



"Every Student Succeeds"

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TUESDAY MARCH 22, 2016

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS



GRANDE PRAIRIE PUBLIC
SCHOOL DISTRICT

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

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John Lehnert

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JoAnn Cazakoff

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Trustee Karen Prokopowich

Acting Superintendent:

Alexander (Sandy)

McDonald

Associate Superintendent-

Business Services:

Jeff Olson

Assistant

Superintendent -

Curriculum:

Nick Radujko

Assistant Superintendent -

Student Services:

James Robinson

Communications:

Navneet Sahota

ERIN CONNORS NOMINATED FOR 2016 EDWIN PARR TEACHER AWARD

The District is pleased to nominate Erin Connors, Grade 5 French Immersion Teacher at [École Montrose School](#) for the 2016 Edwin Parr Teacher Award. Presented by the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA), the annual award recognizes outstanding first year teachers in each of the six ASBA Zones. A graduate of University of New Brunswick, Erin Connors teaches all Grade Five French Immersion subjects excluding music and has been actively involved out of the classroom. She has volunteered as the Grade Five basketball coach and supervises student activities throughout the year, including the Montrose Breakfast Club. The District is proud to recognize that Mme Connors established the first ever LGBTQ group at École Montrose to promote a safe, caring and inclusive environment for everyone.

Read our media release <http://cli.re/GXdp8P>

Visit our blog for our full interview with Erin: www.gppsd.ab.ca/About/Blog/

UPCOMING DISTRICT DATES

- MAR 25 GOOD FRIDAY
- MAR 26 SPRING BREAK UNTIL APRIL 3
- APR 3 CLASSES RESUME
- APR 19 REGULAR BOARD MEETING AT 7:00 P.M.
CENTRAL OFFICE BOARD ROOM
- ONGOING KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION AT ALL SCHOOLS



Education Foundation presents to Board

George Malcom, Chair for the Education Foundation, and Executive Director Laura LaValley presented to the Trustees some highlights from their programs and the success of its partnerships with sponsors. The Education Foundation is currently selling raffle tickets for the WestJet “Jet Away” draw in which one lucky winner will win for two anywhere WestJet flies. With 500 tickets printed and less than a month left until the draw, there are limited number of single \$20.00 tickets left. The winner will be announced on April 15, 2016. To get your tickets, please email laura.lavalley@gppsd.ab.ca. All funds raised by this raffle will be allocated to support various initiatives and programs within the public school district and community.

The Board extends its appreciation to the Swan City Rotary Club for the \$5,000 contribution that was provided to the Foundation through the Cars for Christmas Lottery. The Foundation is also very thankful for its partnerships with the United Way who recently allocated \$15,000 to help support the GPPSD Nutrition Program.

Laura also shared information about the ‘Friends of the Foundation’ program renewed this year that allows interested staff to help support the Foundation through payroll deduction. As well, preparations are already underway for the Foundation to support the KMSC Law Charity Golf event on July 26 and the Striving for Excellence dinner to take place on October 5th.



BULL CREEK WIND PROJECT WILL PROVIDE DISTRICT SAVINGS

Jeff Olson, Associate Superintendent Business Services and Secretary Treasurer, provided the Board with an update that the 25-year agreement partnership with BluEarth Renewables will result in numerous benefits for the District. The electricity will be produced at a new wind farm, being built by the Calgary-based developer, BluEarth Renewables. The cost of the Bull Creek Wind Power Project is approximately \$80 million. The District was one of the earliest Alberta school boards to sign the agreement to deliver wind power to schools and other education facilities. Olson explained the financial benefits of the agreement are significant. As a result of carbon credits associated with the agreement, the District is expected to save \$8 to \$10 dollars off electricity rates and those savings will accumulate over the 25 years of the agreement.

2017-2020 CAPITAL PLAN SUBMISSION

Jeff Olson presented to the Board the 2017 – 2020 Capital Plan to be submitted to Alberta Education by April 1, 2016. The focus for the District continues to be the replacement of the Composite High School and additional high school spaces for students. Jeff reviewed a letter sent to the Board by the Minister of Education that recognized GPCHS as the Board’s top priority, and the Board passed a motion to approve the 2017 – 2020 Three Year Capital Plan for submission to the Alberta Government as presented.