

# BOARD HIGHLIGHTS



## BOARD OF TRUSTEES 2023/2024



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Board meetings take place in the Central Board room at the Division Office (231 Hardin Street) starting at 2:00 pm. The next meeting is on April 24, 2024, and the public is welcome to attend. The following are updates from the March 27, 2024, meeting.

### PRIORITY 1: PROMOTE GROWTH & SUCCESS FOR ALL STUDENTS

- The Board of Trustees has approved the Westwood Vex Robotics team to compete in and attend the Vex Robotics World Tournament in Dallas, Texas from April 24-30.

### PRIORITY 2: MAINTAIN SAFE & CARING LEARNING ENVIRONMENT & SUPPORTS

- The Board has approved the 2024 Master Facility and Capital Plan.
  - The Board is prioritizing Westwood modernization due to the scope of remediating of the pool and fitness areas and addressing accessibility to the lower level. Other schools were prioritized based on enrollment growth, deferred maintenance, condition and age of Portables and Modulares.

### PRIORITY 4: STRENGTHEN QUALITY TEACHING & LEADING

- The Board has approved FMPSP's Edwin Parr Nomination for 2024, Dave McNeilly Teacher Jennifer Dahl.
- The Board has approved the 2024-2025 Academic Calendar.

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## FINANCIAL UPDATES

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

- The Master Facility and Capital Plan has been updated for 2024 to reflect the current enrollment trends and updated facility conditions.
- The funded enrollment grew 7.7% in September 2023, 6.7% in September 2024 and the future anticipated increase in enrollment over the next 5 years is 14% reaching 8,921 students.



# SPOTLIGHT ON STUDENTS



## Literacy Results Improvement - Greely Road Public School

Greely Road School delivered an impressive presentation to the Board of Trustees, highlighting the significant improvements in student literacy. With the introduction of creative and innovative programs, students have not only enhanced their reading skills but also developed a genuine passion for literature. The educators' dedication to boosting literacy was evident, as they've implemented methods that have led to soaring achievement levels. The Board was thoroughly impressed by the showcase, celebrating the commitment of Greely Road School to fostering a thriving educational environment.



## Collaborative Clubs/Ramadan - Fort McMurray Islamic School

Islamic School had the distinguished opportunity to present the collaborative programming and clubs with Greely Road Public School. This partnership has been a beacon of unity and educational innovation, combining resources and knowledge to enhance the learning experiences of students from diverse backgrounds. In an enlightening segment of the presentation, students shared with the Board the profound significance of Ramadan. This month is not only about fasting from dawn to dusk; it symbolizes a period of spiritual growth, discipline, and a deepening sense of solidarity and generosity towards those less fortunate.





# DIVISION SHOWCASE



## Lincoln Alexander School Essay Competition

The Board is thrilled to honour this year's Lincoln M. Alexander Essay Winners, showcasing exceptional talent and insight among our student contributors. Recognized for their compelling narratives and dedication to the craft of writing, these young authors embody the spirit of inquiry and exploration that the award celebrates. We commend their hard work and creativity, which not only earned them this prestigious accolade but also set a high standard for aspiring writers to follow.

## RARA Award Winners

The RARA 2024 Young Achievement Award proudly recognizes the outstanding accomplishments of two exceptional students, Odessa Tootoosis from Christina Gordon Public School and Hanna Belhumeur from Dave McNeilly Public School. Hanna is actively learning Cree from her grandmother, she passionately shares this knowledge within the school community and participates in cultural festivals in the surrounding areas reflecting her commitment to preserving and celebrating Indigenous heritage. Hanna is also learning the art of hoop dancing. Additionally, under her grandmother's guidance, she is refining her cooking skills, focusing on preparing cultural dishes. Odessa often practices her inherent traditional rights setting nets with her family in Fort Chip. She has been dancing Powwow and attending Ceremony since she was a baby. Odessa makes connections to stories we read in class and is happy and excited to share her own personal and cultural experiences with the class.



## Saanvi Talwar: Nancy and Anna's Never-Ending Friendship

Westwood Community High School's very own Saanvi Talwar has released a heartwarming book titled "Nancy and Anna's Never-Ending Friendship," capturing the essence of true companionship. Each elementary school within the Division will receive a copy of Saanvi's book, helping to spread the joy and lessons of friendship to eager young readers. For those interested in getting their copy, "Nancy and Anna's Never-Ending Friendship" is available for purchase on Amazon, inviting readers of all ages to indulge in this endearing tale.



## NCWIT Aspirations in Computing High School Award

Westwood Community High School celebrates the outstanding achievement of Lalithya Raavi, a recipient of the NCWIT Aspirations in Computing High School Award. Her dedication to the world of technology and computing exemplifies the incredible talent and potential among young women in STEM fields.



## Hilton Mireao Award of Excellence

Composite High School's Academic Counselor, Ryan Hoffman, has been awarded the prestigious Hilton Mireao Award of Excellence for his outstanding dedication to student success. Recognized for his innovative counselling approaches, Ryan effectively guides students through academic challenges and college preparations. His commitment to developing a strong rapport with students and personalizing their learning journeys is a testament to his passion for educational mentorship.

