

Board Highlights

from the regular meeting held
Thursday, December 20, 2018
at Aspen View Public Schools Division Office



“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.”

2019-20 School Calendar approved

The Aspen View Public Schools Board of Trustees approved the [2019-20 School Calendar](#). The first day of the school year for students is August 28, 2019.

The Board of Trustees also referred amendments to *Policy 20 - School Year* to the Policy Committee for review. Under the amended policy, the Superintendent would be directed each year to provide the board with preliminary school year calendars for a two-year period (second year prepared in principle only), with the board to give final approval of the following year's calendar no later than their last board meeting in January.

Transportation review

The Board of Trustees reviewed a report from Kosabeck Consulting, which was contracted in April 2018 to review Aspen View's current transportation policies and processes, as well as perform audits on school-based buses and contractors. The report recommends amendments to *Policy 18 - Student Transportation Services*, as well as changes and additions to several administrative procedures. The policy and procedural changes were referred to the appropriate committees for review.

The Transportation Department will also provide a detailed recommendation to the board regarding the positioning of strobe lights on school buses, once the alternatives have been thoroughly investigated and consultation has taken place with the contractors.

Kosabeck Consulting thoroughly reviewed the use of hand-held radar guns in school buses, however, the devices were not recommended by the consultant.

Playground Pilot Project

Aspen View Public Schools has submitted Boyle School, Grassland School and Rochester School for potential inclusion in a playground pilot project announced by Alberta Education. Secretary-Treasurer Amber Oko noted that Athabasca-Sturgeon-Redwater MLA Colin Piquette has requested copies of Aspen View's submissions so that he can provide his support for these projects.

Smoky Lake partnership

The Board of Trustees voted to initiate discussions with the Town of Smoky Lake and Smoky Lake County regarding potential opportunities for shared spaces within a new school in Smoky Lake, once it is approved. Examples of shared spaces in other school projects have included libraries, child care spaces and recreation facilities.

Alberta Rural Education Symposium

Aspen View Public Schools will sponsor the attendance of one representative from each of its municipalities to attend the Alberta Rural Education Symposium, being held in Edmonton from March 3-5, 2019. Aspen View helped establish the Alberta Rural Education Symposium in 2013.

Trustee remuneration

The Board of Trustees voted to increase their daily per diem from \$197.18 to \$208.18, to offset the impact of recent changes to federal tax laws and Canada Pension Plan contributions on trustee remuneration.

Next Board Meeting:

Thursday, January 17, 2019
10 a.m. - Rochester School

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

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