

# BOARD HIGHLIGHTS



## BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2022/2023



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Board meetings take place on the last Wednesday of every month in the Central Board room at the Division office (231 Hardin Street) starting at 2:00 pm. The next meeting is on October 26, 2022, and the public is welcome to attend. The following are updates from the September 28, 2022, meeting.

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### PRIORITY #1 - SUCCESS FOR ALL STUDENTS

- Diploma examinations will only count toward 20% of a student's final grade for the 2022-2023 year. The new curriculum has been received well, and extensive FMPSP supports are available.
- We have an all time high of 600 students in kindergarten this year. Growth projections are another 200-300 students minimum for upcoming school years across all grades.
- The Superintendent's report noted two students from Westwood on the Minister's Youth Council. Prime Minister's Certificate of Achievement in STEM has also been awarded to Westwood Teacher, Jeff Landry.
- The Education Department organized a private event at the Oil Sands Trade Show for 73 students where students were able to meet and ask questions with various companies.

### PRIORITY #4 - STRENGTHEN QUALITY TEACHING & LEADING

- 48 new probationary teachers have been hired. Human Resource staff are currently busy hiring and working on additional Teachers on Call.



## FINANCIAL UPDATES

As presented by Allan Kallal, Associate Superintendent of Business & Finance.

- 70% staff role changes but operations are still being completed efficiently.
- Business and Finance is in accordance with the terms or conditions of any funding the Board receives under the Education Act or any other Act or regulation.
- Division enrollment is up 7.86% (approximately 7200 students).

September 2023

# SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENTS



## École McTavish - Dene Hand Games

Students from École McTavish presented a presentation and demonstration of Dene hand games. École McTavish had previously sent a team of students to Alberta's provincial competition, where they could secure 6th place overall despite recently starting the program!

The Division hopes to host the games within more schools in the future, but for now, thanks for teaching the Board how to play!



## Michael Gilks - Honouring Spirit: Indigenous Spirit Award

The Board of Trustees congratulated Michael Gambler Gilks, a grade 7 Westwood High School student, who received the prestigious Honouring Spirit: Indigenous Student Award on June 25, 2022. The Honouring Spirit awards recognize First Nations, Métis and Inuit students who model strength and commitment in pursuing their education path and embrace their gifts, strengths and potential.

Congratulations Michael!



## Ali Usman - Third Place at National Spelling Bee Championships

The Board of Trustees congratulated Ali Usman, a grade 9 Westwood High School student, who secured first place in the intermediate category last May at the Spelling Bee of Canada, the Wood Buffalo chapter's competition, and secured third place at the National Spelling Bee Championships.

C-o-n-g-r-a-t-u-l-a-t-i-o-n-s Ali!



## DIVISION SHOWCASE

This month's TAFI (Twitter, Apps, Facebook, Instagram) Award went to Dave McNeilly Public School's Melita Ellsworth. Mrs Ellsworth is in charge of the school's social media and website and even takes pictures/videos for the school during special events! She represents the spirit of "Doing What's Best For Kids."

Congratulations Melita!

## PRIORITY #3 - EFFECTIVE STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

### ADVOCACY COMMITTEE

- The advocacy Committee has started to meet and has a number of focus areas chosen for the year.
- The trustee meeting schedule was approved by Board motion, and a Networks meeting that had previously been scheduled on January 10th was revised in favour of a February 7th meeting instead.