

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

June 26, 2018 Meeting

For Immediate Release

Presentation: Surplus Facilities

The Board approved the decommissioning of several division surplus support buildings:

Maintenance shops - Sangudo and Valleyview - will be sold.
Centre for Learning – Sangudo – will be demolished. The recommendation to demolish the no longer used Centre for Learning was made to the Board in consideration of the age of the building, the value of the land and the lack of valid interest in the building by potential buyers.

Decommissioning of the surplus facilities will result in capital savings that can be applied to future facilities/improvements in these communities.

Energy Retrofit

Request for Proposals are currently under review by the Facilities Department and the Superintendent. The retrofit will ensure NGPS buildings are as energy efficient as possible to ensure maximum savings.

Classroom Improvement Fund (CIF) Funding

NGPS schools will receive \$614,000 in CIF funding for the 2018-19 school year, the same amount the division received last year. The funding will be distributed to every school on a per pupil basis with recommendations for use in the areas of Inclusive Education supports, Literacy, counselling supports, Educational Assistant (EA) supports and Dual Credit programs.

All NGPS Principals will provide their proposals to the Superintendent by September 2018.

Provincial Transportation Survey

The Board reviewed the Survey as completed by NGPS' Director of Transportation and approved submission of each of the Director's and the Board's Survey responses in support of rural school transportation and challenges with the current Provincial transportation funding model.

GPS Trackers on NGPS School Buses

Superintendent Kevin Andrea presented to the Board the idea of piloting GPS tracking devices on NGPS school buses next year.

The Board raised the question of having the devices on school buses as a means to support parents at the June 12 Board Meeting. NGPS is currently investigating the costs associated with equipping all buses with the devices.

Welcoming and Safe Learning Environments for Students

NGPS is committed to ensuring that each student and each staff member employed by the Board is provided with a welcoming, caring, respectful and safe environment in which to learn and work. [Administrative Procedure 350](#), Student Code of Conduct, and [Administrative Procedure 160](#), Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning Environment; Inclusive Practices support environments that respect diversity and foster a sense of belonging and a positive sense of self.

2018-19 Nutrition Grant

The Nutrition Grant, introduced by the Alberta Government last year, increased from \$141,000 for the 2017-18 school year to \$248,000 for the 2018-19 school year. The grant will go towards extending the nutrition program at Oscar Adolphson Primary School and to include Harry Gray Elementary School, both in Valleyview, for the upcoming school year.

NGPS is questioning why the base grant for its nutrition program is smaller compared to other jurisdictions.

The Board moved to send a letter to the Minister of Education, expressing its disagreement with how different jurisdictions receive different funding.

Next Meeting

The next Board meeting will take place [on August 28, 2018](#) commencing at 5:00 p.m. at the Division Office in Whitecourt. Members of the public are welcome to attend. For more information, please call 780-778-2800 or 1-800-262-8674.