Wahkotowin Program to be Highlighted at ASBA Zone 4 Meeting

Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools will be hosting the November 24, 2014 ASBA Zone 4 meeting. The host Board has an opportunity to showcase an accomplishment or an initiative to zone representatives. The Board will present on the Wahkotokwin journey and highlight the timeline from the inception of the appointment of our first Maskwacis Trustee representative to where we are now. A brief video will also be presented highlighting FNMI students and successes.

Accountability Pillar Results for 2013-2014

Based on the accountability pillar achievement and performance results, as well as student engagement feedback, Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools is continuing to improve the academic success of all students and enhance the success of First Nations students. There was a decline in 2014 Provincial Achievement Test acceptable results, which had been otherwise improving. Diploma acceptable and excellence results improved significantly in 2014. FNMI students are demonstrating gains in high school English and Math. The three year high school completion rate is also improving, achieving 70% for the first time. However our results continue to demonstrate an FNMI achievement gap.

Implications for improvement include the following:

• Target lower achieving schools while continuing to raise expectations in all schools.
• Develop and implement specific FNMI learning support strategies

Board Advocates for Needs Based Funding for Rural Education

The Board of Trustees will be bringing the following policy issue forward at the upcoming Alberta School Board Associations Fall Annual General Meeting. “That public rural schools should be provided needs-based funding rather than per capita funding to ensure quality education within reason.”

Additional Issues being brought forward at the ASBA Fall Annual Meeting:
Weighting of provincial diploma examinations. That the appropriate weighting of Provincial Diploma Examinations is thirty percent (30%) of a student’s final mark.

That funding to boards should completely support all start up costs incurred when opening new schools and modulars.

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