

Board Highlights

from the regular meeting held
Thursday, December 6, 2018
at H.A. Kostash School



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.”

#newHAK advocacy update

H.A. Kostash School Grade 6 students Talecia Shupenia and Cam Melnyk, along with teacher Ashley Romaniuk, gave a presentation to the Board of Trustees on their class trip to the Legislature on December 5, 2018. During their visit, they were introduced in the House by Athabasca-Sturgeon-Redwater MLA Colin Piquette, and were able to present additional letters, advocating for the replacement of H.A. Kostash School, directly to Minister of Education, Hon. David Eggen.

Superintendent Neil O’Shea advised that the H.A. Kostash School replacement project was also referenced during Question Period on November 29, 2018, and that tours of H.A. Kostash School had been arranged with Lac La Biche-St.Paul-Two Hills MLA David Hanson and senior officials from Alberta Education.

School calendars

Proposed school year calendars for 2019-20 and 2020-21 were presented to the Board of Trustees. The proposed 2019-20 calendar will be shared with school administrators and school council chairs over the next two weeks, and will come back to the Board of Trustees for final approval at their December 20, 2018 meeting. The proposed 2020-21 calendar will be considered in the New Year.

Municipal partnerships: Recruitment & retention

One of the Board of Trustees’ 2018-19 priorities is to engage with all municipalities across the division. To that end, the Board will be making presentations to all the municipal councils within Aspen View, starting in the New Year. Superintendent O’Shea shared with Board of Trustees that one focus of those presentations will be creating a dialogue around how Aspen



H.A. Kostash School Grade 6 students present letters advocating for an H.A. Kostash School replacement project to Hon. David Eggen, Minister of Education, and Athabasca-Sturgeon-Redwater MLA Colin Piquette on Dec. 5.

View can work with communities to improve the recruitment and retention of professionals in rural Alberta, particularly in key sectors such as education, health care, social services, etc.

MELT program

Secretary-Treasurer Amber Oko presented to the Board of Trustees on Alberta Transportation’s Mandatory Entry Level Training (MELT) Program, which comes into effect on March 1, 2019. Under the program, anyone wishing to obtain a Class 1 or Class 2 driver’s license (required to drive to a school bus) must complete more thorough training and testing; and school bus drivers must obtain their safety ‘S’ Endorsement before transporting students.

Oko said the full implications of the MELT program for Aspen View are still being assessed, as updated information is still being received.

Discussion around the board table was that while the intent of the new regulations – better trained drivers and a greater emphasis on student safety – are laudable, they may create challenges in areas such as driver recruitment, training time required, additional costs, etc.

Aspen View is prepared to address these challenges as implementation of MELT continues.

Next Board Meeting:

Thursday, December 20, 2018
10 a.m. - Division Office

Upcoming Events:

December 24, 2018 -
January 4, 2019
Christmas Break

January 7, 2019
Classes Resume

January 14-30, 2019
Diploma Exams

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):
April Bauer
Ward 5 (South Central):
Tom Mykytiuk
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