

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, November 23, 2023 at Aspen View Public Schools Division Office

Rochester School viability

The Board of Trustees of Aspen View Public Schools reviewed information from administration regarding the viability of Rochester School. The information was requested at its last meeting, following through on a commitment made in February 2022 to review Rochester School’s enrolment and viability.

Rochester School’s enrolment has declined from 69 students in 2017-18 to 38 students in 2023-24; its full-time equivalent (FTE) enrolment is 36. Secretary-Treasurer Amber Oko presented scenarios detailing financial implications for potential changes in enrolment. If Rochester School’s maintains or increases enrolment to 54 students, funding will remain consistent; however, if FTE enrolment under the weighted moving average drops below 35 students, the provincial operating funding will drop by more than \$250,000 while costs to operate would see little change. Rochester School is expected to require large capital projects to maintain the building over the next three years, including roof, window and door replacement.

The Board of Trustees passed a motion to table discussion on the viability of Rochester School to its January 25, 2024 meeting. Superintendent Constantine Kastrinos indicated that in the meantime, information will be shared with stakeholders regarding Rochester School’s enrolment, financial implications and other important considerations, and opportunities will be provided for stakeholders to provide feedback to the Board.

Annual Education Results Report

Associate Superintendent of Curriculum & Technology Katherine Mann presented Aspen View Public Schools’ [2022-23 Annual Education Results Report](#), which the Board of Trustees unanimously approved.

In the priority area of Student Success & Completion, Aspen View Public Schools performed well on Provincial Achievement Tests, comparing favourably with the province in 18 out of 20 subject areas at the Acceptable Standard, and 14 out of 20 subject areas at the Standard of Excellence. Diploma exam results, particularly in Math, remain a concern.

In the priority area of Wellbeing, Aspen View’s results follow a similar trend as the province, with increased scrutiny of education quality, learning environments, citizenship and learning supports. Improvement in these measures relies on the priority area of Engagement, ensuring that Aspen View communicates and maintains dialogue with stakeholders on key topics and issues.

Audited financial statements

Aspen View Public Schools’ [2022-23 Audited Financial Statements](#) were presented by Metrix Group LLP and approved unanimously by the Board of Trustees. Aspen View realized an annual operating deficit for the year of just over \$896,000. The budgeted deficit was \$267,667, however, the Board received approval to spend an additional \$600,000 from reserves, bringing the expected deficit to \$867,667. Total division revenues came in at \$43.7 million; expenses were \$44.6 million.

IMR/CMR Plan

The Board of Trustees approved Aspen View Public Schools’ 2023-24 Infrastructure Maintenance Renewal (IMR) and Capital Maintenance Renewal (CMR) plans. Total projects within both plans are estimated at \$694,500. Major projects include roof and skylight upgrades at Whispering Hills Primary School and security system upgrades at multiple schools.

Other highlights

- Trustee April Bauer has been elected vice chair of Alberta School Boards Association Zone 2/3.

Next Board Meeting:

Thursday, December 7, 2023
10 a.m. - Division Office

Upcoming Events:

December 4, 2023
Professional Learning Day
(No school for students)

December 25, 2023 -
January 5, 2024
Christmas Break

January 8, 2024
Classes resume

January 10-30, 2024
Diploma exams

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, 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.”