

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

February 9, 2021

For Immediate Release

Transportation Report

NGPS Director of Transportation, Rhett Czaban spoke to the driver shortage that contractors are experiencing. Contractors in Whitecourt have secured spare drivers and are back up to the number of drivers they employed pre-Covid. Spare drivers are still an issue in the Valleyview area.

MELT Training continues to be a hot topic with school transportation associations and bus contractors as the training is both lengthy and costly which creates additional staffing challenges.

Infrastructure and Maintenance (IMR) Plan and 3 Year Capital Plan

NGPS Director of Maintenance, Randy Lovich presented the IMR Plan and the [2022 – 25 Three Year Capital Plan](#).

Motion: That the Board accept the 2022-25 Three Year Capital Plan and IMR Plan as presented. Motion Carried.

School Council Reports

A hearty virtual welcome to Oscar Adolphson Primary School Principal Amanda Beekman and school council Chair, Samantha Steinke. Thank you for taking the time to share your school's perspective and experience with us.

The Assurance Framework and Three Year Education Planning

NGPS Assistant Superintendent Leslee Jodry presented the differences between accountability and assurance. The province is implementing an Assurance pilot with eight Alberta school divisions. Their work will inform the creation of a new Assurance Framework.

NGPS will use the digital engagement tool, ThoughtExchange to collect and examine feedback from stakeholders that will be used to inform three year education planning.



Presentation: Sustainability of Rural Communities, Trustee Jeffreys

NGPS Trustee Sherry Jeffreys presented on the rural sustainability of NGPS communities, noting that all NGPS schools are affected. Within the presentation Trustee Jeffreys highlighted factors that impact rural sustainability including rural depopulation, the benefits rural schools offer their communities, and potential solutions to rural school viability.

Next Meeting

The next meeting of the Board will take place virtually on **March 16, 2021** commencing at **10:00 a.m.** Members of the public are invited to watch the Meeting live on our YouTube channel, [NGTV](#).

