



Aspen View PUBLIC SCHOOLS

“Aspen View Public Schools is committed to preparing our students to achieve success and reach their unique potential through the provision of meaningful learning opportunities.”

Board Highlights

from the regular meeting held Thursday, June 8, 2017
at Smith School



2017-18 budget approved

The Aspen View Public Schools Board of Trustees voted unanimously to approve the division's 2017-18 operating budget.

The approved budget forecasts revenues of \$41.97 million, down approximately \$1.07 million from 2016-17 due, in large part, to an anticipated decline in enrolment of 95 students across the division. Budgeted expenses have been reduced by approximately four per cent, to \$41.99 million, resulting in an extremely modest budgeted deficit of \$15,995.

Aspen View is committed to maintaining programming despite the significant decline in enrolment and funding. While there is a reduction in staffing costs across the division due to the drop in student enrolment, the most significant savings (13%) will be realized in services, contracts and supplies, as well as non-school operating expenses.

Every effort has been made to ensure enrolment projections are accurate, however, any further decline in enrolment beyond projections will require the board to reevaluate spending decisions.

School fees

Aspen View administration will be working diligently over the next two weeks to establish 2017-18 fee schedules for all schools and programs.

Through *Bill 1 - An Act to Reduce School Fees*, the provincial government has eliminated fees for specific instructional supplies and materials, as well as transportation fees for eligible students who live 2.4 km or more away from their designated school.

School jurisdictions may still charge fees for specific optional courses, extracurricular activities, transportation of ineligible students and other specific circumstances; however, policies and fee schedules must be submitted to the Minister of Education for approval by June 30, 2017.

Aspen View's proposed fee schedule will be presented to the Board of Trustees at their June 22, 2017 meeting, and shared publicly thereafter.

MLA meeting



On May 26, 2017 the Aspen View Public Schools Board of Trustees met with area Members of the Legislative Assembly David Hanson (Lac La Biche - St. Paul - Two Hills) and Colin Piquette (Athabasca - Sturgeon - Redwater) to discuss rural education funding, public education, electoral boundaries and other areas of concern.

Trustees reported that meeting went very well, at that they were impressed that although MLAs Hanson and Piquette belong to different political parties, they shared an understanding of Aspen View's concerns and a commitment to advocate on its behalf.

Other highlights:

- The Board of Trustees voted on seven policies that were reviewed by the Policy Committee. Four were approved with no changes; one with minor wording changes; one replaced with a new policy (Information & Technology); and one rescinded to be implemented as an Administrative Procedure (Whistle Blower). With the review of these seven policies, the Board of Trustees has now met its goal of reviewing all board policies within its term.

Next Board Meeting:

Thursday, June 22, 2017
10 a.m. - Division Office

Upcoming Events:

June 15:
Start of Diploma Exams

June 16:
Start of Grade 6 PAT Exams

June 23:
Start of Grade 9 PAT Exams;
Last day of School for
Grades K-6 (plus LTIS Grade 7)

June 29:
Last Day of School for
Grades 7-12 and all staff

Trustees:

Ward 1 (North West):
Nancy Sand
Ward 2 (North Central):
Anne Karczmarczyk
Dennis MacNeil (Chair)
Ward 3 (North East):
Candy Nikipelo (Vice Chair)
Ward 4 (South West):
Vacant
Ward 5 (South Central):
Elohne Chizawsky
Ward 6 (South East):
Donna Cherniwchan

Division Office:

3600 48 Ave.
Athabasca, AB T9S 1M8
Phone: 780-675-7080
www.aspenview.org
email: info@aspenview.org
Facebook: @aspenviewschools

Engage Learning. Ignite Potential. Inspire Success