

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

December 10, 2019

For Immediate Release

Maintenance Report, NGPS Director of Maintenance Randy Lovich

Maintenance Director Randy Lovich presented a work summary to the Board detailing maintenance projects that have been completed over the 2018-19 school year. A total of 7,500 work orders were completed including annual playground inspections, paving, painting, sidewalk pouring for Percy Baxter School and Hilltop Jr/Sr High School and a portable conversion at Mayerthorpe Jr/Sr High School (Hockey Program).

All Infrastructure and Maintenance Renewal (IMR) fund projects approved for 2018-19 were also completed. These included staffroom renovations, washroom upgrades, fire alarm panel upgrades, flooring installations, tree removal and surveillance camera installations.

Lovich reviewed proposed 2019-20 IMR projects with the Board.

Energy Retrofit

Lovich also shared that the Division's Energy Retrofit will begin over the Christmas break with division-wide upgrades to all facility lighting and DDC controls. All lighting will be changed from fluorescent to LED lighting and DDC (heating) controls will be upgraded to digital, central based controls. This is the first phase of the retrofit which will improve energy and cost efficiency for the Division.

Soaring insurance premiums

The Board and administration discussed the exponential increase to the Division's insurance premiums, currently administered by the Alberta School Boards' Reciprocal Insurance Exchange (ASBIE). Premiums have increased by 274% over last year. The Board directed administration to explore options with alternative providers.

***Draft Annual Education Results Report and Three Year Education Plan, NGPS
Assistant Superintendent Leslee Jodry***

Jodry presented an overview of the Division's education results and the Three Year Education Plan.

Education Results - 2018 Provincial Accountability Pillars

Accountability Pillars are how the Alberta government, school divisions and schools measure success and progress. There are 16 measures that show communities how schools and Divisions are performing each year. We use the results to identify areas for improvement and to help build our education plans.

NGPS scored high on Safe and Caring, Education Quality and High School Completion Rate measures. The Division scored Excellent on the Drop Out Rate measure, meaning our drop out rate is lower than the province. Areas of challenge for the Division lie in Diploma Exam Participation Rate and Transition Rate measures.

First Nations, Metis and Inuit Accountability Pillar

We have improved our Provincial Achievement Test (PAT) Excellence measure and are on par or better than provincial numbers in Drop Out Rate, High School Completion, Rutherford Scholarships and Diploma Acceptable measures.

Provincial Achievement Tests (PATs)

Division results for Grade 6 Language Arts and all core subjects in Grades 1 through 6 are strong. Challenges present in Grade 9 Math and in Standard of Excellence measures for Grades 6 through 8.

Mathematics

While we are on par with provincial results in K through 6, we are significantly below provincial results in Grade 9. We have seen a significant improvement in our Math 30-2 results.

Diploma Examinations

Areas of strength are English 30-1 and 30-2, Social 30-1 and Math 30-2 SE.

Challenges present in Math 30-1, Chemistry 30, Physics 20 and Biology 20. We also score considerably lower than the province on the Standard of Excellence measure.

Literacy Practices

A collective, focused approach to literacy is supported through Literacy Coaching, use of best literacy practices through the Quality Learning Environment, continued support for Highest Level of Achievement Testing (HLAT), implementation of Fountas and Pinnell Reading Guidelines and supporting and reinforcing the Continuum of Literacy.

Numeracy Practices

A collective, focused approach to numeracy is supported through a Grade 9-12 Mathematics cohort of teachers, a contracted instructional coach for Grades 1-12, continued support of Numeracy screening using the Math Intervention Programming Instrument and continued support of field testing and Diploma Exam marking participation.

Our Journey. Our Story - review of the Three Year Education Plan

Assistant Superintendent Jodry reviewed the Plan with the Board sharing that the format of the Plan is expanding to a four year plan and will include additional measures. The Education Plan will be shared online at ngps.ca by January 6, 2020.

The Board approved the Draft AERR and Three Year Education Plan as presented.

Onoway Jr/Sr High School Field Trip

The Board approved in principle Onoway Jr/Sr High School's field trip to Ottawa as part of Encounters with Canada scheduled for February 2-8, 2020.

New Trustee Officially Welcomed










Congratulations to Mr. Jim Hailes who was acclaimed to the position of School Board Trustee representing Fox Creek. Mr. Hailes was sworn in at tonight's meeting.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Board will be held on **January 14, 2020** at the Division Office in Whitecourt commencing at 1:00 p.m. Members of the public are welcome to attend. For more information, please call 780-778-2800 or 1-800-262-8674.



Your Local Trustee

Whitecourt		Board Chair Linda Wigton P: 780-706-4345 E: linda.wigton@ngps.ca
Darwell, Sangudo		Board Vice-Chair Sherry Jeffreys P: 780-898-0404 E: sherry.jeffreys@ngps.ca
Mayerthorpe		Trustee Diane Hagman P: 780-396-9694 E: diane.hagman@ngps.ca
Fox Creek		Trustee Jim Hailes P: 780-622-3385 E: jim.hailes@ngps.ca
Whitecourt		Trustee Barb Maddigan P: 780-262-1013 E: barb.maddigan@ngps.ca
Alberta Beach, Rich Valley, Darwell		Trustee Judy Muir P: 780-991-7413 E: barb.maddigan@ngps.ca
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