BOARD MEETING HIGHLIGHTS

REGULAR BOARD MEETING: NOVEMBER 9, 2021



Capital Plan

Now that plans for the new Coaldale High School are underway, Dexter Durfey, Secretary-Treasurer indicated that Palliser School Division will be moving forward on the next project on their Capital Plan which is Coalhurst Central High School. This plan is fairly high level and the Palliser Administration will be working with the architects to make a business case to move forward. Some considerations are that given Coalhurst's proximity to west Lethbridge several Coalhurst high school students leave to attend Chinook High School because of a newer facility that provides more learning options to students. Palliser Regional Schools would like to modernize or replace the Coalhurst High School to keep students within their community. Further, to help mitigate the overcrowding concerns of the Coalhurst Elementary School, Palliser Regional Schools proposes to reconfigure grades from 7-12 to 6-12. This will increase the immediate utilization by increasing it from 58% to 71%.

COVID-19 Update

The Palliser School Division continues to monitor the COVID-19 situation across our schools. As of November 5, we have 124 reported cases of COVID-19 amongst students and staff. Alberta Health is currently providing rapid tests for students in K-6 who are in outbreak status. Palliser has also applied for rapid testing at one school that was in Outbreak status which has since been removed. The rapid tests can be administered by students and staff at home and participation in the program is optional. Alberta Education has confirmed that Palliser will receive funding, as part of the learning disruption grant, to support students in Grade 2 and 3 for this school year in need of numeracy and literacy support. Palliser is planning with the school administrators that participated in the program, how to utilize funds to support students and provide between 12 and 16 weeks of targeted programming.

Coaldale School Virtual Walk-Through

Ferrari Westwood Architects provided trustees with a presentation of the new Coaldale School. The goal of the exercise was to showcase the features of the school and ensure Trustees felt it would meet the needs of Palliser students and the community for years to come. Dan Westwood walked Trustees through the design of

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December 14, 2021.

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the school as well as the recreation centre that students will have direct access to. The joint use of the facilities will allow Coaldael students to access many dual credit opportunities. The new school has now moved to the construction phase, final completion date has not been declared. . The new school will serve as the replacement for Kate Andrews High School and will be able to accommodate up to 855 students in grades 7-12.

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