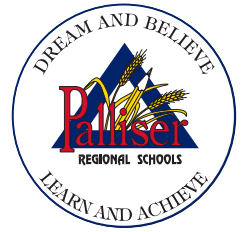


# Highlights of the Board of Trustees Meeting

August 29, 2017



## Trustees hold their first regular meeting of the new school year

As staff returned to their schools, the Palliser Board of Trustees kicked off the new school year with their regular monthly meeting on Aug. 29.

In addition to adopting the official minutes of the last regular meeting held June 20, the board adopted minutes from three special meeting held over the summer on July 6, July 27 and Aug. 15.

### July 6, 2017 Special Meeting

The July 6 meeting included the rescinding of 13 of the board's policies, as the trustees continue the process of updating its policy manual. The policy manual online will be updated in full once all the changes on policy are determined.

The board passed a motion to approach Dr. Terry Weninger about conducting a review of Palliser's organizational administrative structure.

### July 27, 2017 Special Meeting Highlights

The board reviewed a proposal from Dr. Terry Weninger to conduct a structural review of Palliser Central Office. He proposed conducting interviews with senior administration, staff, principals and others, reviewing previous reviews of Palliser, and visiting other jurisdictions.

The board accepted the proposal with additional reference to safe and caring working conditions and a call for the review to acknowledge what is working well in Palliser.

The review is to cost no more than \$24,000 plus GST and expenses and is expected to be completed by Sept. 5.

### Aug. 15, 2017 Special Meeting Highlights

This meeting was attended by Brent Shervey, representing Boyden, the recruitment firm facilitating the search for a new superintendent. The board voted to offer "Candidate A" a contract to serve as Palliser's new superintendent, subject to approval from Alberta Education.

BACK TO SCHOOL



## New Acting Superintendent named; thank you to Dr. Garry Andrews

The board continued its work to secure a new superintendent to lead Palliser Regional Schools, voting to approve a contract for "Candidate A," and then submit the required documents to Alberta Education for consideration. With a new superintendent soon to take over, the board also set an evaluation schedule for the individual, with the evaluation process to begin in October annually.

With the new superintendent, pending ministerial approval, set to start work on Oct. 1, the board appointed Brian Andjelic to serve as Acting Superintendent effective Sept. 1 to Sept. 30, subject to ministerial approval.

Andjelic recently retired as superintendent of Prairie Rose School Division, serving a rural area around Medicine Hat.

The board thanked Dr. Garry Andrews, who has served as Palliser's acting superintendent for about the last year.

"On behalf of the board, I would like to express an infinite amount of appreciation to Garry for his patience, his demeanour and competence, and his perseverance," said Chair Robert Strauss. "It speaks loudly to his strength of character."

The board also voted to offer Palliser Secretary-Treasurer Wayne Braun a term contract until an agreeable end date, effective Sept. 1. Braun had intended to retire at the end of August.



**Brian Andjelic**

## New master agreement ratified with Master's Academy Educational Society

The board ratified a new agreement with Master's Academy Educational Society, Palliser's partner in Master's Academy and College alternative programs.

## New board policies adopted

The board continued its work to update its policy manual, passing:

- Policy 1, Role of the Board
- Policy 4, Trustee Protocol
- Policy 7, Monitoring Board of Trustees

Performance

- Policy 9, Board Operations
- Policy 10, Committees of the Board
- Policy 24, Policy Making
- Policy 19, Student Transportation
- Policy 23, School Closures

The board deferred to the Sept. 15 meeting several policies on trustee accountability, purchase of alcohol, vehicle use and off-duty conduct.

The online policy manual will be updated once all changes have been finalized.

Drafts can be viewed on the [Policy Review](#) page of Palliser's website.

## Response to org review continues

Dr. Garry Andrews provided the board his final update on progress made to address recommendations in the organizational review of Palliser.

One of those recommendations was the appointment of an ombudsperson. The board deferred action to the Sept. 15 meeting.



A significant milestone includes the conclusion of the board policy review with policies that address several recommendation and the recruitment of a new superintendent.

## Board acknowledges First Nations, Metis with statement to open meetings

The board adopted a statement to acknowledge First Nations and Metis people. The statement, adapted from similar statements used elsewhere, states:

Palliser Regional Schools would like to acknowledge the traditional territories and oral practices of Blackfoot Nations, which includes the Siksika, the Piikani, and the Kainai. We also acknowledge the Tsuut'ina and Stoney Nakoda First Nations, the Metis Nation, and all people who make their homes in the regions we serve.

The statement will be verbalized at the opening of meetings and gatherings.

## Palliser to update school fees procedure to align with new legislation

The board directed administration to revisit Administrative Procedure 502, School Fees, to address new provincial requirements. The new administrative procedure will reflect the requirement to consult with parents about fees, outline the process a parent should follow to request a refund and ensure that process is shared with school staff and parents at each school. It's expected the new draft procedure will be presented at the Sept. 15 board meeting.

## Alberta Ed to consult board, admin and parents on School Act

Chair Robert Strauss and Trustee Craig Whitehead will represent the board on a committee providing input into the new School Act. That committee is to include a representative of Palliser administration and school council. The consultation held by Alberta Education is scheduled for Sept. 19-20 in Lethbridge. Similar consultations are scheduled in other Alberta cities.

**Next regular meeting: Friday, Sept. 15, 2017**