BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

REGULAR BOARD MEETING: AUGUST 24, 2021













Opening Day

The Board discussed Opening Day celebrations which will be held virtually on August 30, 2021. Administrators and staff are being encouraged to gather at their respective schools to partake in the day's activities which will include keynote speaker, Anthony McLean and six breakout sessions. Topics covered include: numeracy, literacy, wellness, anti-racism, assessments and indigenous foundational learning. An agenda and brochure will be forthcoming in the coming days.

COVID Update and Return to School Plan

Palliser School Division has circulated our re-entry plans to school administration. Our re-entry plans give individual schools latitude within certain parameters to decide what they will require of students this year. Of primary concern is masking. Masking will not be necessary in areas where schools have reduced crowding. Schools are being recommended to create cohorts of students during indoor student learning and indoor extracurricular activities, where possible, particularly for students who are unable to be vaccinated (kindergarten to Grade 6). The division will release our re-entry plans by email as well as update the website and social media channels following this meeting. Individual schools will be facilitating individual re-entry plans to parents and students later this week.

Field Trips

The Board discussed a previous motion which was made at the outset of COVID-19 indicating that all international travel and field trips be postponed. Since then, some schools within the district have indicated that they would like their students to partake in international travel and field trips. It was also noted to the Board that the government of Canada has indicated that field trips are now permissible within individual Cities and Canada. Due to these changes, the previous motion was amended, and consistent with the Government of Canada, field trips within the city and Canada will be permitted; however all international trips sponsored or undertaken by any school entity under the Palliser School Division and for students and staff will be cancelled or postponed until further notice.

Coaldale Project

The Board discussed the new school project in Coaldale. The project is currently underway, and a temporary road will be added to the site later next week so that it can be staged and equipment can be delivered. The Palliser School Division has

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tendered piles as well as some of the foundation work. In October 2021, the steel will be tendered, as it is very difficult to order and obtain. At the end of October 2021, the rest of the sub-trades will be tendered. The Board and Division would like to thank Grant Hunter, MLA and Adriana LaGrange, Minister of Education for being instrumental in moving this project forward.

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