Mandatory screening assessments in September and January for all students in grades 1 to 3, with a follow-up assessment in June for those students requiring additional support after completing the January assessment.
- Screening assessments for **all kindergarten children** beginning in January 2025.

The data from the screens is provided back to the teachers in October to determine if an intervention plan is required to address specific gaps.



Superintendent Lewis and the Board of Trustees shared their deep appreciation for **Director of Facilities, Brian Orge**, for his leadership in working with the Government of Alberta and remediation specialists to prepare the Jasper schools for a safe entry for staff and students on September 17th.

In her Superintendent Report, Dr. Lewis spoke to the many meetings and discussions that took place following the evacuation and devastation in Jasper. Dr. Lewis shared her appreciation for the Government of Alberta staff for their commitment to getting Jasper schools opened as quickly as possible. Approximately 40% of Jasper staff lost their homes and belongings; Dr. Lewis shared the government's commitment to locating housing for those staff in advance of the September 17th schools' start-up. Dr. Lewis also praised central office department heads for attending multiple daily meetings and information sessions with various stakeholders to navigate a hopeful path forward for Jasper's students and staff.

Board Chair Karpluk shared that **Kick Off 2024** will serve as an 'anchor day' in schools to focus the school year. The Tech and Learning Services Team will support learning in *PowerTeacher Pro*, and *Dossier*, after which each school principal has planned an agenda specific to their school contexts.

An interim Superintendent, Dr. Dennis Parsons, will act in the Superintendent role upon **Dr. Lewis' exit** at the end of September and until the Board of Trustees has secured a new Superintendent for GYPSD. Dr. Parsons will serve as a consultant alongside Dr. Lewis until September 30th, to ensure a seamless transition.

The Board approved motions that both the Superintendent Performance Review and the Board's Self-Evaluation occurred in June.

Trustee Fowler attended a summer learning conference offered by the Public School Boards' Council; trustees from across the province learned about programming in the Grande Prairie, Peace River, and Peace Wapiti School Divisions.

TEACHER,
SUPPORT
STAFF, AND
LEADER
EXCELLENCE



Board Chair Karpluk reminded attendees that Friday, August 23 is the Annual Day for **Recognition for Treaty 6**; Treaty 6 encompasses 17 First Nations in central Alberta including the Dene Suliné, Cree, Nakota Sioux, and Saulteaux peoples, and covers the central west portions of Alberta and Saskatchewan.

The Board approved a motion to send a letter of support for a renovation project grant for the Hinton Legion. The Hinton Legion supports many programs for youth - such as the Cadets and Scouts and sponsored activities for Remembrance Day. The Legion has been serving meals to the Evacuees, First Responders, and other displaced Jasper community members.

Fulham stakeholders are invited to 'Hold the Date' for October 10th as the Board prepares for a Fulham Community School Engagement Session - details TBD.



Director of Inclusion, Amy Corser shared the various events hosted in each community by the **BEST and Wellness Navigators' (WN) team members over the summer**. **Jasper students** living in Hinton are invited to attend drop-in sessions at the **Hinton TLC** (149 Athabasca Ave), from 1-4 pm on September 3, 5, 10, and 12. The BEST and WN teams have prepared a range of activities for students to connect, debrief, socialize, and share their stories. GYPSD will be working with Alberta Health and Addictions to ensure supports are available for students as needed.

On September 3, Jasper staff will be attending a session donated by the **Center for Trauma Informed Practices.** 

The session, hosted by **CTIP Consultant, Bonnie Randall,** will address the Jasper staff's need for self-care and supporting each other, as well as resources and strategies to support students on their return.

## LOOKING AHEAD...

- September 18: Public Board Meeting
- September 20: ASBA Zone 2/3 General Meeting
- September 25: ASBA Board Chairs/Superintendents Meeting
- September 30: National Day for Truth and Reconciliation

