

Board Highlights

“Aspen View Public Schools is committed to preparing our students to achieve success and reach their unique potential through the provision of diverse learning opportunities.”



From the regular meeting held Thursday, November 21, 2024 at Rochester School

Audited financial statements

Aspen View Public Schools’ [2023-24 Audited Financial Statements](#) were presented by Metrix Group LLP and approved unanimously by the Board of Trustees.

Aspen View’s statement of operations reflects an operating surplus of \$916,532. Secretary-Treasurer Amber Oko and Jeffrey Alliston from Metrix Group explained that the surplus is the result of \$929,100 recognized for the asset retirement obligation (ARO); these funds were not received by Aspen View, but recognized as the ARO liability was reduced with the demolition of the old H.A. Kostash School by Alberta Infrastructure.

The Board of Trustees approved a transfer of just under \$70,000 from operating reserves to fund the unrestricted operating deficit. Aspen View’s operating reserve balance currently sits at \$2.96 million. The Board of Trustees passed a motion to request the full operating reserve balance be carried forward to 2024-25, as the division budget includes a transfer from those reserves.

Annual Education Results Report

Associate Superintendent of Curriculum & Technology Katherine Mann presented Aspen View Public Schools’ [2023-24 Annual Education Results Report](#), which the Board of Trustees unanimously approved.

Aspen View continues to show favourable results from Grade 6 Provincial Achievement Test (PAT) results, as well as Grade 9 PATs at the acceptable standard. Diploma exam results at the acceptable standard have improved in many subjects, as have Diploma exam participation rates. Areas for improvement include Math and Social Studies at the Grade 9 and high school levels.

Aspen View continues to see inconsistent results within the division priority area of Wellbeing, as opinions on education quality, citizenship and learning environments vary from year to year and

among stakeholder groups, influenced by a variety of factors that are sometimes specific to school communities.

Considerable progress continued to be made in the priority area of Engagement, particularly through the work of High School Success Coaches. The Board of Trustees also continues to work collaboratively with municipal partners, school councils and in capturing students’ voices.

IMR/CMR Plan

The Board of Trustees approved Aspen View Public Schools’ 2024-25 Infrastructure Maintenance Renewal (IMR) and Capital Maintenance Renewal (CMR) plans. Total projects within both plans are estimated at \$836,500. Major projects include parking lot replacement at Whispering Hills Primary School, solar panel removal/relocation to accommodate warranty roof repair at Edwin Parr Composite School, and security and building maintenance system installations at multiple schools.

Student voice

As part of Aspen View’s student voice initiative, Rochester School Grade 7 student Harper MacMillan addressed the Board about how the school encourages students to take ownership of their education and build leadership skills.

Other highlights

- The Board of Trustees gave first reading to amended versions of *Policy 30 — Inclusive Education* and *Policy 32 — First Nations, Métis and Inuit Education*. Both policies have been simplified and will have new administrative procedures developed to support implementation.

- During her school report, Rochester School Principal Elizabeth Siemens shared that plans are in place to assist students and families with their transition to new schools for the 2025-26 school year.

Next Board Meeting:

Thursday, December 12, 2024
10 a.m. - Athabasca University

Upcoming Events:

December 23, 2024 -

January 3, 2025

Christmas Break
(no school)

January 6, 2025

Classes resume
(no school)

January 13-28, 2025

Diploma Exams

January 29, 2025

Professional Learning Day
(no school for students)

Trustees:

Ward 1 (North West):

Brenda Fulmore

Ward 2 (North Central):

Anne Karczmarczyk
(Vice Chair)

Dennis MacNeil

Ward 3 (North East):

Candy Nikipelo (Chair)

Ward 4 (South West):

April Bauer

Ward 5 (South Central):

Elohne Chizawsky

Ward 6 (South East):

Donna Cherniwchan

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“Aspen View Public Schools acknowledges Treaty 6 territory: the ancestral and traditional territory of the Cree, Dene, Blackfoot, Saulteaux, Nakota Sioux, as well as the Métis. We acknowledge the many First Nations, Métis and Inuit peoples whose footsteps have marked these lands for generations. We recognize the land as an act of reconciliation and gratitude to those on whose territory we reside or are visiting.”