



Secretary-Treasurer Report
Jody Thiessen CPA, CGA
September 3, 2024
Regular Board Meeting

Transportation

- All eligible students should have been contacted regarding student transportation. If a family has not been contacted or would like to know if they are eligible for transportation, please contact our transportation department at (204) 268-2055.
- Update on the new buses, they should be delivered to the dealership, and we may see them on the road mid-November. It is subject to an inspection completed by the Province's, Pupil Transportation Unit (PTU).
- Rules and guidelines for Division transportation information is available on our website:

https://www.sunrisesd.ca/apps/pages/index.jsp?uREC_ID=1060727&type=d&pREC_ID=1356414

Finance

- Working on year-end, auditors expected Second week of September
- Participated in a Secretary PD Day on August 29th. Processes such as the new Sunrise Education Foundation were discussed, use of gift cards in schools and opened the floor to feedback for gift cards and use of quick cash in schools.

ICT

- Participated in a Secretary PD Day on August 29th. Discussion on Student Information System (SIS) and EIS.
- Oakbank Data Centre now has fully moved to Merlin as a hosted operation. Security access and network routing is still controlled by ICT Server specialist.
- Dugald is the next school to join the Valley Fiber connection in the next few weeks. Contractors have scoped out the area for the line the week of August 26th.
- All Staff and teacher computers have been installed in Anola, Oakbank Elementary, Springfield Collegiate, Springfield Middle School, Hazelridge, Heartland and Richland by August 30th
- Beausejour sites are connected to MTS as there appears to be regulatory issues

with the local authority in the Town of Beausejour. ICT and Secretary-Treasurer is following up with Valley Fiber on a timeline.

- The department successfully hired a new Technician to replace the vacant position. Ben Peters starts September 9th. Congratulations, we look forward to working with you.

Maintenance

- A new subdivision in Anola is being built behind the school. The department had a survey done of the school property and a fence is planned to be installed at a later date when the road has been constructed. A request to the RM of Springfield to assist with paying for the fence has been made.
- Springfield Collegiate Building envelope, mechanical and roof replacement – Chiller is up and running. Currently commissioning operation with Johnson Controls. Estimated completion date end of September, subject to review by Manitoba Hydro. Note: we will be experiencing some temperature variations in the building during the commissioning and balancing stages during the cooling operation. A power surge was reported to Manitoba Hydro in August which affected the controls. Discussions with Hydro to mitigate the higher voltage reaching the controls and tripping the chiller's breakers
- Sunrise Education Centre – The mechanical system is over 40 years old. The system was reviewed, and the division has been advised the parts are obsolete. Should something fail, it will be an emergency repair. At this time the department is obtaining quotes to install a new mechanical system. An update to the board will be provided at a later date regarding cost and timeline.

Miscellaneous

- In May, the Finance department undertook a third-party review of internet, cell phone and phone costs. The company used is Spyglass and have been doing these reviews for over 10 years. As a result, Spyglass confirmed the division is paying adequate or lower rates than our other division and municipality counterparts. Cell phones are found to be adequate. Due to the switch to Valley Fiber, the division's internet costs are lower than other divisions. Phone network costs are lower than other divisions due to the switch to Teams/Rogers phone systems. Overall Spyglass was impressed with our rates and had no further action for savings. I passed on the acknowledgment of a job well done to Tracy Weidman, Purchasing Manager, for overseeing the cell phone contract and Gord Tulloch, ICT Director, for overseeing the internet and phone contracts.
- Reached out to the Town of Beausejour and requested a timeline for the installation of sidewalks on Joyce Street by École Beausejour Elementary School.