

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, February 22, 2024 at Landing Trail Intermediate School

Literacy/numeracy report

Katherine Mann, Associate Superintendent of Curriculum & Technology, reported positive results from the mandatory Grade 1 Alberta Education literacy and numeracy assessments, completed in January 2024. In both areas, the number of students flagged as at-risk dropped significantly.

In literacy, the number of at-risk students dropped from 43% in 2023 to 23% in 2024.

In numeracy, the number of at-risk students dropped from 28% in 2023 to 15% in 2024.

Associate Superintendent Mann also shared that Aspen View introduced common writing assessments for Grades 1-9 this year. Based on writing samples collected in September and January, professional development will be provided on how to assist students in better organizing their writing.

Student voice

Grade 6 student Carmen Froese provided Landing Trail Intermediate School's student voice presentation to the Board of Trustees. She spoke on the things that are important to her in her education, including teachers who are helpful, set an example and use engaging topics; learning how to be independent and problem solve; learning organizational skills; and overcoming test anxiety. She also commented that she appreciates the variety of activities and experiences offered at LTIS.



Landing Trail Intermediate School Grade 6 student Carmen Froese.

Trustees also discussed the student voice presentation from their January meeting, particularly in regard to field trip opportunities.

Superintendent Constantine Kastrinos said he believes these opportunities begin in the classroom, and he encouraged students to speak with teachers about ideas for field trips. In turn, he said school administrators should encourage teachers to think creatively about possible field trip opportunities, and assist in helping bring them to fruition.

Indigenous Education report

Associate Superintendent Mann shared an Indigenous Education report with the Board. Aspen View Public Schools currently serves 636 self-identified Indigenous students.

First Nations, Métis and Inuit (FNMI) students' results on the Grade 6 & 9 Provincial Achievement Tests exceed provincial results. However, those results are still significantly below those for all students. Diploma exam results for FNMI students are comparable to both provincial results and overall Aspen View results, and have shown significant improvement over the past year. Five-year high school completion, drop-out rates and post-secondary transition rates among FNMI students continue to improve.

Associate Superintendent Mann shared that planning is underway for the return of division-wide Indigenous land-based learning camps for Grade 10 students in the fall of 2024.

Other highlights

- The Board of Trustees unanimously passed a motion to resume its advocacy for a speed limit reduction on Highway 28 near Smoky Lake, due to safety concerns.
- The Board of Trustees unanimously approved, in principle, an international field trip request, including students from both H.A. Kostash School and Thorhild Central School, to Europe during the 2025 Spring Break.

Next Board Meeting:

Thursday, March 14, 2024
10 a.m. - Division Office

Upcoming Events:

February 28, 2024
Pink Shirt Day

March 4, 2024
Professional Learning Day
(no school for students)

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

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

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“Aspen View Public Schools acknowledges Treaty 6 territory: the ancestral and traditional territory of the Cree, Dene, Blackfoot, Saulsteaux, 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.”