Milo School Council Meeting March 16, 2022

**Highlights from the Board of Trustee meeting February 8, 2022**

**2022-2023 Calendar Approved:** The Board sent the 2022-2023 draft calendar to stakeholders for their review and input. After much discussion the Board approved the calendar for the upcoming year. The calendar will be available for viewing on the Division website at https://www.pallisersd.ab.ca/schools/school-calendar-information. Schools will post their individual school calendars to their websites as soon as they are approved by administrators.

**Technology Department Update:** The Palliser School Division Technology Services Department is focused on providing students and staff with the tools needed to ensure high-quality learning environments. There is an ongoing focus on utilizing technology that promotes efficiencies and improves the engagement of all stakeholders. Palliser students have access to approximately 6,800 Chromebooks which is better than one computer for every two students. Every teacher and instructor has a Chromebook. Palliser student records have been uploaded into the Provincial Access to Student information (PASI) database. All staff records are being digitized and the business records are being stored digitally.

**School Council Engagement Grants:** Through the Alberta School Council Engagement Grant, each school council will receive $500 to better support individual school councils and strengthen engagement with parents. Examples of parent engagement activities and projects that funds can be used for include: workshops for parents to increase capacity for school council members, information sessions on how parents can support student learning at home and at school, parent resources and workshops on important topics such as, mental health and well-being, cyber bullying, healthy living, etc., programs to support families including those of English language and of indigenous learners, parent resources and tools in multiple languages, events to engage parents on important local issues, parent engagement in promoting the value of arts, trainer or facilitator costs for professional development, and workshops or sessions associated with the above.

**Coaldale School and Recreation Centre Update:** Work continues on the new school and recreation centre in Coaldale.

Facebook <https://www.facebook.com/Ward-Bros-Construction-Ltd-858222884324018>

Instagram: <https://www.instagram.com/p/CY9_X_bP1bE/>

Twitter: <https://twitter.com/WardBros1976/status/1484292930235817986/photo/1>

**Highlights from the Board of Trustees meeting March 1, 2022**

**Satisfaction with Education in Alberta Surveys:** Between February 25 and May 2022, Advanis Inc. has been contracted to conduct the annual satisfaction telephone/online surveys for the Ministry of Education to collect public and participant perceptions of Alberta’s education system. The surveys gather responses from a random sample of parents, the general public, high school students, teachers, principals, school board trustees, and employers of recent high school graduates. There are several purposes of the surveys including determining satisfaction with the overall quality of the education system, the education system meeting the needs of students, schools providing a safe, caring and inclusive environment for students and preparation of students for lifelong learning, employment and active citizenship.

**National Sport School Olympic Athletes:** Student athlete Ale Loutitt, a grade 12 student at the National Sports School in Calgary, made Canada and the district proud with her Bronze medal performance in the Mixed Team Ski Jumping event at the the Beijing 2022 Winter Olympics in February. As well, 22 former National Sport School students were also participants in these Winter Olympics.

**Family School Liaison Counselling Program:** In 2021, the Palliser School Division Family School Liaison Counselling Program team increased from nine to 18 members consisting of full-time and part-time counsellors, externally funded counsellors and practicum students. Increased support at each school has provided more consistent and meaningful mental health and wellness support to students and families including connections to community mental health/crisis resources and connections to the Making Connections Workers, providing a holistic approach to support. Moving forward, there will be continued emphasis on providing adequate staffing to meet the growing needs of staff and students along with continued emphasis on supporting Palliser Administration and educational staff to implement a trauma-informed approach in the classroom.

**Human Resource Services Accountability Report:** Human Resource Services completed approximately 6200 tasks from March 1, 2021 to February 28, 2022 including coordinating the allocation of approximately 554 FTE teachers, 465 FTE non-certified staff and allocation of support staff hours to schools for the 2021-22 school year. Human Resource Services plays a key role in bargaining with the Alberta Teachers’ Association and CUPE Local 290. Human Resource Services will be losing two key team members at the conclusion of the 2021-2022 school year due to retirement. The team is dedicated to ensuring The Palliser School Division is able to provide an exceptional learning experience for all students, by making certain we have outstanding staff throughout the division and supporting them so they can serve our students.

The next meeting of the Palliser Board of Trustees is Tuesday, April 12, 2022.

Any questions/concerns please contact Lorelei Bexte (403) 485-0823