



Thursday, January 30, 2014

Onoway to get new high school

A new Grade 7-12 public school will be built to replace the current Onoway Jr/Sr High School. It will provide a state of the art school with modern learning facilities for Onoway area students and is part of Redford's commitment to ensuring "students and communities, today and long into the future, have the world-class school facilities they need to learn and be successful."

George VanderBurg, MLA Whitecourt-Ste. Anne, made the announcement today at Onoway Jr/Sr High School, to an excited crowd of over 300 students, staff and members of the community, "Our priority is to continue to provide flexible, well-designed learning facilities in communities where Alberta families live. In just a few short years, Onoway will be home to a new, state-of-the-art school, designed to meet and adapt to changing educational and community needs."

Board chair Judy Muir expressed how pleased the Board of Trustees are with this project's approval. "Since 2007, this project has been our Board's top capital priority. It means so much to the Board, students and staff and to the larger community. That it is a replacement school rather than a modernization is very significant in that students attending the current high school will not have their learning interrupted through the construction process. It is very good news indeed."

Onoway Jr/Sr High School currently provides education for 521 students. Onoway Elementary School educates another 475 students. Northern Gateway Public Schools Superintendent Kevin Andrea commented, "Today's announcement is the result of years of behind the scenes work by our trustees, our MLA and key individuals in the Department of Education and Infrastructure. This project will ensure that students from Onoway and surrounding areas will have high quality educational programming in a state of the art facility. We are very excited about what this means for our students."

Next steps in the planning and development stage will occur when senior administration sits down with government representatives to discuss the scope and timeline for the project. Projected completion of the school is anticipated to be in 2017.

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