



Palliser Regional Schools

Palliser Centre

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Highlights of Board of Trustees Meeting Tuesday, June 19, 2018

Perfect report card for Transportation

The Palliser Regional Schools Board of Trustees congratulated Supervisor David Shaw and the entire Transportation Services department for their work in achieving Palliser's perfect carrier profile. The mechanics, school bus drivers and staff – including administrative assistant Sherrie Shears – were recognized for their part in Palliser not earning a single point against its record through traffic tickets, collisions, failed vehicle inspections and the like.

Shaw said this is a first in his six years with the department and adds to Palliser's credibility when other users of the road are asked to do their part to ensure the safe transport of students.

Chief Deputy Superintendent role

Mike Nightingale was named Chief Deputy Superintendent effective July 1, 2018 for a one-year term. He will be the go-to person in the absence of the Superintendent. This role is reviewed yearly and is an annual appointment. The position will not result in a contractual increase for Nightingale, who is Senior Director of Human Resources Services (Acting).

Policy on alcohol and drugs to be updated

The Palliser Board of Trustees hope to review a draft of a new policy on alcohol, tobacco and drugs at its August meeting and implement it in time for the new school year.

Superintendent Dave Driscoll told the Board the advent of medical marijuana and pending legalization of recreational marijuana this fall will mean changes will have to be addressed. A policy will be drafted after consultation with the Alberta School Boards Association and legal counsel, he said.

Support for hurricane-ravaged Dominica urged

The Board was asked to resume partnership in a project which sees Alberta teachers accompany used technology to Dominica in support of school staff and students there.

Teachers, including members of Alberta Teachers' Association Local 19, have travelled to the island republic in the West Indies for the past 17 years to help staff there set up and get trained in the use of donated educational resources. The Palliser Board and senior administration were instrumental in the formation of the IT for Dominica Project, but Maurice Hollingsworth said that relationship has waned over the last several years.

The project co-ordinator pointed out the Commonwealth of Dominica is especially in need of resources this year after Hurricane Maria devastated the entire island last September.

Hollingsworth, a former Palliser employee, said they are looking for a "quality, used equipment" with a long enough shelf-life to make it worth the expense of shipping it there. He pointed out Palliser could help in ways other than monetary or equipment donations, including providing storage for those components until they can be sent shipped out.

Palliser Chair Robert Strauss said the Board will discuss the request further before any decisions are made.

*Together we will ensure learning success for all students
to develop their unique potential as caring citizens in a changing world.*