

# Northern Gateway Public Schools

*opening the gateway to a lifetime of learning*

## Board Highlights

From March 11 meeting

For Immediate Release

### Approved 2014 – 2015 Fees

· The following 2014-2015 fees were approved at the March 11, 2014 regular Board meeting.

#### 2014 – 2015 Mandatory Student Curricular Fees

(No increase to rates)

Elementary (includes ECS) \$60.00

Junior High \$85.00

Senior High \$110.00

### Maintenance Report

- Randy Lovich, Director of Maintenance presented the following maintenance report:
  - Carpenter has been hired for the Fox Creek/Valleyview areas.
  - Ongoing repairs to monthly maintenance requests.
  - Hilltop Modernization of two classrooms is 99% complete.
  - Rich Valley staff lounge renovation will be a summer project.
  - Fox Creek School – has a new Cardlock system and re-keying of the school has started.
  - Phase II of David Ovans Demolition is 100% complete.
  - Pat Hardy paved parking lot is complete, with lights still to be installed.
  - Air quality test was completed on Onoway High School with all tests normal.
  - Annual Fire Alarm Verifications have been completed in Mayerthorpe, Sangudo, Grasmere, Darwell, Rich Valley, Onoway, Pat Hardy, Hilltop, Percy Baxter, Whitecourt Central, Fox Creek, with Valleyview schools to follow.
  - On Friday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014, there was a major water line break in the parking lot at Onoway High School. The break was found and repaired.
  - The Request for Proposal for a consulting architect in the Onoway High School capital project has been posted and interviews for selection has been set for March 19<sup>th</sup>. A meeting has been set with the Town to discuss partnering possibilities. With the selection of a consulting architect, plans will be developed to engage various communities as the design is developed.
  - The Instructional Area Form (Capacity Change) was distributed and reviewed.

## Encounters with Canada Program

- The Board approved for two students from Onoway High School to take part in the Encounters with Canada program in Ottawa this March and April.

Encounters with Canada is our nation's largest and foremost youth forum for Canadians aged 14 to 17 years, located in Ottawa, Ontario. Their mission is to bring together young Canadians from all provinces and territories to our nation's capital to discover – through innovative, experiential learning activities – our nation's diverse cultures, heritage, institutions, history and leaders, as well as to explore potential career options – all of which will help shape them into informed and engaged citizens and leaders of tomorrow.

## Provincial Budget

- The 2014 Provincial Budget was announced on March 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

The Education budget saw little change over grant rates from the previous year with two areas seeing increases:

- 2% grant rate increase for Small Class Size Initiative
- 2% grant rate increase for Inclusive Education

Division Administration will begin working through the details of Budget 2014 with all sites with the intent to present a budget for the Board Review in early April.

for more information: <https://education.alberta.ca/department/budget/funding.aspx>

The next Board meeting will take place Tuesday, March 25<sup>th</sup>, 2014, commencing at 10:00 a.m. with the regular Board Meeting at the Division Office in Whitecourt. Members of the public are welcome to attend the regular Board meeting. For more information, please call (780) 778-2800 or toll free at 1-800-262-8674.

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