

Trustee Report for R.F. Staples Secondary School

April 13, 2021

In-town Bussing Fees

There is no funding for transporting student who live less than 2.4 km from their school. The board was under the impression that the in-town bussing was self sufficient. We understood that the fees that were charged covered the expenses. This topic was on the February 24 meeting agenda. The estimated costs for this school year are \$71,807. This is high because we didn't have the same number of riders as in a typical year. The added expenses in 2019/20 were \$53,187, which is a more realistic amount. At this meeting we were given 6 options. As a board, we debated the issue and in the end asked senior administration to present other options. At the April 17 meeting we were given 4 additional options to consider. Treasurer Lee has worked with numbers and if we decrease the runs in Barrhead and Westlock to 1 run in each town and charge \$470/student we would be at a cost recovery basis. Currently the charge is \$360. To lessen the impact to parents, we passed a motion to charge \$415/student for the 2021/22 school year and to increase the fees again the next year. Kindergarten students will be charged 50% of the fee. Also, PUF/Kindergarten to grade 6 will have first priority. If there is room it will be extended to students in grades 7-12. Motions were made and defeated twice before we agreed on the rate.

Trustee Election

Anyone interested in running for the October election can get nomination forms on the PHSD website or by contacting the office.

Division Planning

Trustees have attended 3 days of planning where we have the opportunity to hear what school-based administrators feel about priorities for the upcoming school year. On the last day there was also a presentation on funding for the 2021/22 school year. The board will be making decisions at tomorrow's board meeting relative to:

The Three Year Capital Plan

Co-op Pool

Allocation Formula

Education Plan Priorities and Key Division Strategies