



**Grande Prairie
Public School
Division**
Every Student Succeeds

December 10, 2024

Board Highlights



GPPSD BOARD BYLAW DEVELOPMENT UPDATE

The second and third readings for Bylaw 2024-1, Criminal Record Check Bylaw, occurred at the December 10, 2024, meeting and was unanimously approved.

The Criminal Record Check Bylaw will require all candidates for Public School Board Trustee in the 2025 Municipal Election to submit a Criminal Record Check with their nomination papers. Nomination papers will be available at Grande Prairie's City Hall after January 1, 2025. Find all GPPSD board policies and bylaws [here](#).



GPPSD2357



www.gppsd.ab.ca/board

BOARD ASSURANCE RETREAT

The Board and GPPSD's education leadership team met on December 5, 2024, for the annual Board Assurance Retreat, held at GPPSD's central office. Trustees were provided an overview of the Division's 3-Year Education plan and the development of the division's Optimum Learning Framework.

The education leadership team discussed their annual work plans with the Trustees providing the board with more in-depth details on how their work supports the priority outcomes in the Division 3-Year Education Plan.

Trustees finished the day by planning for the October 2025 municipal election, brainstorming strategies and resources to help build an understanding of the responsibilities and roles of trustees for potential candidates.

Trustees expressed their gratitude for the information and support they received and noted it was a very productive day



Image (L-R): GPPSD Board Chair Joan Nellis, Assistant Deputy Superintendent James Robinson, Director of Inclusive Learning, Nancy Gorgichuk, Director of Student Supports, Paul Therrien



Image (L-R): GPPSD Trustee Rob Martin and Trustee Andre Oulette



Image (L-R): GPPSD's Director of System Planning, Kimberly Frikas, Director of Teaching and Learning, Corinne Kruze, and Trustee Rob Martin



Image (L-R): GPPSD Vice Chair Donna Koch and Board Chair Joan Nellis



Holiday Art Card Contest Winners

The Board was pleased to hear the winners for the 2024 Holiday Art Card contest, the theme is All is Bright. The winners are:

- Malia Quevillon - first place
- \$200



- Lauren Dunbar - second place - \$150
- Tanu Namsot and Brynn Wilson - third place tie - \$100

The board thanked the contest judges, Trustees Martin, Johnston and Vice Chair Koch, and all students who submitted their excellent artwork. See the full images [here](#).

Due to the postal strike, plans have been made to distribute the card electronically.

First Place

Malia Quevillon





Grande Prairie Public School Division

Board of Trustees 2024-2025



Joan Nellis
Chair



Donna Koch
Vice Chair



Ray Buziak
Trustee



Chris Johnston
Trustee



Andre Ouellette
Trustee



Rob Martin
Trustee



SUPERINTENDENT RETIREMENT

The board accepted Superintendent Sandy (Alexander) McDonald's resignation letter, effective December 31, 2025. Superintendent McDonald provided the division a year's notice to support the current board in recruiting and hiring the next superintendent.

The board expressed its gratitude to Mr. McDonald, and the timing of his retirement which will allow him to be available to support the orientation for the new board following the October 2025 municipal election.

Board Chair Nellis and trustees shared that the board and division have greatly benefitted from Superintendent McDonald's leadership and noted he will be missed.

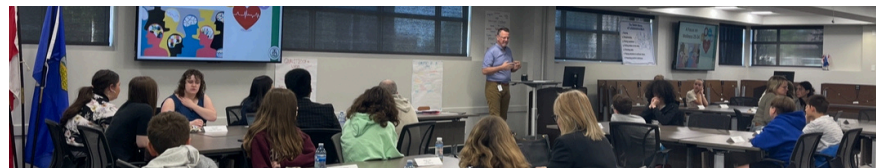
Board Meetings

6:00 p.m., Central Office Board Room, Grande Prairie Public School Division

Future Board Meetings

- January 14, 2025
- January 28, 2025
- February 11, 2025
- February 25, 2025
- March 11, 2025
- March 25, 2025
- April 8, 2025
- April 22, 2025
- May 13, 2025
- May 25, 2025
- June 10, 2025

Individuals or groups who wish to make comment on any specific item on the agenda of a Board meeting are required to register with the Board Office by noon of the day of the Board meeting. The full Board Policy 7 can be found on our website



Superintendent McDonald with the 2023-2024 Board's Student Advisory Committee

