

# Board Highlights

from the regular meeting held  
Thursday, February 21, 2019  
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.”*

## Numeracy presentation

Shona Hunter, one of Aspen View Public Schools’ numeracy leads, presented to the Board of Trustees on strategies being implemented to improve students’ understanding of numeracy and mathematics.

She explained that Aspen View is working to grow teacher pedagogy to support a concept-based model that deepens students’ understanding beyond facts and skills to include principles, generalizations and concepts. By enhancing numeracy in this manner, students are better able to make meaning of things they are learning not only in math, but in other subjects like language arts, science and social studies.

Aspen View has implemented screening, diagnostic and intervention tools to target students’ individual numeracy learning needs, including digital supports such as Reflex Math and IXL.

Teachers are also analyzing Provincial Achievement Test results to help improve teaching strategies and student achievement.

## EPC abatement and demolition

Trustees unanimously passed a motion to recommend Alberta Infrastructure award the tender for the abatement and demolition of the old Edwin Parr Composite School to Roadbridge Services Ltd., and also that an additional material recycling component be included in the contract.

## Land Based Learning

Edwin Parr Composite School principal Desmond Nolan and Grassland School principal Dianne Jewell presented to Board of Trustees on their recent field study in Hawaii as part of their Master of Educational Foundations program through the University of Saskatchewan.

Their field study in Hawaii was one of four included in the Indigenous Land Based

Education program, and they described to the board how the experience has impacted their own teaching pedagogy, and how it may influence the promotion of indigenous knowledge and the land-based learning programs within Aspen View.

## Global Partners Institute

The Board of Trustee met with Neil Hosler of Global Partners Institute (GPI), a non-profit organization that places international students in Canadian schools for cultural and English language immersion learning. Accompanying Mr. Hosler was Tomoya Narashima of Mita International School in Tokyo.

GPI previously and currently has placed students in schools within Aspen View, and it was noted that rural schools often provide a more effective immersion experience for international students.

GPI will be working with school administrators to explore opportunities to continue and expand this partnership.

## Other highlights

- Superintendent Neil O’Shea publicly thanked Aspen View’s bus drivers and contractors; Transportation Coordinator Rhonda Alix; and Communications Officer Ross Hunter for their hard work and dedication during the recent period of extremely cold weather.

- Secretary-Treasurer Oko shared that Alberta Education’s Feb. 15 announcement that excess credit enrolment unit (CEU) funding will not be recovered as originally planned, will result in \$395,000 of unanticipated revenue.

- Secretary-Treasurer Oko advised the board that the Request for Proposals for three surplus automotive lifts and two moveable buildings from the old EPC site generated revenue of \$19,301.

## Next Board Meeting:

Thursday, March 7, 2019  
10:00 a.m. - Vilna School

## Upcoming Events:

March 3-5, 2019  
2019 Alberta Rural Education  
Symposium  
Edmonton

March 8, 2019  
Staff Work Day  
(No school for students)

March 11, 2019  
Council of School Councils  
4:30 p.m., EPC

March 25-29, 2019  
Spring Break (No school)

## 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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