

## BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

March 12, 2019

For Immediate Release

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### ***Presentation: 2020-23 Draft Three Year Capital Plan and the 2019-20 Infrastructure and Maintenance Renewal Expenditure Plan***

NGPS Director of Maintenance, Randy Lovich, presented the 2020-23 Draft Three Year Capital Plan and 2019-20 Infrastructure and Maintenance Renewal Expenditure Plan to the Board. The capital priorities for Year One remain as a new school in Valleyview and a modernization of Rich Valley School.

Year Two priorities include modernizations for Fox Creek School and Mayerthorpe Jr/Sr High School. The Division's Year 3 priority is a new, Grades 9 to 12 school in Whitecourt.

The Infrastructure and Maintenance Renewal Expenditure Plan, or IMR Plan, considers the infrastructure and maintenance needs of schools. Schools submit their requests annually. The IMR Plan is build pre-budget and is therefore, based on an estimate of funding. Funding will be confirmed when the budget is released.

The Board approved the 2020-23 Draft Three Year Capital Plan as presented and accepted the IMR Plan as information.

### ***National and International Learning Excursions for Students***

The Board approved the following trips for NGPS students:

- Hillside Jr/Sr High School international field trip to England - April 18 – 26, 2019 – approved in full
- Hillside Jr/Sr High Band field trip to the National Music Festival in Ottawa – May 14 – 19, 2019 – approved in full
- Hilltop Jr/Sr High School international field trip to Germany, Czech Republic, Poland and Hungary – April 8 – April 19, 2020 \*approved in principle with the condition that the trip aligns with the Spring Break on the 2020-21 school year calendar
- Mayerthorpe Jr/Sr High School international field trip to Greece – April 18 – 26, 2019 – approved in full
- Oneway Jr/Sr High School Encounters with Canada field trip to Ottawa, Ontario – March 31 – April 6, 2019 – approved in full
- Oneway Jr/Sr High School international field trip to Berlin, Prague, Krakow and Budapest – April 15 – April 26, 2019 – approved in full

### ***High School Credit Cap Cancelled***

The new 45 CEU credit cap came into effect in September 2017 resulting in a significant cut to NGPS funding for high school students who earn over 45 credits in a 12-month period. The estimated cut in funding to NGPS high school students totaled \$246,483. The cap was poorly received by school divisions and stakeholders, forcing many to limit, cancel or prepare to limit and cancel valuable learning opportunities, like Dual Credit programs, as a result of the lack funding.

In February, the Minister of Education cancelled the credit clawback, totaling an estimated \$11.3 million less dollars in Alberta schools. The high school credit cap will remain as it had been previously, at 60 credits.

### ***2019-20 School Year Calendar:***

The 2019-20 Draft School Year Calendar was reviewed by trustees in concert with stakeholder feedback that was gathered from January to March of 2019. The Board approved the calendar for the 2019-20 school year as presented. The calendar can be accessed on [ngps.ca](http://ngps.ca).

### ***Next Meeting***

The next meeting of the Board will be held on March 26, 2019 at the Division Office in Whitecourt commencing at 5:00 p.m. Members of the public are welcome to attend. For more information, please call 780-778-2800 or 1-800-262-8674.