



## SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

December 13, 2022 Board Meeting

1. **Health & Safety Committee Meeting:** On November 24, WRSD we had our second HSC meeting of the school year. The committee discussed the following topics:
  - Injuries & Accidents since the start of the school year
  - Current challenges filling open custodial positions
  - Public School Works safety modules
  - AHS School Outbreak Status
  - School Emergency Response Plans

For further details please see [WRSD HSC Meeting Minutes November 24, 2022](#). The next HSC meeting is scheduled for February 16, 2023.

2. **Middle School Learning Disruption Professional Learning:** The learning services team hosted a middle school learning disruption professional learning day on November 25 (Pioneer School) and November 28 (HWP School) for grades 5-9 teachers. Teachers focused on number sense strategies for math and writing levels for literacy.
3. **Obsidian Energy Christmas Donation**

On December 12, 2022, Obsidian Energy presented the WRSD Director of Wellness and Superintendent of Schools a check for \$10 000 to support our Purpose Hope Dignity Program. This project was started by Division Office support staff and grew from the leadership message – “every child deserves a sense of Purpose, Hope and Dignity.” We understand the day to day struggles that many students experience due to financial situations through no fault of their own and the impact this has on their education and young lives. Education is a means to ensure “purpose” while access to support and supplies lends to “hope and dignity”. This committee believes all children are a product of our community and that no student in any classroom should be distracted or restricted by poverty. Thus the committee raises money to ensure no child/youth goes without the basic necessities. Thank-you Obsidian Energy for your generous contribution to this program.
4. **Indigenous Education:** During the month of November the two Indigenous Education Specialists have been in the schools supporting students and staff in learning about Indigenous Veterans, values and language, Cree storytelling and worldview, Métis culture, the Indigenous Peoples Floor Atlas and the Blanket Exercise. Wilson Bearhead

and Steve Crawler worked with Lochearn students on drumming and dance. David Thompson School's Indigenous Studies class has been accessing support for Land Based learning experiences. Staff and students alike are excited to engage in these learning experiences.

**5. Capital Projects:**

- David Thompson High School- Work continues on the interior of the school including installation of the gym floor and ceilings throughout the building.
- Powerhouse Campus- The contractor continues to close in the building for winter and interior construction continues. The floor polishing has begun and the mechanical and electrical trades continue with their work.

**6. Student Absences:** With the arrival of colder temperatures, WRSD noticed a large increase in student absences. The following spreadsheet shows all absences as well as absences due to illness for each school over the past month: [WRSD illness rates - Winter 2022](#). Alberta Health Services requires schools to report to AHS when their absences are greater than 10% due to illness. AHS analyzes the data and then decides if the school should be put on outbreak status. See the following list for WRSD schools that were put on outbreak status during the past month: [AHS Outbreak Status - WRSD Schools](#). All schools were provided with this [Guide for Outbreak Prevention and Control in Schools - Includes Respiratory, Gastrointestinal and Rash Illnesses - September 2022](#). On November 23, 2022 the Alberta Chief Medical Officer of Health also instructed all schools to send the following notice home to all parents: [Parents Influenza Letter](#).