

## **Trustee School Council Report**

**October 2022**

**Submitted by Eric Cameron**

- Trustee Lorraine Stewart was sworn in as Chair of the Board for 2022-2023 at the September Board meeting along with Trustee Osborne as Vice Chair
- Superintendent Boyce and Chair Stewart attended the historic signing of a Memorandum of Understanding between Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation, Mikisew Cree First Nation and Chipewyan Metis, who will eventually form their own Community Education Authority. Parkland School Division will operate Athabasca Delta Community School in the interim (expected to be 3-5 years)
- Education Minister LaGrange has approved PSD's request for \$2,035,489 in reserve spending for the 2022-2023 school year and approval to transfer \$773,145 to Capital Reserve
- Chair Stewart, Vice Chair Osborne and Superintendent Boyce attended a meeting with Minister LaGrange and MLAs Turton and Smith with a focus on two priority areas: replacement school for Spruce Grove Composite High School and further government support to School Transportation Services
- Trustees received and discussed three admin reports: Facilities Summer Work Report, Where the World Opens Up Report and Human Resources Report
- Overall it was a smooth start to the 2022-2023 school year with students eager to start classes and once again enjoy many extra-curricular activities that may have been put on hold over the past two years
- With regards to transportation: we have about 7032 riders this year with 90% of rides under one hour (average ride time 44 minutes)
- Our Athabasca Delta Community School had a good start to the year with about 161 students
- The Board receives a letter from the Alberta School Councils' Association requesting that we make all School Councils aware of the various professional development programs they have to offer (for fee) and maybe have some School Councils consider pooling their \$500 they receive from the provincial government (to enhance their programming and professional development) to pay for ASCA professional development programs.

- On Oct. 3 PSD hosted a luncheon at Memorial Composite High School for the Japanese Shikaoi delegation to welcome the 42 students, teachers, principal and Shikaoi municipal leaders here for their stay in the region as part of the student exchange program.
- On Oct.5 PSD hosted at Spruce Grove Composite High School a German delegation as part of the German student exchange program. They wanted to see our CTS and Vocational programs which they were highly impressed with. Also attending were our Minister of Education, Minister LaGrange and MLA Searle Turton.
- From the October 11 School Board meeting:
  1. The Board was happy to have a delegation of students and parents to explain the My PATH and Outdoor Pursuits programs with students from Connections for Learning (principal Travis McNaughton and program navigator Natasha Rychlik). The My PATH program is designed to promote acceptance of oneself and others, to build a better sense of community, foster healthy relationships with peers and adults, to encourage healthy behaviors and to develop essential skills. Opportunities are provided within the community to learn and serve in the areas of physical education, art, technology and health. Students and parents gave their impressions of the program and how it has affected them as part of their educational program.
  2. All schools celebrated Orange Shirt Day on September 29 to recognize the impact and legacy of residential schools. Each school held their own program and at the Center for Education Trustees and Senior Administration were fortunate to take part in a Pipe Ceremony.
  3. PSD has submitted a request from government for 31 new modular classrooms for: Meridian Heights (6), Copperhaven (4), Blueberry (9), Muir Lake (6), Ecole Broxton Park (6).
  4. The Board established a school naming committee with regard to the Stony Plain Central replacement school (Trustees: McCann, Hennig, Cameron) which will encompass strong community input.

5. The Enrolment Report was presented which showed that we are still growing (up 471 if including Athabasca Delta Community School and up 315 if not including that school). Growth was very close to our budget projections.
6. The Athabasca Delta Community School Report was given. We were invited by the Athabasca Chipewyan First Nation, Fort Chipewyan Metis Association and the Mikisew Cree Nation to help them lead to establishing their own educational authority (plan for a 3-5 year commitment) which means that the Athabasca Delta Community School and the 14 teacherages have become part of PSD (14 staff, 1 community instructor, 2 mental health supports, 5 educational assistants). There is a separate funding envelop for this project that does not impact the regular PSD budget.