



Aspen View PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Board Highlights

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



From the regular meeting held Thursday, September 18, 2025 at Smith School

Curriculum & Student Achievement

Joe MacIsaac, Director of Curriculum & Student Achievement, provided an update to the Board of Trustees.

Director MacIsaac shared the importance of improved teaching practices to student success, and highlighted the renewed focus of principals on instructional leadership. He said data collection may need to be simplified in order to be sustainable, but must still be used well to inform decisions on teaching and assessment. Finally, he committed to working with schools to establish communication systems that keep parents and students informed about their learning progress, including increased marks and assessment reporting.

Former Rochester School property

Secretary-Treasurer Amber Oko shared that Alberta Infrastructure and Alberta Education have declined Aspen View Public Schools' offer to transfer the former Rochester School property to the Province of Alberta.

She explained that the next step, under Aspen View's Joint Use Planning Agreement with Athabasca County, is to offer to transfer the property back to the municipality. Athabasca County will have approximately six months to respond to the offer.

EPC solar panels

Following a review of information provided by solar energy consultants, the Board of Trustees determined that the rooftop solar array at Edwin Parr Composite School will not be reinstalled, and directed administration to proceed with disposition of the solar panels.

The estimated cost for rooftop reinstallation is \$250,000. Consultants concluded that if energy cost inflation is higher, the reinstallation cost could be recovered; however, there is no certainty of that. The initial cost of the solar array was not

included in the calculations and would not be fully recovered.

Further, roof consultants indicated that the weight of the rooftop installation could potentially compromise the roof membrane currently being replaced.

Secretary-Treasurer Oko indicated that the solar panels could be sold, including to local community groups if so interested.

Student voice

As part of the Board of Trustees' Student Voice initiative, Smith School Grade 9 students Elizabeth Attfeld and Bella Labelle spoke about how Smith School students benefit from small class sizes, outdoor learning opportunities and strong community connections. They encouraged Aspen View to better support students' transitions to high school through full-day visits, meeting teachers, and more information about graduation pathways, semestered courses and other considerations.

They also shared highlights of Smith School's trip to the Maritimes in May 2025.

Other highlights

- Eleven Grade 12 students earned \$500 Aspen View scholarships for achieving an average of over 90 per cent, and 25 others earned \$300 scholarships for achieving an average of over 80 per cent.

- Aspen View Public Schools will hold advance polls, where required, for any upcoming trustee elections. Advance polls will be administered by municipalities with which Aspen View has an Election Service Agreements, or, in Athabasca County, by Aspen View itself.

- Board of Trustees Chair Candy Nikipelo thanked Ward 1 (Northwest) Trustee Brenda Fulmore for her service. Trustee Fulmore announced that she will not be seeking a further term as trustee.

Next Board Meeting:

Organizational Meeting
Monday, October 27, 2025
10 a.m. - Athabasca University

Upcoming Events:

September 29, 2025
School-Based Professional Development Day
September 30, 2025
National Day for Truth & Reconciliation
October 5, 2025
World Teachers' Day
October 13, 2025
Thanksgiving

Trustees:

Ward 1 (North West):
Brenda Fulmore
Ward 2 (North Central):
Vacant
Dennis MacNeil
Ward 3 (North East):
Candy Nikipelo (Chair)
Ward 4 (South West):
April Bauer
Ward 5 (South Central):
Elohe Chizawsky
Ward 6 (South East):
Donna Cherniwchan
(Vice Chair)

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"Aspen View Public Schools acknowledges Treaty 6 territory: the ancestral and traditional territory of the Cree, Dene, Blackfoot, Saulteaux, Nakota Sioux, as well as the Métis. We acknowledge the many First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples whose footsteps have marked these lands for generations. We recognize the land as an act of reconciliation and gratitude to those on whose territory we reside or are visiting."

Engage Learning. Ignite Potential. Inspire Success