

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

From January 27, 2015 Meeting

For Immediate Release

New Onoway Junior Senior High School

Northern Gateway administration received a letter of final approval for the construction of the new Onoway Jr /Sr High School with Binder Construction Ltd. being the successful tender. Plans are in the works for a ground breaking ceremony in the spring of 2015. Expected project completion is for September of 2016.

Hilltop High School International Field Trip

The Board approved in principle Hilltop High School's international field trip, Science and Arts Tour of London, England scheduled for March 24th – April 3rd, 2016.

C2 Committee

The C2 Committee met on January 21st, 2015 to review and discuss work that has been done and the continuation of the process.

Michelle Brennick advised that there are not enough funds to support ongoing face to face C2 Committee meetings. Northern Gateway will cover one meeting this year. Meetings will continue via Video-Conference.

Two new members joined the C2 Committee: Joe Shelast, Education Manager, Zone 2/3 replaces Jerry Tymkow as the meeting facilitator and Trustee Jim Hailes replaces Trustee Jim Govenlock.

For the two new members of the committee it was reviewed what has been done so far. A priority framework template was introduced and reviewed. Each committee member was given two priorities to work on and present the framework at the next meeting.

Modular Classroom for Pat Hardy Primary School

The Minister of Education has approved the Northern Gateway's Board submission under the Education's 2015/2016 Modular Classroom Program. The following modular units have been approved for Northern Gateway:

- 1 modular classroom for Pat Hardy Elementary School; and
- 1 modular washroom unit for Pat Hardy Elementary School.

Northern Gateway will receive 90 per cent of the provincial funding for the project. Modular classroom/washroom to be ready for September 2015.

Transportation Report

Rhett Czaban, Director of Transportation provided an update on a continuing issue regarding the bussing of students in Whitecourt.

Rhett advised that as of late Friday afternoon, January 23rd, 2015 bus 102 was eliminated. 40 students from bus 102 will be riding a new bus effective Monday, January 26th, 2015: 20 to bus 105 and 20 to bus 106. A letter will be sent out to parents outlining the process that took place and apologizing for any inconvenience this short notice may have caused.

Meeting with the Minister

The Alberta Education Minister Gordon Dirks is meeting with school boards across Alberta to discuss education issues. Board Chair Judy Muir and Northern Gateway Superintendent, Kevin Andrea met with the Education Minister on January 21st, 2015. Boards were asked to provide two or three examples of how their division is working to meet the goals of Inspiring Education, plus a brief review of two key challenges faced by their division. Other issues discussed were the weight of diploma exams and the new school projects the province announced in October of last year.

Next Meeting

The next regular Board meeting will take place **Tuesday February 10th, 2015 at 10:00 a.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.