

# Board Highlights – June 22, 2016



## About Board Highlights

This is an overview of the PHPS Board of Trustees' meeting.

See the [meeting minutes](#) for a complete record of the board's decisions.

We email Board Highlights to division staff, media, town and county councils, our MLA, our MP and subscribers.

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For more information contact **Tracy Meunier**, Secretary Treasurer at 780.674.8504.

## School board adopts \$57 million budget for 2016-17

The school board adopted the PHPS and Alberta Distance Learning Centre [operating budgets](#). The combined budgets are about \$79 million.

While government funding rates remain the same as last year, our division will have less money because: enrolment is declining, goods and services will cost more, and the costs associated with the new carbon levy. The division's 2016-17 budget illustrates the importance of reserves. Although we will receive less money from the government next year we will use our reserve funds to keep and launch programs that are important for students. Next year's budget will include a \$2.15 million deficit. Reserves will be used to cover this deficit.

ADLC, which we operate, is projecting a 5 per cent increase in enrolments over the next three years. The 2016-17 budget will include a deficit of \$360,000. We will use ADLC's reserves to cover this deficit.

## Our schools use electricity supplied by a wind farm

Since January 1, our schools have been using electricity generated by a wind farm near Provost. We are one of 25 Alberta school jurisdictions who are members of the Bull Creek Wind Power project, which generates 29.2 megawatts a year – enough to power 500 schools. "The benefits of participating include knowing what our energy will cost and the reduced environmental impact," said Assistant Secretary Treasurer Grant Widdup who led this initiative.

## Division to focus on six priorities next year

The school board approved six key jurisdiction strategies for 2016-17: literacy; developing professional capital; student mental health; welcoming, caring, respectful and safe learning environments; professional development and communications. See the [draft education plan](#) for more information.

## Division moves forward to demolish former W.R. Frose School building

Having received tenders, the board is proceeding with the demolition of the former W.R. Frose School building, subject to ministerial approval.

## ADLC receives \$40,000 US grant

As part of Principal Frank McCallum's presentation of [ADLC's 2016-19 Education Plan](#), he noted ADLC is the only Canadian school in 2016 and the only distance education provider to ever receive a \$40,000 US grant from [United States Foundation for Inspiration and Recognition of Science and Technology \(FIRST\)](#). ADLC will use this money for its Alberta First Nations Robotics Capacity Building project. For more information see [page 2990](#) of the minutes.

**The next board meeting** is Monday, August 22, 2016 at the Regional Services Office starting at 9:30 a.m. It will also be the annual organizational meeting of the board. At this meeting the board will select its chair and vice-chair for the coming year. Our meetings are open to the public.