



Palliser Regional Schools

Palliser Centre

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Highlights of Board of Trustees Meeting Tuesday, Sept 18, 2018

Organizational Meeting

Robert Strauss was returned as Chair of the Palliser Board of Trustees in the organizational meeting. Debbie Latusus will once again serve as Vice-Chair, while Lorelei Bexte will serve as Deputy Vice-Chair. All were acclaimed to those positions.

The trustees also agreed upon a schedule of regular meeting dates for the remainder of the year. While a review was provided of remuneration for Boards across the region, trustees did not seek any changes in the area of remuneration, benefits or expenses.

Palliser Education Centre Facilities Concerning

Secretary-Treasurer Dexter Durfey outlined some of the pressing mechanical upgrades at the Lethbridge business office that will require the Board's attention soon.

A review of the facility has indicated some faltering systems including plumbing, heating and cooling, with no significant upgrades for years. A fire-sprinkler system malfunction this summer resulted in extensive water damage to Central Office and required all sprinkler heads to be replaced.

Mechanical engineers and Palliser facilities staff will be consulted further to determine the scope of the problem and the Board will be presented with a plan to ensure the building's condition meets the needs of Palliser staff and other tenants.

Enrollment Figures Positive to Date

Early enrollment figures look "solid" with no reason for alarm, Secretary-Treasurer Dexter Durfey told the Board.

Palliser's per pupil funding will be determined by student enrollment as of Sept. 30. Administration has been receiving updates each week, however, so it can deal more quickly with any numbers far off those projected by principals at each school at the end of last year.

Superintendent Dave Driscoll pointed out those enrollment numbers can change significantly between first and final count at some schools, especially those with Low German-speaking Mennonite students who may have harvest commitments.

Meeting with Coaldale Town Council

Plans for a follow-up meeting between Palliser Board of Trustees and senior leadership team with their counterparts with Coaldale Town Council have been finalized.

The parties will meet on Oct. 16 where talk will continue about partnership possibilities including Coaldale's offer of property for a new Palliser school/community building and a possible expansion of course offerings for students.

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

Board Chair Robert Strauss called progress to date “very positive” and hopes Palliser can replicate that in other communities it serves in the future.

Sale of Palliser Property

Secretary-Treasurer Dexter Durfey provided trustees with an update on the proposed sale of property adjacent to the Palliser Education Centre in Lethbridge.

Palliser’s application for subdivision of the property was recently approved and a change of title is required before the parcel of about four acres of frontage can be sold. The proceeds will go towards upgrades for the existing parking area and can also offset other improvements made at Palliser Education Centre.