

## March 7, 2023 Board Report

On February 28 the Provincial Budget was announced, which included several changes for Education. The funding manual has been recently provided and is being reviewed by Senior Administration to figure out what this means for Parkland School Division. You may have heard that there are big changes coming for Transportation. This includes a change to the eligibility requirement for ridership. Currently, a student needs to live 2.4 KM or more from their designated school to be eligible for Transportation Funding. The province announced that the new requirements for eligibility will be 1 KM for grades 1-6 and 2 KM for grades 7-12. These changes will not take effect until the 2024/2025 school year. Bus and Bus Driver shortages are still a concern and advocacy efforts around improving transportation are on-going.

Other budget changes including increases to per student funding, increased funding for classroom complexities and an increase to the Nutrition Grant were also announced. These are all issues that we have been advocating to Alberta Ed to expand funding to. Grant funding makes it difficult to spend money where we need to based on local context. The Reserve Cap and clawback come with another set of challenges to long range planning and leave us in a vulnerable position when unexpected costs arise.

Spruce Grove Composite High School was announced for Design Funding following the release of the budget. Senior Administration will be working hard to complete this stage so that we will be eligible for Construction Funding as soon as possible. Watch for stakeholder engages regarding our new High School.

The Edwin Parr Committee selected Jenna Stumbur to represent PSD as our nominee for the outstanding new teacher award sponsored by Alberta School Boards Association. Jenna teaches Grades 7 and 9 at Duffield School and has been recognized as being an exceptional teacher in her first year in the trade.

The 2023-2024 Fees and Allowances Schedule was approved. There are very few changes from last year. One to note is that Rural Ineligible bus riders fees have increased by \$55 to bring them in line with Urban Ineligible fees. Any additional funding that goes towards fees as promised in the budget release will be for the 2024-2025 school year. Please see attached report for more information. <https://www.psd.ca/download/410967>

The Board of Trustees approved Westview School as the new name for the Stony Plain Central Replacement School. Stakeholder feedback was sought out and considered as part of the process.

The Three Year Capital Plan was approved by the Board. The replacement for Spruce Grove Composite High School will remain at the top of the list until we are approved for Construction Funding. The second request in the first year remains a new K-9 school for the Tonewood area, as construction in the area suggests that we will see 1000 more students once Easton, Fenwick and Tonewood are built out. Please see the attached report for more information. <https://www.psd.ca/download/410963>

PSD will be relocating its Spruce Grove and Stony Plain Outreach programs. 5 existing modular units are being moved from locations that are under utilized to provide the space. They will be located at Broxton Park School, west entrance, but will be self contained. This will give PSD the ability to terminate our lease agreements for the current spaces and improve Infrastructure Maintenance Renewal funding at the schools where the capacity will increase. This represents both fiscal responsibility and improvement to service delivery. Please see attached report for more information. <https://www.psd.ca/download/410965>

Other reports received for information included the 2022-2023 Infrastructure Maintenance Renewal (IMR) Capital Maintenance Renewal (CMR) Expenditure Plan and the Numeracy Report. Please see attached report for more information. <https://www.psd.ca/download/410969> <https://www.psd.ca/download/410966>