

Sept. 26, 2019

Your Future in **MIND**

Board Members

Trina Boymook, Chair
Heather Wall, Vice-Chair
Randy Footz
William (Skip) Gordon
Colleen Holowaychuk
Annette Hubick
Don Irwin
Jim Seutter
Harvey Stadnick

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Chair's Report

Recent Events

Board Chair Trina Boymook highlighted recent events:

- On September 11, Chair Boymook attended Westboro Elementary's Welcome Back Barbecue, which was fabulous. She thanked the school for the invitation.
- On September 17-18, trustees attended a Board Retreat to discuss goals and plans for the 2019-20 school year, and beyond. The Board's priorities for the 2019-20 school year include advocacy and engagement, education funding and addressing urban enrolment pressures.

Meeting with Education Minister

On September 9, Chair Boymook hosted Education Minister Adriana LaGrange, Service Alberta Minister Nate Glubish and Jordon Walker, a member of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta for Sherwood Park, on a tour of Sherwood Heights Junior High. The tour focused on the Division's request for a Sherwood Heights Junior High replacement school. Following the tour, the Board of Trustees met separately with LaGrange to discuss current education needs in both urban and rural areas, the *Education Act*, the provincial budget and the Nutrition Program.

ASBA Meeting of Board Chairs

On September 12, Chair Boymook attended the Alberta School Board Association's (ASBA) meeting of Board Chairs. Discussion topics included the McKinnon Report, the *Education Act* and budget uncertainties. The group expressed concerns about removing the word "public" from eight school division names and the McKinnon Report's suggestion funding be tied to academic achievement—a model used in the United States, which ranks low in terms of overall educational achievement in comparison to Canada.

Association/Local Reports

ATA Local Report

The Board received for information the Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA) Local No. 28 report from President Deneen Zielke:

- The Local met with Jordan Walker, a member of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta for Sherwood Park, to discuss various education-related concerns. The Local is lobbying the government for sustainable

and predictable funding to support large complex classrooms.

- The ATA has launched a letter-writing campaign to address funding concerns. The Local will elicit teacher support at the October staff meetings. It also encourages teachers to make appointments with their member of the Legislative Assembly of Alberta to discuss concerns in detail.
- On September 26, Zielke is attending the ATA's 2019 Beginning Teachers Conference. The conference is a valuable professional learning activity that offers new teachers insider tips and insight on how to avoid pitfalls.
- On October 4-6, the Local executive is attending a strategic-planning meeting.
- On October 18, the ATA is hosting its annual Induction Ceremony at the University of Alberta Faculty Club. Zielke is looking forward to inducting the new members and welcoming Chair Boymook and Superintendent Mark Liguori.

New Business

Read In Week

Tamara Martin-Spady, an Elementary Literacy Consultant at EIPS, shared with the Board, plans for this year's Read In Week, taking place October 7-11. Read In Week is a Divisionwide initiative held annually to encourage a lifelong love of reading and to enhance literacy awareness among students, staff, families and community members. This year's theme is "30 Years of Read In: Celebrate with Stories." Through various activities, students will spend the week learning how stories have the power to teach lessons, broaden perspectives and foster empathy. Some of the activities planned for Read In Week 2019 include book giveaways, guest-reader sessions and buddy reading. Martin-Spady asked the Board and EIPS administration to participate in Read In Week 2019 by reading to a child, grandchild, student or someone in the community. Chair Boymook read and signed a resolution committing EIPS' support for Read In Week 2019. She also encourages all schools to participate.

Trustee Remuneration: 2019-20

The Board approved the trustee remuneration for the 2019-20 school year. Rates remain unchanged from the previous year.

Board Committee Representative List: 2019-20

The Board approved the 2019-20 Board Committee Representative List. The Board assigns trustees to committees for liaison purposes. Trustee interests are taken into consideration for the committee placements (see page 17, "[Board Committee Representatives List: 2019-20](#)").

Teachers' Collective Agreement Negotiations Committee

The Board appointed the following Board members to the Teachers' Collective Agreement Committee:

- Trina Boymook, Chair
- Heather Wall, Vice-Chair

Acting Chair Schedule: 2019-20

The Board approved the Acting Chair Schedule for 2019-20. The schedule assigns a trustee to serve in the absence of the Chair and Vice-Chair (see page 29, "[Acting Chair Schedule 2019-20](#)").

Board Evaluation

The Board approved the Board Self-Evaluation Report, which was developed at a facilitated workshop on Aug. 29, 2019. The Board also authorized the Board Chair to monitor the agreed priorities and suggestions and to bring items forward for the Board's consideration as deemed appropriate.

Policy 7: Amendment

The Board approved an amendment to [Board Policy 7: Board Operations](#), which clarifies how many times a trustee can speak to a given motion.

2019-20 Board Meeting Schedule Amendment

The Board approved the amended [Board of Trustees Meeting Schedule](#) for the 2019-20 school year.

Committee Reports

Student Expulsion Committee

The Board received for information the report from the Student Expulsion Committee on September 20.

Trustee Reports Roundtable

Trustees shared information and highlighted recent events:

- *Vice-Chair Heather Wall* attended various school council meetings and is pleased to see new families at the table, engaging in what's taking place at their schools.
- *Trustee Skip Gordon* attended various school council meetings—at each, attendees expressed concerns about Alberta Education's recent directive to remove "public" from the legal name of public school boards.
- *Trustee Annette Hubick* attended school council meetings at Mills Haven Elementary, Davidson Creek Elementary, Clover Bar Junior High and Salisbury Composite High. At these meetings, many parents and staff commented favourably about the new [Board Policy 24: Personal Communication Devices](#) and its recent rollout. Families also had questions and expressed concerns about Alberta Education's recent directive to remove "public" from the legal name of public school boards.
- *Trustee Don Irwin* attended Westboro Elementary's Welcome Back Barbecue and school council meetings at F.R. Haythorne Junior High, Glen Allan Elementary, Westboro Elementary and Woodbridge Farms Elementary.
- *Trustee Harvey Stadnick* commended the work crews fixing the water damage sustained at Fort Saskatchewan High. Staff members at the school are impressed the repairs are going so well and so quickly.