



Division Office

129 – 4th Ave SW, Suite 300, PO Box 5700

High River AB T1V 1M7

T: 403.652.3001 or 403.938.6436 / F: 403.652.4204

www.fsd38.ab.ca

School Trustee Report for Meadow Ridge School Council

The Board acknowledges the traditional territories of the peoples of Treaty 7 region in Southern Alberta and the Métis Nation of Alberta Region 3.

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

[March 3, 2021](#)

March 17, 2021

CELEBRATIONS

At the March 17, 2021 Board Meeting, the Board recognized the excellent support, collaboration, accessibility and advice Doctors Jia Hu, Adam Vyse, Finola Hackett and Yunan Liu have provided FSD, by awarding them the 'Friends of Foothills Award'.

Foothills School Division extends congratulations to Ms. Jessie McCauley, recipient of Foothills School Division's [Edwin Parr Award nomination](#) for 2020-2021. With this nomination Jessie will now represent the Division at the zone level. - (*The Edwin Parr Teacher Award is presented to six outstanding first-year teachers across the province of Alberta. Mr. Edwin Parr was a school board Trustee and president of the Alberta School Trustees Association from 1956 – 1962. To honour his legacy, ASBA established this award in his name in 1964.*)

C. I. McLaren School was awarded the 2020 Environmental Ambassador Award by Fortis Alberta.

Students and staff of Oilfields High School received accolades from Alberta Environment and Parks on their successful application in this year's Environmental Student Action Challenge for the Oilfields Garden Project.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

- [Board Professional Learning Committee Report](#)

ENGAGEMENT - *Division wide engagement that is timely, meaningful and collaborative with all learners and communities.*

The [Vision 2034 engagement](#) has commenced and will run until the end of April to allow the community to provide ideas on what our students will need to be successful looking forward to

2034, the year when our incoming Kindergarten students graduate. The Board and Executive team spent time looking at the responses that were shared during Phase 1. The next step is digging deeper into the engagement... to hear what FSD should STOP, START, and CONTINUE.

[One-to-One \(1:1\) Device Program Engagement](#): Foothills School Division is committed to equitable learning technology access in support of student achievement. To provide students with increased opportunities, we are considering a new One-to-One (1:1) Device Program that would ensure that each student in Grades 4-12 had access to a Chromebook at all times.

SUPPORT - *Ensure and maintain Division wide learning environments that are welcoming, caring, respectful, safe and inclusive.*

The Provincial 2021 budget maintains funding for education at \$8.3 billion in operating expenses. Our deficit budget remains due to the increase in insurance costs and the number of students who left the division to attend elsewhere. The approval for a new high school was not given in this budget.

At a recent ASBA Zone 5 Meeting with the Minister of Education, trustees took the opportunity to share the success we have had building positive working relationships with the Calgary Zone of AHS, specifically with Dr. Jia Hue and Dr. Vyse of the Calgary Rural PCN. Based on this successful model, FSD also shared that Superintendent Fuzessy has applied for a Federal grant focused on increasing confidence, acceptance and uptake of COVID-19 vaccines whereby FSD will be the fiduciary board and leading the work; collaborators are Dr. Hue, Dr. Vyse, the Calgary Board of Education, and Lester B. Pearson School Board in Montreal Quebec.

The Board will follow this meeting up with an advocacy letter requesting consideration to pilot a project focused on building a successful working model with AHS, AH, and AB Education to provide meaningful coordinated mental health supports for students.

SUCCESS - *Ensure and maintain Division wide excellence in teaching, learning and leadership.*

In keeping with the Division's focus on moving from relaunch to renewal, the Board of Trustees accepted Administration's recommendation to move forward with exploring whether there is sufficient interest from parents to pilot full-day kindergarten programs in Okotoks, High River and High Country (Black Diamond/Turner Valley) areas for Fall 2021.

The Board of Trustees approved the implementation of a [Nature-Based Learning Alternative Program](#) at École Percy Pegler School beginning in the 2021-2022 school year given that sufficient enrolment exists as part of the registration process for the program.

REPORTS TO THE BOARD

- March 17, 2021
 - Spitzee School's Leadership team of Brooke MacNeill and Bill Holmes presented their [school education plan](#).
 - Director of Student Learning (7-9) Doug Stevens gave the Board [an update](#) on the work being done around the Innovation and Design Framework.
 - Assistant Superintendent, Learning Services Caroline Roberts provided the Board with information about [Outdoor Learning at Foothills School Division](#).

- March 3, 2021
 - Millarville School Principal Tim Hasiuk and Vice Principal Karla Davis presented their [school education plan](#).
 - Director of Inclusive Learning, Kevin Newman delivered a [report to the Board](#)
 - Assistant Superintendent, Corporate Services, Drew Chipman provided the Board with a [Capital/Facilities Update](#).

LOOKING AHEAD

“Alberta Health, together with Alberta Health Services (AHS), has clarified that being within two metres distance for the purposes of being classified as a close contact in most school buses includes three rows in front and three rows behind a positive case of COVID-19. In light of this clarification of school bus seat spacing, AHS will begin including all students within three rows of a confirmed case as close contacts, instead of within two rows as was the case previously. School authorities and bus contractors are not required to change their seating arrangements/plans presently in place for transporting students.”