

## **Board Meeting Highlights** Tuesday, March 30, 2021

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Board of Trustees Kim Pasula - Chair Dorraine Lonsdale - Vice Chair Anne Marie Watson Cynthia Leyson Sharla Heistad Murray Hollman Rob Maloughney

#### St. Patrick's Community School Returns to Year-Round Schooling

The Board of Trustees approved the St. Patrick's Community School 2021-2022 calendar to return to year round schooling as of August 5, 2021 for staff and August 9, 2021 for students. To see the St. Patrick's Community School year-round calendar, please click <u>here</u>.

#### 2022-2023 School Calendars

The Board of Trustees approved the 2022-2023 School Calendars as presented by the Superintendent. The 2022-2023 school calendars can be viewed <u>here</u>.

#### Approval of the Three-Year Capital Plan

The Board of Trustees approved the Three-Year Capital Plan presented by the Secretary Treasurer. To view the Three-Year Capital Plan, please click <u>here</u> and see the attached news release.

#### **Stakeholder Engagement Process - Reimagining RDCRS**

The Board of Trustees reviewed the new Bang the Table stakeholder engagement tool that is set to launch in mid April. The Division is currently developing a reimagined vision and set of practices that will provide a clear message of what RDCRS schools are and will continue to be about. Additional information about this stakeholder engagement tool can be viewed <u>here</u>.

#### **Review of Policy 26 - Gifts and Sponsorship Acceptance**

The Board of Trustees reviewed Policy 26 - Gifts and Sponsorship Acceptance. For more information about this policy, please click <u>here</u>.

#### Information Items:

### Board Chair Report on COVID-19 Advocacy

The Board of Trustees is currently advocating for school staff vaccinations and use of rapid testing. To keep our schools open and mitigate the academic and psychological risks of continual quarantining pressures on staff, students and families, Chair Pasula expressed our hope that, especially with new vaccines coming on line, school staff vaccinations will be moved forward as a priority in the rollout. The Chair also shared that our Division is open and eager to assist the government with this work. The Board of Trustees are open to providing facilities and resources to support the

implementation of this school vaccination program as needed.

RDCRS is also a member of the Alberta Catholic Schools Trustees' Association. The Board of Trustees was pleased to see that the Association has as well advocated for vaccinations of front-line staff in schools in Alberta, the North West Territories and the Yukon.

For more information about the Board of Trustees COVID-19 advocacy efforts, please click here.

#### **Superintendent Report**

The Board of Trustees reviewed the report presented by the Superintendent. The Superintendent provided an update about the year-end structure for middle and high schools. Formative and summative student assessments will continue moving forward with no final exams.

June 28 to 30 for the high schools will be organizational days and professional learning days for staff to prepare for accurate assessment reporting, credit recovery for students requiring extra assistance and professional learning for next year's improvement priorities. Graduation ceremonies will possibly take place over the course of three school days, between June 25 and June 29 following Alberta Health Services guidelines.

The Superintendent also highlighted the huge success of the Division's Faith Day that took place on March 5 and included live streams, keynote addresses and virtual breakout sessions. Overall, the response by Division staff was very positive to the event as indicated in the evaluation. A total of 95 per cent of staff who responded, indicated that the day was "effective in helping them to reflect and grow in their faith."

For more information about the Superintendent report, please click here.

#### St. Lorenzo Ruiz Middle School Design Team Update

The Secretary-Treasurer provided an update to the Board of Directors that full funding from Alberta Education and Alberta Infrastructure has been received for the St. Lorenzo Ruiz Middle School. The budget for this project is approximately \$25 million and is set to break ground in the fall of 2021. For more information about this project, please click <u>here</u>.

#### Mental Health and Wellness - On the Frontlines Presentation

The Board of Trustees received a presentation about "Mental Health and Wellness - On the Frontlines" where they received a first-hand account of mental health issues, priorities and innovative ways our Division counsellors and principals are addressing mental health-related matters within our school communities.

The Board of Trustees found the presentation very informative and insightful. Michelle Wright, Division Principal, introduced the following presenters, Jennifer Hare, Family School Enhancement Counsellor at St. Marguerite Bourgeoys Catholic School, Cari Fleming, School Counsellor at St. Teresa of Avila School and Graeme Daniel, Principal at St. Joseph High School.

The next board meeting is April 27, 2021 at 5:30 p.m.

Kim Pasula, Board Chair

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