

**Horizon School Division No. 67
Regular Board Meeting – Division Office
ERIC JOHNSON ROOM**

**Regular Board Meeting Agenda
Tuesday, May 15th, 2018 – 1:00 p.m.**

A – Action Items

A.1 Agenda	ENCLOSURE 1 ENCLOSURE 2
A.2 Minutes of Regular Board Meeting held Tuesday, April 17 th , 2018	
A.3 May 2018 Payment of Accounts	

D – Discussion Items

D.1 Enchant Postal Boxes	ENCLOSURE 3
D.2 June 14 th , 2018 – Colony Visit (reschedule)	ENCLOSURE 4
D.3 Employee Years of Service Recognition	

I - Information Items

I.1 Superintendent's Report – Wilco Tymensen I.1.1 Transportation Survey	ENCLOSURE 5 ENCLOSURE 6 ENCLOSURE 7 ENCLOSURE 8 ENCLOSURE 9
I.2 Trustee/Committee Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • I.2.1 Zone 6 ASBA Report – Marie Logan • I.2.2 May Administrator's Meeting Report – Derek Baron • I.2.3 May Facilities Committee Report – Bruce Francis 	
I.3 Associate Superintendent of Finance and Operations Report – Phil Johansen	
I.4 Associate Superintendent of Learner Services – Amber Darroch	
I.5 Associate Superintendent of Programs and Human Services Report – Anita Richardson	
I.6 News Release – Help Drive the Future of Student Transportation	
I.7 Letter to Minister Jansen	

C-Correspondence

C.1 AB ED correspondence re: Classroom Improvement Fund	ENCLOSURE 10
C.2 Taber Times – Edwin Parr Nominee	

Dates to Remember

• May 15 – Board Meeting
• May 29 – Board Meeting (Budget)
• June 3 – 5 – ASBA Spring AGM
• June 12 – Administrator's Meeting
• June 14 – Trustee/SALT School Tours (Delco, Fairlane, Hillridge, Oaklane, Prairie Home) - RESCHEDULE
• June 19 – Board Meeting
• June 21 – National Indigenous Peoples Day
• July 4-8 – Annual CSBA Conference in Halifax, Nova Scotia
• Aug 22 – Board Meeting
• September 19 – Warner School Grand Opening - 11:00am

Horizon School Division No. 67

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Phone: (403) 223-3547 1-800-215-2398 FAX: (403) 223-2999
www.horizon.ab.ca

The Board of Trustees of Horizon School Division No. 67 held its Regular Board meeting on Tuesday, April 17th, 2018 beginning at 1:00 a.m. in the Eric Johnson Room.

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Marie Logan, Board Chair
Bruce Francis, Board Vice-Chair
Derek Baron, Blair Lowry, Rick Anderson, Jennifer Crowson

ALSO PRESENT: Dr. Wilco Tymensen, Superintendent of Schools
Phil Johansen, Associate Superintendent of Finance & Operations
Amber Darroch, Associate Superintendent of Learning Services
Anita Richardson, Associate Superintendent of Programs and Human Services
Cole Parkinson, Taber Times
Sheila Laqua, Recording Secretary

REGRETS: Christa Runka, Trustee

Presentation – Brian Schafer M.D. of Taber Regional Fire Chief, Jeremy Wickson MD of Taber Director of Public works and Corry Moline M.D. of Taber Utilities and Accounts Payable Clerk shared their work as it relates to the M.D. of Taber's local state of emergency.

ACTION ITEMS

- | | | | |
|-----|--|---------------------|-------|
| A.1 | Moved by Rick Anderson that the Board approve the agenda with the following additions:
A.4 Vauxhall Elementary School Caretaking Contract
A.5 Dr. Hamman Caretaking Contract
A.6 Arden T. Litt Center for Learning Caretaking Contract
D.4 Edwin Parr Attendance
D.5 Basket Deliveries for Education Week | Carried Unanimously | 59/18 |
| A.2 | Moved by Blair Lowry that the Board approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, held Tuesday, March 20th, 2018 as provided by Enclosure 1 of the agenda | Carried Unanimously | 60/18 |
| A.3 | Moved by Derek Baron that the Board approve the April 2018 Payment of Accounts in the amount of \$2,304,378.50 as provided in Enclosure 2 of the Agenda | Carried Unanimously | 61/18 |
| A.4 | Moved by Bruce Francis that the Board award the Vauxhall Elementary School caretaking tender to Lamond Caretaking Services for a two-year term | Carried Unanimously | 62/18 |
| A.5 | Moved by Bruce Francis that the Board award the Dr. Hamman School caretaking tender to FKT and KT Maintenance for a two-year term. | Carried Unanimously | 63/18 |
| A.6 | Moved by Bruce Francis that the Board award the Arden T. Litt Center for Learning caretaking tender to Trudy Peters for a two-year term. | Carried Unanimously | 64/18 |

DISCUSSION ITEMS

D.1 FINANCIAL REPORT

Jason Miller, Director of Finance shared the 2017-2018 Mid-Year Financial Report with the Board.

D.2 2018-19 BOARD MEETING DATES

Wednesday, August 22, 2018
Wednesday, September 26, 2018
Wednesday, October 24, 2018
Wednesday, November 28, 2018
Wednesday, December 19, 2018
Wednesday, January 23, 2019
Wednesday, February 27, 2019
Wednesday, March 27, 2019
Thursday, April 18, 2019
Wednesday, May 22, 2019
Wednesday, June 26, 2019
Wednesday, August 28, 2019

D.3 MAY BOARD MEETING DATE

The Board Budget meeting scheduled for Tuesday, May 29, 2018 has been moved to Wednesday, May 23, 2018 @ 1:00pm.

D.4 EDWIN PARR ATTENDANCE

The following Board Member and Sr. Administration will be attending the Edwin Parr Banquet & Awards Evening on Wednesday, May 9th, 2018: Marie Logan, Board Chair, Bruce Francis, Board Vice-Chair, Jennifer Crowson, Trustee, Blair Lowry, Trustee, Rick Anderson, Trustee, Christa Runka, Trustee, Wilco Tymensen, Superintendent, Amber Darroch, Assoc. Superintendent, and Anita Richardson, Assoc. Superintendent.

D.5 EDUCATION WEEK GIFT BASKETS

Horizon School Board of Trustees will be delivering gift baskets to Horizon Schools in celebration of Education Week, April 30 – May 4, 2018. The Board is looking forward to conveying their thanks to Horizon staff for all they do for our students.

INFORMATION ITEMS

I.1 Superintendent's Report

No Report

I.2.1 Zone 6 ASBA Report

Marie Logan shared the following Zone 6 Meeting update with the Board:

- ASBA Zone 6 Budget will be presented at the May Zone 6 meeting and voted on at the SGM in June.
- May 6th General Meeting agenda items will include the ASBA Budget and Zone 6 Handbook
- Zone 6 ASBA meetings will be moved to the third Wednesday of the month, beginning in November 2018.

I.2.2 Facilities Report

Bruce Francis, Facilities Committee Chair, provided a report to the Board on the work undertaken for the month of April 2018:

- Capital Projects
 - Warner School
 - Currently working on deficiencies with site work to begin as soon as possible.
 - Grand Opening date has been set for September 19, 2018
 - D.A. Ferguson Middle School/W.R. Myers High School
 - Construction contract has been awarded with start date to be determined. A start up meeting with Clark Buildings is scheduled for April 24, 2018

- Southern Alberta Summer Games will be held in Taber this year. Dr. Hamman School has been designated as an emergency location.
- The preliminary list for the 2018-19 IMR projects has been compiled.

I.3 Associate Superintendent of Finance and Operations Report

Phil Johansen provided April 2018 update to the Board as follows:

- Provincial Budget was released with no significant increases. Grants will remain at a consistent level.
- Focus on a balanced budget
 - o The Board continues to provide teacher allocations well beyond provincial class size recommendations
 - o The Board continues to provide support staff allocations well beyond provincial inclusive education funding
 - o The Board continues to provide decentralized per student allocations equal to or greater than neighbouring school jurisdictions
- Communications with Alberta Education
- Advertisement has been placed in the newspaper for a Vauxhall Academy of Baseball Residence Manager.

I.4 Associate Superintendent of Learner Services Report

Amber Darroch, Associate Superintendent of Learner Services, shared the following April 2018 report with the Board:
Report:

Learner Services lead team members:

Amber Darroch, Associate Superintendent
Terri-Lynn Duncan, Director of Learning (Curriculum & Instruction)
Robbie Charlebois, Director of Learning (Inclusive Education)
Angela Miller, Clinical Team Lead

Instructional Coaches: Sharon Skretting, Assessment
Crystal McGregor, Secondary Literacy & ELL
Coral James, Learner Success

KEY ACTION AREA #1:

Strong core instruction that develops student competencies

- Crystal continued to provide one-on-one instructional supports to teachers by analyzing data, diagnosing reading needs and prescribing strategies teachers can implement to improve reading achievement for middle and high school students. This month she has modelled guided reading lessons and assisted teachers in organizing small group instruction into their reading blocks.
- One of Sharon's ongoing projects is the development of a writing resource for teaching and assessment in elementary English Language Arts. This multi-dimensional resource includes lesson plans, bulletin board displays, student writing tools, and all associated assessment components. It is being developed with teachers, for teachers.
- Several teachers have completed their first unit of study using book clubs and have been encouraged by the level of engagement and growth they have seen in their students. This approach sees a number of related novels at various reading levels used in a classroom rather than a whole class novel study with a single text. Crystal has been actively co-teaching, modelling lessons, and assisting with gathering resources for teachers embarking on book clubs with their students.
- Terri-Lynn has been spending time with Chamberlain K-3 teachers moving a pilot project forward in literacy with the school. This work is highlighting the importance of early literacy intervention: how we respond when beginning readers don't progress as they should. Parents, students and teachers are enjoying the project and we look forward to measuring the degree to which these strategies increase young students' reading levels.
- The division is examining a shift to a common library software program for schools to ease library circulation and collection management. A small committee including three librarians and two principals has had presentations from four different vendors and is working on a recommendation to bring to administrators at the May Administrators' Committee meeting.

KEY ACTION AREA #2:

Response to Instruction and Intervention Framework to improve literacy and numeracy proficiency

- Many members of the Learner Services team continue to attend Collaborative Response Model (CRM) meetings at

schools to support school teams and students.

- A great representation of the Learner Services team, including members of Horizon's Counselling Team, attended the Southern Alberta Professional Development Consortia workshop "Networking for Mental Health in Schools: Working Together on Working Together" on April 11th. Robbie and Angela were also involved with facilitating breakout sessions.

KEY ACTION AREA #3:

Student success is a collective endeavor

- The Early Learning Team (Andra, Robbie, Terri-Lynn, JoAnn, and Laura) will be hosting Developmental Check-ups (early learning screening) the entire month of April at both school and division office locations. Included in the check-ups will be Lomond Little Learners.

LEADERSHIP PRACTICES

- The annual Leadership Symposium was held on April 12 and 13 with all school administrators. The focus of the Symposium was on school leadership and the new Leadership Quality Standard. School leaders participated in exercises and presentations to reflect on their personal strengths and improvement opportunities, learn from colleagues about leading school improvement, and strategize for next steps in collaboration between and within their schools.
- In an effort to better support staff with secondary trauma and burnout, several staff members will be attending a compassion fatigue workshop on April 19th.
- The senior leadership team, including Directors of Learning, attended the CASS Spring Conference in Edmonton on Deepening Learning in Classrooms, Schools and Districts with Michael Fullan, Joanne Quinn and Santiago Rincon Gallardo. The focus of the conference has driven our continually evolving strategy for system improvement and improving student learning in Horizon.

I.5 Associate Superintendent of Programs and Human Services Report

Anita Richardson, Associate Superintendent of Programs and Human Services shared the following April 2018 report with the Board:

Human Resources

- Participating in local bargaining process ongoing.
- Spring staffing process is underway.
- Approved 2018-2019 Calendars went out to schools.
- Probationary teacher evaluations are ongoing. 15 teachers and 3 admin under evaluation this year.

Leadership Practices

- Ongoing support for Principals with staffing concerns.
- Leadership Cohort – final meeting is May 28
- JSET (Jurisdiction Student Engagement Team) – 34 students and 9 teachers representing each of our high schools will be participated Mar. 27. Two key themes arose from the students – increased access to post secondary connections/support/prep & increased opportunity for interschool non-competitive collaboration. Next session is April 26. We will look more deeply into these topics.
- Career Transitions – Currently the vice chair of the board. Supporting the Executive Director to address funding concerns has been a primary focus.
- High School Re-design – looking to collaborate with Livingstone Range, Palliser and LCC to participate in an experiential learning week
- Attended Horizon Admin Symposium and CASS Spring meeting

Stakeholder Engagement

First Nations, Metis, Inuit

- Indigenous Champions – concluded for this school year
- Indigenous Committee –
 - Met March 26 to formulate our 3-year plan
- Blanket Exercise
 - Second Community Blanket Exercise in the works, being led by Taber Police Services

Correspondence

No Discussion items came forward from the Correspondence as provided by Enclosure 3 of the agenda.

COMMITTEE ITEMS

Moved by Derek Baron that the Board meet in Committee.	Carried Unanimously	COMMITTEE 65/18
Moved by Jennifer Crowson that the meeting reconvene.	Carried Unanimously	RECONVENE 66/18
Moved by Rick Anderson that the meeting adjourn	Carried Unanimously	MEETING ADJOURNED 67/18

Marie Logan, Chair

Sheila Laqua, Executive Secretary

PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS REPORT

Board Meeting May 15, 2018

General	April 17/18		353639.94
General	April 19/18		8000.00
U.S.	April 19/18		521.15
U.S.	April 20/18		414.66
General	April 25/18		221514.15
General	April 30/18		5000.00
U.S.	April 30/18		2,874.30
General	May 1/18		1,168,534.45
General	May 3/18		61,199.41
"A" Payroll	April 2018	Teachers	1,687,329.65
	557406.84	Support	552,903.40
"B" Payroll	April 2018	Casual	9,689.85
	April 2018	Subs	48,939.31
Total Accounts			3,531,470.37
Board Chair _____			
PJ:dd			
May 7/18			

Horizon School Division April 2018 U.S. Accounts

	U.S. Funds	Canadian Fund
BrainPop	405.00	521.15
Total U.S. Accounts	405.00	521.15

JM:dd
April 19/18

Horizon School Division April 2018 U.S. Accounts

	U.S. Funds	Canadian Fund
Studypad Inc.	320.00	414.66
Total U.S. Accounts	320.00	414.66

JM:dd
April 20/18

Horizon School Division April 2018 U.S. Accounts

	U.S. Funds	Canadian Fund
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Powerschool Group LLC	2200.00	2874.30
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Total U.S. Accounts	2200.00	2874.30
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JM:dd

April 30/18

----- Forwarded message -----

From: Derrick Krizsan <DKrizsan@mdtaber.ab.ca>

Date: Wed, Apr 18, 2018 at 12:00 PM

Subject: Enchant Postal Boxes

To: "tracey.stickel@canadapost.ca" <tracey.stickel@canadapost.ca>, Murray Reynolds <MReynolds@mdtaber.ab.ca>, Wilco Tymensen <Wilco.tymensen@horizon.ab.ca>

Cc: Jason Bullock <JBullock@mdtaber.ab.ca>, Ginger Rose <GRose@mdtaber.ab.ca>, Jack Dunsmore <JDunsmore@mdtaber.ab.ca>

Tracey,

We understand that the postal service through the Enchant store is being discontinued and that outside postal boxes are being considered by Canada Post for the 200+ postal users in the Enchant area. We understand that if a suitable location cannot be found that the postal service for the Enchant area will be moved to Vauxhall. You have asked for assistance in coordinating with landowners and Canada Post to determine a suitable location. We are happy to oblige.

Councillor Reynolds has identified a potential location for the postal boxes in the Hamlet of Enchant near the Enchant school.

He has contacted the school principal who has no objections however this matter would have to be discussed with Horizon School Division administration. The contact is Mr. Wilco Tymenson – Superintendent – 403-223-3547.

I have attached an aerial photo of the proposed location for review by all parties.

Please contact us at any time to discuss.

Thank you.

Derrick Krizsan C.L.G.M. | **Municipal District of Taber**
Municipal Administrator

O 403-223-3541 | C 403-634-2720 | F 403-223-1799

4900B - 50th Street | Taber, AB | T1G 1T2
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YEARS OF SERVICE RECOGNITION

SCHOOL	DATE OF YEAR END STAFF MEETING	TRUSTEE/SALT
ACE PLACE	Monday, May 28 @ 3:00	
ATL/CHAMBERLAIN	Tuesday, June 19@	
BARNWELL	Tuesday, June 12 @ 4:00	
CENTRAL	Wednesday, June 13 @ 3:30	
DAF	TBD	
DR. HAMMAN	Thursday, June 14 @ 3:30	
ENCHANT	Thursday, June 14@ 7:45	
ERHS	Wednesday, June 13 @ 3:30	
HAYS	Tuesday, June 19 @ 3:40	
HORIZON MAP	Wednesday, June 20 @ 3:20	
LOMOND	Thursday, June 21 @ 8:00am	
LTW	Wednesday, June 13 @ 3:30	
MRE	Tuesday, June 5 @ 3:30	
TCS	Tuesday, June 5 th or 12 th @ 8:00am	
TMS	TBD	
VES	Wednesday, June 6 (staff meeting)or Wednesday, June 13 @12:35 (assembly)	
VHS	Tuesday, June 5 @ 3:30	
WARNER	Thursday, May 31 @ 12:15	
WRM	Thursday, June 14 @ 3:30	
MAINTENANCE	TBD	
COLONY	Tuesday, June 19 @ 3:00	
DIV. OFFICE	Wednesday, June 17 @ 12:30	

Superintendents Progress Report

May, 2018

Educational Leadership and Student Welfare

- Meetings and dialogue between schools and division office are ongoing. Conversations/topics typically focus on processes that ensure student safety, well-being, and conduct; teacher discipline; financial management; Grievances; and instructional leadership. This month they also included budgeting, staffing, custodial contract services, transportation, off-campus excursions, student supervision, and guidance with regard to student and parental concerns.
- School visits this month included: ACE Place, Chamberlain School, D.A. Ferguson Middle School, Dr. Hamman School, Lomond School, Vauxhall High School, and W.R. Myers High School.
- School visits with AB ED representation (Field Services and High School Redesign) were undertaken. Schools visited included: Lomond, Vauxhall High School, and W.R. Myers. Senior leadership also attended meetings at Erle Rivers and Warner School.
- Daily emergency control center teleconferences were incorporated in my schedule related to the M.D.'s local state of emergency for approximately two weeks.

Personnel Management

- Meetings and conversations have taken place with regard to teacher and support staff allocations, as well as the teacher transfer process.
- Teacher instructional and assignable time templates have also been created and share with schools.

Policy and Strategic Planning and Reporting

- Principal professional learning with regard to the new Leadership Quality Standard and how the competencies can be leveraged to achieve the goals within school three year plans has occurred.
- Attendance at CASS' superintendent leadership quality standard advisory committee meetings has taken place. Work is underway related to creating learning modules that are aligned with the competencies within the standard.

Fiscal Responsibility, Organizational Leadership and Management

- ATA Collective Bargaining regarding local table matters is ongoing. Meetings between the Ministry and all Alberta Superintendents were attended related to discussions around central vs local table matters for the upcoming round of bargaining.
- Attendance at provincial meetings have also occurred related to the Ministry's Superintendent Compensation review and CASS' Superintendent Compensation Advisory Committee. This includes dialogue with ADM Williams.
- The construction start up meeting for the DAF/WRM modernization was attended.

Communications and Community Relations

- A number of meetings and celebrations were attended over the last month. These include but are not limited to
 - Administrator Meeting
 - Division Office staff meeting
 - Senior Administrative Leadership Team meeting
 - APEX Youth Awards
 - Council of School Councils
 - W.R. Myers staff meeting
 - Science Olympics
 - D.A. Ferguson student cyber safety presentation
 - Elmspring Colony grand opening ceremony
 - Edwin Parr Banquet and outstanding new teacher celebration
 - Vauxhall High School graduation ceremony

Associate Superintendent, Learner Services
Report to the Board of Trustees- May 15, 2018

Learner Services lead team members:

Amber Darroch, Associate Superintendent
Terri-Lynn Duncan, Director of Learning (Curriculum & Instruction)
Robbie Charlebois, Director of Learning (Inclusive Education)
Angela Miller, Clinical Team Lead

KEY ACTION AREA #1:

Strong core instruction that develops student competencies

- Terri-Lynn and Amber worked with first & second year elementary teachers during the Division Wide Professional Development day (Teachers Learning Through Collaboration). The focus of the first year group was best practice in literacy and the second year focussed on numeracy. These programs are part of our Horizon Induction Program to build a common instructional foundation as beginning teachers join the division.
- More advertising has been sent out and distributed around the community about Early Learning and Kindergarten registration. Communication includes both English and Low German.
- Representatives from all but two schools and members of the division Learner Services team attended a full day assessment event with Anne Davies and Brenda Augusta. These Canadian authors and speakers have been working in the area of assessment for over a decade and some of their research has formed the foundation for our approach to assessment in Horizon. It was an excellent day including actionable strategies for continuing to move this work forward with the division.
- Amber attended an Alberta Education meeting in Edmonton for all jurisdiction technology contacts on May 2nd. Sessions included updates on privacy matters, curriculum development, Alberta's new professional learning standards, and technology infrastructure.
- As co-chair of the executive for Southwest Regional Collaborative Service Delivery (RCSD), Amber attended a cross-ministry provincial event on April 25th. Amber helped to present a celebration of our region's collaboration toward improved mental health supports in schools and other cross-ministry successes were shared.
- Horizon's Low German Mennonite Consultant, Benita Peters, has visited almost all Horizon schools and is actively engaged with supporting the educational assistants involved with supporting the German Programs in select schools. Benita also joined some of the developmental check-up days held in schools where translation services were needed.

Instructional Coach contacts are summarized below. Two positions have been funded for this single year through the Classroom Improvement Fund, and the third (Assessment Coach) is funded through board reserves.

Learner Success Coach: Coral James

Date	Drop-In Visit	Time with Teachers	Principal Meetings	Group Presentation	CRM's or PLC Meetings
March	5	7	3	1	10
April	6	1	2	0	4

English Language Learning/Literacy Coach: Crystal MacGregor

Date	Drop-In Visits	Teacher Meetings	Principal Meetings	Group Presentations	CRM Meetings
March	4	6	3	2	2
April	2	7	2	0	0

Assessment Coach

Date	Teacher Coaching	School & Parent Presentations	Principal Meetings	Other Meetings (IE Tech)
March	21	6	4	
April	14	3	2	2

KEY ACTION AREA #2:

Response to Instruction and Intervention Framework to improve literacy and numeracy proficiency

- Terri- lynn has been planning for the 2018-2019 school year with a number of schools for professional development with staff in terms of Levelled Literacy Instruction training and guided reading modelling with teachers and students.
- Robbie is spending time in a variety of schools for professional learning support for the collaborative response model, core story, trauma informed practices, and the changing role of Educational Assistants
- 104 children participated in developmental checks (screening) this spring.

KEY ACTION AREA #3:

Student success is a collective endeavour

- University professors Dr. Chris Mattatall and Dr. Jeffrey MacCormack and Terri-Lynn met to further discuss a possibility of grant funding from the University to work with K-3 teachers in terms of literacy and best practices.
- Thank you to Rick Anderson and Bruce Francis for attending and helping with the scoring of the events Below are some pictures of the teachers sharing some learning in the after lunch event. It was a great day and students built a judo-bot to compete against each other, worked in teams to build a ski jump out of paper and built a Mars Robot without talking.

LEADERSHIP PRACTICES

- Terri-Lynn attended the Curriculum Coordinators Meeting with Alberta Education. Topics of discussion were Provincial Achievement information on Grade 3 SLA's that can be used at the teachers discretion at any point during the year to assess Math or language arts progressions. Information was also provided about the PAT math numerical response portions for grades 6 and 9.
- Terri Lynn attended a Guided Math workshop that was offered through SAPDC with 5 other teachers from the school division. Information from the workshop was sent to numeracy leads in the district to share with other teachers.
- Ken Pon, Klaas Hoekstra, and Robbie attended the Collaborative Response Model Conference in Edmonton focused on improving school and jurisdictional intervention practices
- Angela, Robbie and several Horizon staff members attended a one day session on compassion fatigue. Valuable information will be shared in breakout sessions at our first division wide professional learning day on August 27.

Associate Superintendent, Programs and Human Services Report to the Board of Trustees – May 15, 2018

Human Resources

- Participating in local bargaining process ongoing.
- Spring staffing process is underway.
- 2019-2020 Calendar discussed at last admin meeting
- Probationary teacher evaluations finalized this week. 15 teachers and 3 admin under evaluation this year.

Leadership Practices

- Ongoing support for Principals with staffing concerns.
- Leadership Cohort – final meeting is May 28
- JSET (Jurisdiction Student Engagement Team) –
 - 34 students and 9 teachers representing each of our high schools participated in second session April 26 – We spent the morning finalizing our Terms of Reference and an inter-jurisdictional collaboration with Palliser and Livingstone Range to host a regional event for students and in the afternoon, the students had the opportunity to hear from and share with a panel of experts in regards to post-secondary connections, support and preparation.
 - Attending Regional Student Event planning meeting May 18
- Career Transitions – Currently the vice chair of the board. Supporting the Executive Director to address funding concerns has been a primary focus.
- High School Re-design –
 - Joined Dan Ferguson and Susan Poole from Alberta Education in visiting each of our high schools last week. The work occurring in each site on school improvement is impressive and individualized.
 - Visited Mathew Halton High School in Pincher Creek and Lethbridge College with the high school principals last week to increase understanding and opportunity around hosting an experiential week in our schools and possibly in partnership with Livingstone and LCC.

Stakeholder Engagement

- Attended University of Lethbridge mini Career Fair for new graduates

First Nations, Metis, Inuit

- Indigenous Champions – concluded for this school year
- Indigenous Committee –
 - Met May 7 for final meeting this year
- Blanket Exercise
 - Have two more school Blanket Exercises scheduled prior to the end of the year
 - Barnwell School, May 11

- Warner School, May 22
 - Second Community Blanket Exercise in the works, being led by Taber Police Services
- Attended a 'Train the Trainer' event to support the development of First Nations, Metis and Inuit Foundational Knowledge in our staff, May 14

Help drive the future of student transportation

April 20, 2018 [Media inquiries](#)

Albertans have two months to provide feedback on what changes should be made to the current student transportation eligibility criteria.

An online survey is now available to help determine potential changes to the distance criteria, the mandated service levels and what safety considerations should be included in the criteria.

“We are looking forward to hearing from Albertans on this important topic. Making sure students are transported to school and back home safely each day is an extremely important yet complicated task that involves a number of organizations. We want to know Albertans’ views on how to make this process the best it can be.”

David Eggen, Minister of Education

Alberta Education has already made progress to better understand the varied transportation challenges faced throughout the province by working with key stakeholder groups. Before any decisions are made, further feedback and ideas from parents, school authorities and stakeholders is required.

“Student safety is paramount to parents across Alberta, and we appreciate the opportunity to provide input on the rules before they come into play. We look forward to working with Alberta Education to ensure parents’ voices are heard and the new transportation rules will work for Alberta families.”

Allison Pike, president, Alberta School Councils’ Association

The survey will close on June 15 and changes are scheduled to be finalized by government in fall 2018. This timeline will give parents and school authorities an appropriate amount of time – approximately 10 months – to adjust to the new requirements which will be implemented in the 2019-20 school year.

Related information

- [Student Transportation Survey](#)



TOWN OF
TABER

OFFICE OF THE MAYOR

A - 4900 50 ST TABER, AB CANADA T1G 1T1
TELEPHONE: 403-223-5500 ext.5519 FAX: 403-223-5530

April 12, 2018

File: 100-G01

Office of the Ministry of Alberta Infrastructure

Infrastructure Building, 6950 113 Street

Edmonton, AB, T6H 5V7

Attention: The Honourable Sandra Jansen

Dear Minister Jansen,

On behalf of the Council of the Town of Taber, I would like to take this opportunity to thank and recognize the Government of Alberta and the Ministry of Infrastructure for the upgrades to a number of schools in Taber which have occurred thanks to funding from your Ministry.

Our building permit records indicate that the combined values for the work done to our local schools in 2017 and so far in 2018 have totalled \$14,486,500. These funds equate to an extraordinary level of direct support for our community that the Town of Taber is humbled to see.

The recipients of this funding include Holy Spirit Roman Catholic Separate Regional Division's St. Patrick's Elementary School, and Horizon School Division's Taber Christian School and D.A. Ferguson Middle School, as well as facility improvement for Horizon's maintenance building.

Thanks to your Ministry's commitment to the investments in our schools, the youth of Taber can be assured that they will be given every opportunity to gain high-quality education in modernized facilities. Numerous generations of young Taberites will be the beneficiaries of this incredible legacy in education, and words cannot adequately express how grateful we are to see such an investment in not only our community but in our youth. On behalf of the Council and citizens of Taber, thank you.

Sincerely,

Mayor Andrew Prokop

Cc: The Honourable Rachel Notley, Premier of the Province of Alberta

The Honourable Shaye Anderson, Minister of Municipal Affairs

The Honourable Joe Ceci, Minister of Finance

Chris Smeaton, Superintendent, Holy Spirit Roman Catholic School Division

Wilco Tymensen, Superintendent, Horizon School Division

Town of Taber Council

CLASSROOM IMPROVEMENT FUND

----- Forwarded message -----

From: EDC Minister <Education.Minister@gov.ab.ca>

Date: Thu, Apr 26, 2018 at 5:19 PM

Subject: Classroom Improvement Fund

To:

To: Board Chairs of Public, Separate and Francophone School Boards
Presidents of the Alberta Teachers' Association

Following the successful ratification of an agreement between the Teachers' Employer Bargaining Association (TEBA) and the Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA) last May, I was happy to institute the Classroom Improvement Fund (CIF) to help improve the classroom experience for teachers and students for the 2017-18 school year.

Given that the school year is only two months from completion, there have been questions about the future of the CIF initiative. I am happy to confirm that funding for CIF has been included in the 2018-19 budget announced last month, and it is our intention to continue this program for the next year while central bargaining between TEBA and the ATA continues.

More details around the specific parameters of next year's CIF will be shared in the coming weeks. We look forward to continuing to support the hard work of teachers, administrators, and support staff in ensuring Alberta students have a positive classroom experience and receive the highest quality education.

Sincerely,

David Eggen

Minister

News

McKechnie making her mark at Chamberlain School with Edwin Parr nomination

■ **Kid corner:** Being around youth invigorates Chamberlain teacher in her methods

By Cole Parkinson
Taber Times
cparkinson@tabertimes.com

One of Chamberlain School's own has been nominated for this year's Edwin Parr award.

Taylor McKechnie, a Grade 2/3 teacher, was nominated as the Horizon School Division nominee for this year's award for best first-year teacher.

"I'm very honoured and very humbled to be the nomination for the school division. I wasn't expecting it, I'm very appreciative and honoured they chose me for this award because there's a lot of great teachers in the division," said McKechnie on her nomination.

Hailing from Rainbow Lake, Alberta, McKechnie graduated last year from the University of Lethbridge with a Bachelor of Education degree.

During her final year at the U of L, she completed her final practicum with Horizon and got offered a job to start the 2017/18 school year in Grassy Lake.

McKechnie knew from an early age she wanted to be a teacher, but upon entering university, she had thoughts of continuing her education further.

"I've always wanted to be a teacher since I was a little kid. I went through high school doing jobs where I got to teach and be with kids. When I went off to university, I had plans to do another degree and realized how much I missed being around kids. That's when I decided to do my Bachelor of Education," she said.

With any new job right out of school, there



TIMES PHOTO SUBMITTED

INSPIRATION: Taylor McKechnie encourages flexible seating in her classrooms to give her kids an educational experience that is anything but routine.

might be some nerves, but McKechnie has jumped headfirst into her job at Chamberlain.

On top of her Grade 2/3 duties, she has added many other jobs to her list at the school.

"It's been amazing. I don't think I could have asked for a better first year of teaching. I've been able to be really involved with the school community and the school has been really welcoming for me. I've had tons of opportunities, I got to act as the athletic director this year, I got to help with the older grades, as well as teach my Grade 2/3 classes," said

McKechnie. "It's been really great, I've got to do a lot of unique things."

Since she started in the fall of 2017, McKechnie has made her mark at the school, hence the nomination for the Edwin Parr Award.

While all teachers are different with how they teach and interact with their students, McKechnie has her own set ways of approaching teaching.

One of the biggest factors when running her classroom is getting her students up and about as much as possible during the day.

but she's confident you will still be able to find her in a classroom.

"I will probably still be teaching, what I'll be teaching I can't really say, I just want to continue to hang out with kids. Maybe a principal or (going) on my way to get my Masters of Education," said McKechnie.

The banquet ceremony for Zone 6 nominees will be held on Wednesday, May 9, at the Taber Heritage Inn, with one finalist being selected to compete for the provincial award.

Edwin Parr lived in the Meanook area near Athabasca in 1920, where he started a career in educational affairs as a board member with the George Lake School

District.

He served as chair of the board with the Athabasca School Division, was president of the Alberta School Trustees' Association from 1956 to 1962 and was on council of the County of Athabasca from its formation in 1959 until his death in January 1963.

During his career, he started an Annual Teacher Award in his school system, where each year, a teacher was chosen to receive a gold watch and a certificate for their long and commendable service.

The Alberta School Trustees' Association established the Edwin Parr Teacher Award in 1964, to honour his work in his profession.

"I like to get the kids out of their desk and moving. We have a lot of flexible seating in my classrooms, so I actually have tires in my classroom. I have benches, we have carpet, we have tables with sitting on the floor, desks, standing desks, anything to get the kids outside or letting them have fun without really realizing they're learning," she continued.

Even though her teaching career has just got its start, there is still plenty of reasons for her to look to the future.

It may be hard to predict what she may be doing in five to 10 years,