**Milo School Council Meeting March 17, 2025**

**Board Highlights for Regular Board Meeting March 11, 2025**

**Bus Service Update:**

New transportation regulations set by Alberta Education will impact the distance at which students qualify for busing services in the 2025-2026 school year. Under these changes, walk limits will increase to 1.6 kilometers for elementary students and 2.0 kilometers for secondary students. The Palliser School Division Board of Trustees recognizes that these changes will impact many families. To assist families with these changes, the Board has committed to maintaining the current level of bus service for students presently accessing Palliser buses. Clarification of the new transportation regulations will be forwarded to parents in the new school year. The Palliser School Division remains committed to exploring solutions that provide the best possible transportation support for students and families. For more information on Alberta Education’s funding changes and Palliser’s proposed transportation solutions.

**Human Resources and Payroll Update:**

The Board received the Human Resources report, highlighting continued improvements in staff retention for both teaching and support positions. Additionally, there has been a significant increase in the number of teachers registered as substitute teachers, strengthening the Division’s ability to provide classroom support.

The Board also received positive updates on support programs for new teachers and those aspiring to leadership roles. These initiatives, led by the Division’s Human Resources and Learning Services teams, have received excellent feedback and continue to help attract, develop, and retain high-quality educators within Palliser.

In addition, the Board was pleased to hear about ongoing improvements to the payroll system. The payroll team has been working diligently to streamline processes and enhance efficiency, ensuring all Division staff receive timely and accurate support.

**Edwin Parr Nomination Announcement:**

The Board of Trustees is pleased to announce their 2024/2025 Edwin Parr Award nomination. Rachelle Warchola teaches grade 2 at Jennie Emery Elementary School. Her engaging and hands-on teaching style has impressed staff, parents, and most importantly, students!

The Edwin Parr First Year Teacher Award recognizes outstanding first-year teachers in Alberta who demonstrate excellence in teaching and a strong commitment to student success. The award celebrates emerging educators who make a meaningful impact in their classrooms and communities. Palliser School Division is proud to have many passionate and dedicated new teachers, and Rachelle exemplifies the excellence they bring to schools in the Division.

Any questions or concerns, please contact Lorelei Bexte, lorelei.bexte@pallisersd.ab.ca

(403) 485-0823.