

Trustee Report
May 22, 2018

- At the Board's April 26 Board meeting the Board approved the budget assumptions, budget allocations and administrative fees for the 2018/19 school year. The Budget approved the use of \$1.6M from unallocated reserves to cover the projected shortfall in the budget for the upcoming year. The Board also approved the use of \$1.59M from allocated reserves. These dollars are coming from the following allocated reserve funds
 - Leveraging Student Achievement Fund
 - Election Fund
 - School Buildings Fund
 - Central Projects Fund
 - System Project Funds

Allocations to schools have been decreased by 1% (\$936,496). \$573,000 of that amount will be invested into central supports to schools. It will support four additional consultants in the areas of literacy and numeracy, curriculum and assessment to support schools. As well it will support an increase of .3FTE to School Health and Wellness staff to support schools and addition of an assistant director position in Learning Technologies.

- At the April 26 Board meeting the Board also approved a number of administrative fees. Administrative Fees include Student Transportation, Facility Services, Supports for Students Fees, Supports for Students – Partners 4 Science Fee and Alberta Non-Resident and International Fees. Most notable of the fees that were approved is a 5% increase to all student transportation fees. Due to the rising cost of busing and the decrease in the number of eligible funded students, a 5% increase to all fees is required to balance the transportation budget, as well as, the need to eliminate the early payment discount. A new student transportation fee has also been introduced for those students who require a seat on an alternate bus route to accommodate varying pickup and drop off locations. Currently, 730 students are accessing busing to an alternate address for child care, extra-curricular activities, or a secondary residence. Since these students are not consistently picked up and dropped off at the same/home address, it is typically requires a second seat to be held for the student on another bus. As per the regulation, funding is provided to only one address and is defined as to and from the home residence and designated school. A Supplemental Bus Fee has been approved by the Board to begin at the start of the new school year. It will be charged on a per student basis. There is no family rate discount available for those that need a supplemental bus to accommodate alternate address pickup/drop-off. Those families that fall under the family rate the supplemental bus fee will be charged in addition to the family rate at a per student charge.

- Alberta Education is seeking input into the Transportation Regulations through a online survey. Submission deadline is June 15. Link to the survey is available on EIPS website
- Tentative bus schedules for 2018/19 were being sent out on May 22. Please contact student transportation if you have any questions or concerns or if you haven't received your notice.
- MLA Joint Mtg May 23. Will be discussion on access to ~~resources~~ supports + services for rural schools, small school by necessity and our 3 year capital plan.