

Board Highlights

Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools

Board Meeting Highlights

October 8, 2019



Board Members

Lynn Ware, Chair

Leanne Axelsen, Vice Chair

Karen Becker

Randy Ermineskin

Dave Gursky

Barb Johnson

Rhonda Peters

Jayne Pettifor

Research Report on How Indigenous Students Learn Best

The Board was presented a report on how Indigenous students learn best and how this research could inform the work of our teachers to engage Indigenous student success.

Trustees were also presented with a student's perspective which included her personal experience on what teachers could do differently to engage Indigenous students in their learning. She explained from her own perspective how her education and instruction made her feel, and what would help her and other Indigenous students maximize their potential and be encouraged to learn.

As part of the research some of the strategies and practices were outlined and it was explained as to what our Indigenous students need our teachers to demonstrate while they are learning. Recommendations included the following:

1. Teachers need to include cultural understanding in their lessons
2. Teachers need to slow down their speech
3. Teachers need to create a safe space for Indigenous students to ask questions where they are not afraid of other non-indigenous student reactions
4. Teachers need to believe in the ability of the Indigenous students
5. Teachers need to become fluent in colonial history
6. Teachers need to understand what Indigenous students know and understand.
7. Teachers need to know how racism impacts students
8. Teachers need to be willing to change their teaching practices.
9. We all need to know that the resiliency of Indigenous students is astounding.

The above points were some of the findings resulting from research.

Administration has made a commitment to follow up to see what the next steps could be in the implementation of some of the findings.

Trustee School Visits

Trustees will once again be visiting schools and will continue to use the focus school visit format that was used in 2018-2019. Last year focus school visits were completed in the K-6 schools this year it will be the K-8 schools. Trustee look forward to this opportunity to visit schools.

For more information contact:

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Inspiring students **best**
to become the *best* they can be.