

Board Highlights

Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools

Board Meeting Highlights

November 26, 2019



Board Members

Lynn Ware, Chair
Leanne Axelsen, Vice Chair
Karen Becker
Randy Ermineskin
Dave Gursky
Barb Johnson
Rhonda Peters
Jayne Pettifor

Addressing Budget Challenges for 2019-2020

The Board must make financial adjustments to comply with the Provincial Budget announced on October 24, 2019. The Board reviewed a wide variety of options that would help balance the 2019 - 2020 budget given the reduction in provincial funding and a projected total deficit of \$3,341,947.00. The Board considered implementing a salary rollback for support staff effective January 1, 2020, which would work out to approximately \$175,000 in savings.

A salary rollback for teachers cannot be implemented by the Board as that would have to be negotiated as part of the teacher provincial bargaining process. Staff salaries and benefits account for approximately 75% of the Board's budget.

The Board will use all of its \$1.5 million accumulated reserves to cover a portion of the \$3,341,947 deficit. In addition, the Associate Superintendent, Business reported that one-time adjustments on department budgets, reduction of temporary teaching contracts, and elimination of some support staff contracts have allowed for a balanced budget with a minimal surplus for 2019-2020. Given this, the Board will delay a decision on a rollback to support staff salary.

IMR Projects

The Facilities Department provided an overview of proposed IMR projects for the 2019-2020 school year and an overview of operational efficiencies. The Board proposed delaying any IMR projects that are not critical. Estimates will be attained for IMR projects not yet started. The Board will revisit completion of these projects this year, once the estimates are presented.

Celebrating Excellence

The Success Coach model is a program dedicated to supporting Indigenous students to complete high school. At Wetaskiwin Composite High School (WCHS), the Success Coach model is part of the school's overall approach to inclusive education. WCHS developed a comprehensive approach through its Success Coach program to support the transition of grade nine and ten students. Staff from the school provided highlights of the program with examples of student success.

For more information contact:

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