



# Palliser Regional Schools

## Palliser Centre

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## Highlights of Board of Trustees Meeting Tuesday, May 19, 2020

### Tribute to the late Don Boras

Board Chair Robert Strauss asked trustees to open the meeting by observing a moment of silence in honour of Don Boras, who recently passed away after a lengthy battle with cancer. Boras was elected in 2017 as Trustee of Ward 1, Subdivision 4, representing Picture Butte and surrounding area. Strauss also shared some memories of Boras with fellow Board members.

### Summer use of Palliser facilities

The Board of Trustees is looking to limit community use of school facilities this summer in order to ensure the safety of staff. Palliser had earlier determined that facilities would not be available for after-hours use for the remainder of the school year to protect staff and not cause further burden on caretakers as far as additional cleaning duties during the COVID-19 pandemic.

Superintendent Dave Driscoll said Palliser has seen an increase in requests to use school buildings over the summer months for social events, day camps, etc. Palliser will consider community use requests on an individual basis as long as they conform with Alberta Health Services safety guidelines and expectations.

### Financial Update

Secretary-Treasurer Dexter Durfey informed the Board that as of the end of April Palliser was facing an estimated deficit of about \$543,000. The Board can withdraw up to \$450,000 out of Infrastructure Maintenance and Renewal funds to address rising insurance costs of more than \$800,000.

He also told trustees that the school division is still awaiting word on which of the projects it submitted will be approved for Capital Maintenance and Renewal funding the province is providing to keep Albertans employed during these challenging times. Eligible projects had to be shovel-ready, with the work to be done through outside contractors.

### Board Evaluation

Deputy Superintendent Mike Nightingale outlined a process for Board self-evaluation which: allows trustees to reflect on their performance; focus on the most important actions they can take to positively impact performance; and help them take action to enhance Board operations.

Aiding in their self-evaluation will be evidence generated through regular Board operations and a trustee survey. A final report, which will outline areas of success and growth and include recommendations for future action, will be created and presented to the Board.

*The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, June 16, 2020.*

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