

# Board Highlights

*“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, March 14, 2024 at Aspen View Public Schools’ Division Office

## Edwin Parr Award nominee

Rochester School principal Elizabeth Siemens introduced the Board of Trustees to Brooklyn Haygarth, Aspen View Public Schools’ nominee for the Edwin Parr Teacher Award, which is presented annually by the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) to six outstanding first-year teachers from across the province.



*Aspen View Public Schools’ Edwin Parr Teacher Award nominee Brooklyn Haygarth.*

Ms. Haygarth currently teaches a Grade 4/5/6 combined class at Rochester School, as well as K-3 Music and option classes.

“I feel privileged to work alongside Ms. Haygarth and appreciate all that she has done to make Rochester School an exceptional place to be,” Principal Siemens commented.

“This recognition is not just a milestone in my career, but a testament to the collaborative spirit and dedication that thrives within our educational community,” Ms. Haygarth said. “Our students are at the heart of everything we do. They remind me daily of the impact we can have as educators and the responsibility we carry in shaping their futures.”

The Edwin Parr Teacher Award was established in 1964 to honour long-time Athabasca-area school trustee Edwin Parr, who also served as president of the Alberta School Trustees’ Association (now the ASBA) from 1956 until his passing in 1962.

The Edwin Parr Teacher Awards will be presented at the ASBA Fall General Meeting in November 2024.

## Capital Plan

The Board of Trustees unanimously approved three-year Capital Plan, previously reviewed by the Facilities Committee, for submission to the provincial government.

Aspen View Public Schools’ capital priorities are unchanged from its 2024-27 submission; however, school condition, enrolment and utilization rates, as well as project cost estimates, have been updated:

- Landing Trail Intermediate School modernization.
- Smith School modernization.
- Grassland School modernization.

Capital Plans from school divisions across Alberta are reviewed by the provincial government, in consideration of new school construction/modernization projects.

## Board Work Plan & Meeting Schedule

The Board of Trustees reviewed a draft of its 2024-25 Board Work Plan & Meeting Schedule. As currently proposed, 11 regular Board meetings will be held over the course of the school year. The Board endeavours to host meetings at each school every two years; in 2024-25, meetings are scheduled to be held at Vilna, Boyle, Thorhild Central and H.A. Kostash School. Locations for the remaining Board meetings are yet to be determined.

## Other highlights

- The Board of Trustees unanimously gave first reading to three amended policies: *Policy 3 — Role of the Trustee*, *Policy 4 — Trustee Code of Conduct* and *Policy 15 — School and Program Viability*. Of note, among the amendments to Policy 15 is the removal of specific enrolment thresholds as triggers for potential consideration of school or grade division closure.

## Next Board Meeting:

Thursday, April 4, 2024  
10 a.m. - Whispering Hills  
Primary School

## Upcoming Events:

March 25-April 1, 2024  
Spring Break/Easter  
(no school)

May 3, 2024  
Aspen View Awards &  
Recognition Night

May 6-10, 2024  
Education Week

May 6, 2024  
Bus Driver Appreciation Day

## 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](mailto: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, Saukteaux, 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.”*