

“Aspen View Public Schools is committed to preparing our students to achieve success and reach their unique potential through the provision of diverse learning opportunities.”



From the regular meeting held Thursday, April 4, 2024 at Whispering Hills Primary School

Projected enrolments

Aspen View Public Schools anticipates a decline in student enrolment for the 2024-25 school year. Secretary-Treasurer Amber Oko presented enrolment projections that forecast a total division-wide enrolment of 2,596, down 29 students from the enrolment of 2,625 students on September 30, 2023.

Superintendent Constantine Kastrinos commented that declining enrolment is indicative of a trend where the student cohort starting in a new school is significantly smaller than the cohort that is leaving.

He added that school principals have been asked to implement strategies to promote enrolment, including advertising, open houses and school branding, which he said is increasingly important in light of greater competition in education.

Transportation fees

The Board of Trustees unanimously approved changes to transportation fees for the 2024-25 school year as recommended by the Transportation Committee.

The fee for Non-Eligible Riders — Kindergarten to Grade 6 students whose residence is less than 1 km from their designated school, and Grade 7-12 students whose residence is less than 2 km from their designated school — will be \$200 annually, to a family maximum of \$500 annually. The current fee is \$150 annually per student, with no family maximum.

The fee for Alternate transportation — students requesting seat on a different bus route than their designated home bus route — will also be \$200 annually, to a family maximum of \$500. The current fee is \$150 annually per student, to a family maximum of \$375.

Summer School

Katherine Mann, Associate Superintendent of Curriculum & Technology, advised the Board of Trustees that Aspen View Public Schools will once again be offering Summer School courses, including:

- Physical Education 10 (in person) at Edwin Parr Composite School.
- Career and Life Management (CALM) 20 and Financial Management 1010 (virtually).
- French Challenge 10/20/30 (virtually).
- Rock Camp at Thorhild Central School.

Nutrition grant

In February, the Government of Alberta announced an additional \$5 million in funding towards the school nutrition program for the 2023-24 school year. Secretary-Treasurer Oko advised the Board of Trustees that Aspen View Public Schools received an additional allocation of \$69,273 which will be distributed to schools based on their K-6 enrolment.

Other highlights

- The Board of Trustees unanimously approved the Board Self-Evaluation Process for 2023-24, as well as the process for an external evaluation of the Superintendent.
- The Board of Trustees unanimously passed second and final reading of amended *Policy 3 — Role of the Trustee, Policy 4 — Trustee Code of Conduct*, and *Policy 15 — School and Program Viability*.

Next Board Meeting:

Thursday, May 2, 2024
10 a.m. - Division Office

Upcoming Events:

- April 15-19, 2024
Education Week
- May 3, 2024
Aspen View Awards & Recognition Night
- May 6, 2024
Bus Driver Appreciation Day
- May 8, 2024
Hats On! for Mental Health
- May 8, 2024
North Career Fair
Athabasca Regional Multiplex

Trustees:

- Ward 1 (North West):
Brenda Fulmore
- Ward 2 (North Central):
Anne Karczmarczyk
(Vice Chair)
Dennis MacNeil
- Ward 3 (North East):
Candy Nikipelo (Chair)
- Ward 4 (South West):
April Bauer
- Ward 5 (South Central):
Elohne Chizawsky
- Ward 6 (South East):
Donna Cherniwchan

Division Office:

3600 48 Ave.
Athabasca, AB T9S 1M8
Phone: 780-675-7080
<https://www.aspenview.org>
email: info@aspenview.org
Facebook: [@aspenviewschools](https://www.facebook.com/aspenviewschools)

“Aspen View Public Schools acknowledges Treaty 6 territory: the ancestral and traditional territory of the Cree, Dene, Blackfoot, Saulteaux, Nakota Sioux, as well as the Métis. We acknowledge the many First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples whose footsteps have marked these lands for generations. We recognize the land as an act of reconciliation and gratitude to those on whose territory we reside or are visiting.”