



Palliser Regional Schools

Palliser Centre

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Highlights of Board of Trustees Meeting Tuesday, Feb. 25, 2020

Support for Superintendent

The Board of Trustees approved a motion to accept and adopt the evaluation report of Superintendent Dave Driscoll and submit documentation to the Minister of Education requesting his reappointment for a period of five years. Mr. Driscoll has been in that position with Palliser since the fall of 2017.

Trustees are also working on a self-evaluation of the Board.

Financial Update

Dexter Durfey, Secretary-Treasurer, said it is projected Palliser Regional Schools will have a deficit of about \$1.39 million for Aug. 31, 2020.

The trustees heard at previous meetings that rising insurance costs would account for about \$817,000 of that projected deficit. Durfey reported that Alberta Education has since given permission to use funds originally earmarked for Infrastructure, Maintenance and Renewal projects to cover shortfalls incurred by the increase in insurance costs.

Technology Services Report

Tom Hamer, Associate Superintendent, told trustees Palliser's Technology Services department continues in its focus to improve the student-to-device ratio and the modernization of classroom displays within schools.

An additional 1,000 thousand Chromebook devices for students have been added this school year, and 100 classroom displays replaced with interactive displays. The department has continued to work with all its stakeholders, with staff providing greater input with the reinstatement of the Technology Advisory Committee, and more than 3,100 parents currently accessing their children's information through parent portals.

Palliser is also moving towards digitization of student records, and is providing technology-focused learning opportunities for students like the Southwest Alberta Hackathon at Picture Butte High School Feb. 25, and the Zone 6 Student Film Festival June 12 at Coalhurst Elementary School.

The next regular Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, March 17, 2020.