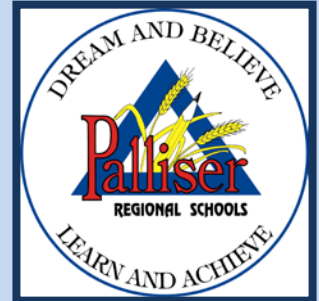


# From the Chair ...

## **Highlights of the Board of Trustees Meeting held Tuesday, Sept. 15, 2009**



- Three Palliser Schools have been invited to the Garfield Weston Awards in Calgary this fall, in recognition of their academic achievement: Coalhurst Elementary School is one of just five schools in Alberta which has qualified in two categories; and Picture Butte High School and Master's College have qualified in one category each. Coalhurst Elementary is recognized in the category of Determination in Academic Achievement and in the category of Improvement in Academics. Picture Butte High School has also qualified in the category of Determination in Academic Achievement. Master's College has qualified in the category of Improvement in Academics. The awards ceremony celebrating academic achievement in Alberta schools will be held Nov. 5 in Calgary. The board congratulated all three schools for their efforts on behalf of students.
- The board has agreed to form a transportation review committee made up of representatives of the board and principals to discuss the recently completed Student Transportation Review and address issues including an inclement weather policy. The first meeting of this new committee will occur in October. The full review can be read online at [www.pallisersd.ab.ca](http://www.pallisersd.ab.ca).
- The board passed a motion to rescind approval of the 2009-10 budget which was discussed at the Aug. 26 special board meeting. The budget was passed at that time knowing the situation in Alberta is changing quickly and the budget deadlines might be extended. The Minister of Education has delayed the passing of the new budget to Nov. 30, 2009, prompting a rescinding of the Motion 092/09 from Aug. 26.
- The board heard a report from Associate Superintendent (Learning Services) Barbara Gammon about Palliser's pandemic plan. The plan and links to other resources are posted on the Palliser website at [www.pallisersd.ab.ca](http://www.pallisersd.ab.ca). Hand sanitizing equipment has been ordered for schools and should be installed in the next few weeks. Posters have been distributed on proper hand hygiene and information is being shared with parents about the pandemic plan and the role we all share in preventing the spread of the influenza virus and other infectious diseases. Key steps to prevent the spread of flu and other illnesses include washing our hands in soap and water frequently throughout the day; coughing into our sleeves rather than our hands; and staying home from school or work when we are sick.
- Please note, the board agreed by two separate motions to reschedule its organizational meeting and next regular board meeting to Oct. 27 from Oct. 20. The annual organizational meeting will be at 9 a.m. with the regular board meeting beginning at 10 a.m. at Palliser Centre.

A handwritten signature in dark ink, appearing to read "D. Zech".

Don Zech, Board Chair  
Palliser Regional Schools