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Directions Newsletter Regular Meeting of the Board – October 2018

Transportation Status Report

Presented by Kevin Jones, Manager of Transportation and Facilities

An overview was provided of highlights in the areas of personnel, budget, route development and maintenance, fleet maintenance, new buses, bus operations and repairs, policies and communications, and future plans. The Transportation department aims to provide good customer service, while balancing parental expectations with efficiency and consistency in the application of the Transportation policy.

The 2017-18 Transportation Budget was \$9,962,578. Items that affect budget include fuel and oil prices, cost of repairs, maintenance and salaries.

- Buses drove a total of **3,756,819 kms** in 2017-2018
- Buses transported **3,231** students in 2017-2018

We are maintaining our bus fleet at 10 years old or newer, currently at 8 years for the entire fleet, and are in the process of right-sizing the buses in order to reduce operating and maintenance costs.

The Swift Current schools transportation committee was successful with a smooth startup and the school year is going well so far. Formed in September 2015, the committee members are school administrators, Division senior administration, Rilling Bus representatives, school office managers and members of the Transportation Department. The committee has created an evergreen document that the stakeholders follow and the process has proven to be very successful.

The Transportation Department continues to utilize the “Transportation Request Form” to be completed by parents in order to receive services, as well as to ensure effective communication and the safety of the students. This form, as well as updates and other information, can be accessed in the “Bus Information” banner on the Chinook website.

The Transportation Department looks forward to finding additional solutions resulting in improved services for the students in Chinook School Division. We greatly appreciate the ongoing support from the Board and senior administration as well as the communication from the schools and bus drivers, and the support from the mechanics as it is all very crucial to our services.

Facilities and Maintenance Status Report

Presented by Kevin Jones, Manager of Facilities and Maintenance

Chinook maintains 29 buildings in the Division. In 2017-2018, the Maintenance department completed a total of 2,066 work requisitions. Every year the Maintenance Department completes an assessment of all school facilities within Chinook. They are rated out of 100% according to criteria that includes Electrical, Plumbing, Structural, Roofing, Accessibility, Exterior Conditions, Health and Safety, Yard Site Development, Interior Finishes and Functionality. In the past twelve years, 27 out of 29 schools (93%) have shown an increase in their overall facility rating. 23 schools or 79% have increased more than 5% in their overall rating since 2005.

We are now in year six of the PMR (Preventative Maintenance and Repair) Ministry funded program. Currently funding is allocated to each School Division based on the total gross area of all schools. Chinook received \$693,000 for 2013-2014 and has received a yearly increase in PMR funding, with \$1,982,530 for the current year 2018-2019. This type of funding, combined with previous budget allotments, will allow Chinook to plan and complete renovation projects internally without Ministry delays. PMR projects must be approved by the Board and follow the criteria set out by the Facilities Branch.

The department is working as a team to ensure work gets done on time and that there is regular communication with the schools. They take pride in their work, and have received accolades from the schools and communities expressing appreciation for the work that is done.

Official 2018-2019 Enrolments

Presented by Kyle McIntyre, Director of Education

The official September 30th enrolment for Chinook School Division in 2018-2019 is 5,948. The total includes 5335 public students, 483 students in Hutterite colony schools and 130 home schooled students. Overall there are 21 fewer students than last year, with 10 less colony students, 6 more home schooling students and 17 less students in our public schools.

There were some significant areas of increase within the Division: Burstall (8); Centennial (11); Leader (14); SCCHS (40); Vanguard (13). The notable decreases this year included Frontier (14); MCCS (15); Irwin (41); Wymark (23).

Currently there are no teaching staff adjustments necessary at any schools. Our final enrollment is below what was budgeted, so moving forward we may have negative funding adjustments. Chinook will continue to monitor the enrolments to determine if some of the changes are trends or anomalies.

Education Week October 14-20, 2018

Education Week will be celebrated in Saskatchewan October 14-20 with the theme “*A World of Learning for Every Student*” / “*Un monde d’apprentissage pour chaque élève*”. Education Week provides an opportunity to celebrate student success and recognize our dedicated professionals across the province.

Saskatchewan schools and divisions celebrate the achievements of our students and the dedication of our education professionals this week and throughout the year.

Watch #SKedweek on social media to see the activities and celebrations happening in Saskatchewan schools throughout the week.

School Bus Driver Appreciation Day is celebrated on the first day of Education Week, Monday October 15, 2018. This day is observed to recognize the important role that school bus drivers play in safely transporting students to and from school.