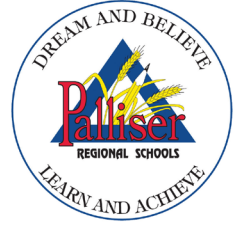


Highlights of the Board of Trustees Special Meeting



Monday, March 26, 2012

The Board of Trustees of Palliser Regional Schools held a special board meeting at Palliser Centre on Monday, March 26 to discuss three emergent matters: a draft agreement with Siksika Nation; a change to this year's calendar for Master's Academy and College; and a change to this year's school calendar for Brant Christian School.

Board approves draft agreement

Following a review of a proposed Siksika Nation Education Services Agreement between Siksika Board of Education and Palliser Regional Division No. 26, the trustees voted on a motion to approve the agreement with amendments. The motion passed.

The draft agreement covers the period of Sept. 1, 2010 to Aug. 31, 2013.

The draft agreement commits schools in Arrowwood and Milo to celebrating the signing of Treaty 7 on Sept. 22; encourages parents from Siksika to participate in school councils at Arrowwood and Milo; and encourages teachers across Palliser to explore First Nations culture with field trips to regional historic sites such as Head-Smashed-In Buffalo Jump.

Personnel from Palliser and Siksika commit to meeting twice yearly, under the terms of the agreement.

The administration and Chairman Don Zech discussed attending a signing of the document on Tuesday, March 27 at the Siksika administrative office in Siksika.

This is the first agreement between Palliser and Siksika. The original agreement outlining the terms and conditions of students from Siksika Nation attending schools in what's now Palliser was signed in 1971 by the County of Vulcan and the federal department of Indian Affairs and Northern Development.

Changes to Master's and Brant calendars approved

The board considered requests from Master's Academy and College in Calgary and Brant Christian School in Brant to make changes to this year's calendars. The requests are unusual because at this point in the year, the Board is reviewing calendars for 2012-13.

Master's requested a change to parent/teacher conferences, originally scheduled for March 21, 2012, to March 19, 2012. The change was necessary to allow for the administrative team at Master's to attend the regularly scheduled Palliser Administrators' Association meeting on March 21.

Brant Christian School requested a change in their site-based professional development day, originally scheduled for May 18, 2012, to May 11, 2012. The day is intended to be a visioning session involving staff, the school society board, parents and students. The school administration suggested the turnout on the 11th would be better because May 18th is the Friday before the Victoria Day long weekend, and many session participants would be away.

The Board approved both changes.

The next regular meeting of the Board will be April 17, 2012 at Coalhurst Elementary School.