



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, May 4, 2017
at Grassland School



Draft budget presented

The draft budget for the 2017-18 school year was presented to the Aspen View Public Schools Board of Trustees.

Aspen View’s current projected enrolment for 2017-18 is 2,745 students, which is 100 students fewer than Aspen View’s September 30, 2016 enrolment.

If the projected decline in enrolment holds true, provincial funding is expected to decline by approximately \$1.15 million. Meanwhile, salary grid movement and benefit increases are expected to increase 2017-18 expenses by approximately \$338,000.

The draft budget presented calls for reductions to overall expenses of approximately \$1.523 million, resulting in a virtually balanced budget (\$15,000 budgeted deficit) of approximately \$42.5 million.

Aspen View Public Schools’ administration and Board of Trustees are committed to ensuring that the majority of the reductions are to non-school expenses, thereby limiting the front-line impact of the budget decrease.

Trustees concurred with administration’s endeavours to present a balanced budget. The full budget presentation will go to the board for approval at their May 18 meeting.

Roofing contracts awarded

The Board of Trustees approved contracts totaling approximately \$267,000 to replace the roof on Landing Trail Intermediate School, as well as the gymnasium roof and a classroom section roof on Boyle School.

The contracts were awarded to the lowest of six tender submissions, Acron Roofing Systems Inc., who were also recommended by an outside consultant engaged by Aspen View.

The projects will be funded through Aspen View’s provincial Infrastructure Maintenance Renewal (IMR) grant, with work to take place this summer.

Trustees were also advised that emergent repair work has taken place to address significant roof leaks at H.A. Kostash School in Smoky Lake.

Finding efficiencies

In light of the ongoing funding challenges faced in rural Alberta, Aspen View Public Schools continues to look for efficiencies wherever possible.

Recently, Aspen View engaged an outside consultant, 8760 Expense Management, to review electricity distribution and transmission charges. As a result of that review, Aspen View received an \$80,000 rebate on past electricity charges, and expects to save between \$9,000-\$10,000 per year going forward.

Other highlights:

- As one of the first steps in preparation for the October 16, 2017 school board elections, trustees passed a bylaw confirming a \$100 deposit for nominations. Information from the Alberta School Boards Association, encouraging individuals to consider running for school board trustee positions, is available at all Aspen View school and division offices, as well as on all Aspen View schools’ websites.

- Deputy Superintendent Neil O’Shea will participate in a May 12 meeting to discuss the parameters of the Alberta Government’s expanded school nutrition program. Details on how the program will be implemented within Aspen View will follow. Aspen View is among 46 school divisions that will each receive \$141,000 in 2017-18 grant funding to implement the program.

Next Board Meeting:

Thursday, May 18, 2017
10 a.m. - Division Office

Upcoming Events:

May 12:
Staff Work Day
(No School for Students)

May 12:
2017 Aspen View Staff Awards
Boyle Community Centre

May 19-2
May Long Weekend
(No School Friday or Monday)

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

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