

# Highlights from the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

# Meeting highlights from May 25 - Next meeting June 22

# 1. Presentations - Off Campus Programs

Andrew Krul, Off Campus Education Co-ordinator for Lethbridge School Division, and Carey Rowntree, Registered Apprenticeship Program Practitioner for the Division, delivered a presentation for the Board related to Off Campus Programs.

The presentation provided details on the Green Certificate Program, Work Experience and the RAP Program. Krul and Rowntree highlighted three student success stories, which focused on Dennis Shaw's work with DMT Industrial, Trinity Otis and her work at Performance Powertrain Products and Brayden Pike's experience at Southland International.

# 2. Policy Review

Division policies are reviewed on a continuous basis to ensure they reflect the position of the Board. The Policy Advisory Committee has representation from the Board, Division School Council, each of the employee groups, and Division and school administration. Co-ordinator of Learning and International Education, Trish Syme co-ordinates the meetings.

The Board adopted the revisions to the policies as presented by the Policy Advisory Committee, or as amended.

204.13.1 Public Solicitations of the Board - Amended

205.1 Trustee Compensation - Amended

206.1 Trustee Training and Development - Amended

301.1 Superintendent of Schools Roles and Responsibilities - Amended

301.3 Evaluation Process for the Superintendent - Tabled

302.2 Secretary-Treasurer - Amended

601.1 School Three Year Evaluation Plan and Annual Education Results Report - Amended

606.5 Educating Students at Home - Removal

502.1 Appendix A Student Code of Conduct - Review

The policies begin on Page 7 of the AGENDA.

# 3. Authorization of Locally Developed Courses

Alberta Education requires that all locally developed senior high courses be authorized for use by the Board of Trustees.

Division high schools have requested to use Competencies in Math 15-5 (LDC1515) for 5 credits, newly acquired from the Red Deer School Division from September 1, 2021 to August 31, 2025 to enhance program offerings to students.

Previously authorized LDC 3219 Biology 35-3(AP) is set to expire without renewal and will need to be replaced with newly acquired LDC3202 Biology (Advanced) 35-3 from The Calgary School Division, for use from September 1st, 2021 to August 31st, 2024.

Alberta Education also requires the renewal of past acquired courses set to expire on August 31st, 2021. Considering this, we ask the Board of Trustees to authorize the continued use of the following locally developed courses in all Division high schools to enhance program offerings to students:

# 3. Authorization of Locally Developed Courses Authorization until August 31, 2024:

LDC 1299 Dance Performance 15 for 3 and 5 credits

LDC 2299 Dance Performance 25 for 3 and 5 credits

LDC 3299 Dance Performance 35 for 3 and 5 credits

LDC 2468 Directing 25 for 5 credits

LDC 3468 Directing 35 for 5 credits

LDC 1513 ESL Expository English 15 for 5 credits

LDC 2513 ESL Expository English 25 for 5credits

LDC 1350 ESL Intro to Math 15 for 5 credits

LDC 1148 Reading 15 for 3 and 5 credits

LDC 2148 Reading 25 for 3 and 5 credits

# Authorization until August 31, 2025:

LDC1149 Academic Achievement through English Language Development 15 for 3 credits

LDC2149 Academic Achievement through English Language Development 25 for 3 credits

LDC3149 Academic Achievement through English Language Development 35 for 3 credits

LDC 3754 Forensic Science Studies 35 for 5 credits

LDC 2569 Forensic Studies 25 for 3 credits

LDC 3569 Forensic Studies 35 for 3 credits

LDC 1431 Instrumental Jazz 15 for 5 credits

LDC 2431 Instrumental Jazz 25 for 5 credits

LDC 3431 Instrumental Jazz 35 for 5 credits

LDC 1509 Leadership, Character and Social Responsibility 15 for 3 and 5 credits

LDC 2509 Leadership, Character and Social Responsibility 25 for 3 and 5 credits

LDC 3509 Leadership, Character and Social Responsibility 35 for 3 and 5 credits

LDC 1979 Musical Theatre 15 for 5 credits

LDC 2979 Musical Theatre 25 for 5 credits

LDC 3979 Musical Theatre 35 for 5 credits

LDC 3152 Theory of Knowledge (IB) 35 for 3 credits

LDC 1433 Vocal Jazz 15 for 3 and 5 credits

LDC 2433 Vocal Jazz 25 for 3 and 5 credits

LDC 3433 Vocal Jazz 35 for 3 and 5 credits

The Board of Trustees approved the use of LDC1515 Competencies in Math 15-5 for 5 credits newly acquired from the Red Deer School Division from September 1, 2021 to August 31, 2025 to enhance program offerings to students.

The Board of Trustees approved the use of LDC3202 Biology (Advanced) (2020) 35-3 in place of expiring LDC3219 Biology 35-3 (AP) from September 1, 2021 to August 31, 2024 to provide continuance of program offerings to students

The Board of Trustees approved the continued use of Dance Performance 15, 25, and 35 (LDC1299, LDC2299, LDC3299) for 3 and 5 credits until August 31, 2024 for use in all Division high schools.

The Board of Trustees approved the continued use of Directing 25 and 35 (LDC2468, LDC3468) for 5 credits until August 31, 2024 for use in all Division high schools.

The Board of Trustees approved the continued use of ESL Expository English 15 and 25 (LDC1513, LDC2513) for 5 credits until August 31, 2024 for use in all Division high schools.

The Board of Trustees approved the continued use of ESL Intro to Math 15 (LDC1350) for 5 credits until August 31, 2024 for use in all Division high schools.

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# 3. Authorization of Locally Developed Courses

The Board of Trustees approve the continued use of Reading 15 and 25 (LDC1148, LDC2148) for 3 and 5 credits until August 31, 2024 for use in all Division high schools.

The Board of Trustees approve the continued use of Academic Achievement through English Language Development 15, 25, and 35 (LDC1149, LDC2149, LDC3149) for 3 credits until August 31, 2025 for use in all Division high schools.

The Board of Trustees approve the continued use of Forensic Science Studies 35 (LDC3754) for 5 credits until August 31, 2025 for use in all Division high schools.

The Board of Trustees approve the continued use of Forensic Studies 25 and 35 (LDC2569, LDC3569) for 3 credits until August 31, 2025 for use in all Division high schools.

The Board of Trustees approve the continued use of Instrumental Jazz 15, 25, and 35 (LDC1431, LDC2431, LDC3431) for 3 and 5 credits until August 31, 2025 for use in all Division high schools.

The Board of Trustees approve the continued use of Leadership, Character and Social Responsibility 15, 25, and 35 (LDC1509, LDC3509) for 3 and 5 credits until August 31, 2025 for use in all Division high schools. The Board of Trustees approve the continued use of Musical Theatre 15, 25, and 35 (LDC1979, LDC2979, LDC3979) for 5 credits until August 31, 2025 for use in all Division high schools.

The Board of Trustees approve the continued use of Theory of Knowledge 35 (LDC 3152) for 3 credits until August 31, 2025 for use in all Division high schools.

The Board of Trustees approve the continued use of Vocal Jazz 15, 25, and 35 (LDC1433, LDC2433, LDC3433) for 5 credits until August 31, 2025 for use in all Division high schools.

#### 4. Assurance Plan Approval

The provincial Assurance Framework requires school jurisdictions to develop and submit a Three-Year Assurance Plan by May 30 annually. This is the first year of the Assurance Plan model for Lethbridge School Division. Prior to this year, the Division developed a combined Three-Year Education Plan and Results Report for submission to the province November 30 annually. The Assurance Plan will be shared with the Board of Trustees and made available on the Division website.

The Board approved the Assurance Plan, as presented.

#### 5. Public Forum

Rebecca Ash spoke to the Board on the topic of final assessments for students in Grade 9 to Grade 12, and the Division's decision to adjust final assessments to 15 per cent. More information can be found here: <u>ASSESSMENTS</u>.

Ash said she appreciated the time and effort that went into the Division's decision, but added there was not enough parent input. She added she researched what other school divisions had decided upon for final assessments, and found the majority have not final examinations in place or have enacted a no-harm assessment in their final exams. As Lethbridge School Division students compete for post-secondary spots, Ash said the Division should not be making it harder for students to secure post-secondary spots. Ash added a 15-per-cent final will do little to prepare students for post-secondary school, and may prevent some students from attending.

She suggested the Division change its assessment plan for high school students to allow students to improve their mark with a final exam, while also enacting a no-harm clause to ensure their mark can't drop due to a final.

Allison Pike spoke about the Division's Work Experience, and what she called her son's fabulous experience with the program. She praised the supportive work placement her son has received and the job relationships he has gained, and noted the positive changes in her son since his involvement in the program began. Pike added what the Division does to provide the Work Experience Program opportunity to students is phenomenal.

The Public Forum can be watched here, starting at the 1 hour and 31 minutes mark of the Board meeting video: BOARD MEETING.

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#### 6. Natural Gas Contract

Lethbridge School Division currently has an open market floating natural gas supply contract with Access Gas until December 2021. Current load rates are approximately \$3/GJ on average for the School Division.

Lethbridge School Division engaged the services of Energy Associates International (EAI) last year to support management of the Division's energy portfolio. Part of this process is monitoring future pricing on electricity and natural gas. EAI has been monitoring the Natural Gas Market and has advised that rates are increasing.

There is a rise in the Natural Gas Market from record lows in 2019 for the following reasons:

- 1. Change in storage protocol during maintenance periods suppliers are no longer forced to dump gas into the market in the middle of summer when there is minimal demand
- 2. Credit premiums/impact on trading due to persistent COVID-19 pandemic
- 3. Expectation of market normalization in 2021 with higher oil prices, the return of industrial demand and new gas pipelines being built out of Western Canada

An RFP for Natural Gas providers was issued by EAI and four vendors were prequalified to provide Natural Gas services. These vendors were Direct Energy, Access Gas, Enmax Energy, and TransAlta.

It is recommended, given current trends in Natural Gas, to contract for a three-year period January 2022 until December 2024 based on favourable indicative pricing received. Associate Superintendent, Christine Lee, shared indicative pricing and contract details received as of May 24, 2021 with the Board of Trustees at the Board Meeting.

Should the board approve the Associate Superintendent of Business and Operations to enter a three-year contract for Natural Gas supply, firm and final pricing will be received on May 26 and best option signed before noon to engage in the contract. As Natural Gas is a commodity, pricing is held for very short period of time.

The Board approved the Associate Superintendent, Business and Operations to enter a Natural Gas supply contract for the period January 2022 to December 2024 with the supplier that provides the best final pricing.

# 7. École Nicholas Sheran Name Change

As a result of the boundary changes, École Nicholas Sheran will no longer be a French Immersion School. As a result, a request to change the school name to Nicholas Sheran Elementary School was made.

The Board accepted the school name change to Nicholas Sheran Elementary School and will notify Alberta Education of the change effective the 2021-2022 school year.

#### 8. Associate Superintendent Reports

Christine Lee, Associate Superintendent, Business Affairs; Mike Nightingale, Associate Superintendent, Human Resources and Morag Asquith, Associate Superintendent, Instructional Services, delivered their respective reports for the Board. To read the reports in full, see Page 34 of the <u>AGENDA</u>.

#### 9. Board Priorities

The Division Office Leadership Team is committed to keeping the Board informed regarding progress in Board priority areas. An update on progress is provided in the form of a report each month.

The Board received the report as information.

The report can be found on Page 54 of the AGENDA.

# 10. Acknowledgements of Excellence

The Board has a long-standing practice of acknowledging the efforts of students and staff whose commitment to excellence has resulted in outstanding achievement. Details of accomplishments of note are provided as information. Congratulations to the following

Division staff and students:

Senator Joyce Fairbairn student Kay Spencer earned a cash award as part of the Ted Rogers Innovation Awards program, an initiative of Youth Science Canada.

# 10. Acknowledgements of Excellence

# **Lakeview Elementary School:**

We began our year at Lakeview by looking for opportunities to build connections with our students and families after the abrupt end to in- school programming last spring. We established routines for morning announcements on Teams focused on self regulation strategies, mindful moments and humour. We used these opportunities to embed foundational ways of knowing into, and across our curriculum. We continued to celebrate our school and each other with monthly virtual assemblies where we recognized both students and staff for embodying our Lakeview values. We continued throughout the year looking for ways to keep our students happy, engaged, and playing outside more. Our parent council funded the purchase of a Gaga ball court. We had playground stencils painted and are eagerly awaiting the installation of our outdoor classroom and improved outdoor basketball courts. This year saw Lakeview have its largest group ever join our Running Club and participate with their families. All students will be involved in wrapping this up by having every student be a part taking a lap in an homage to our Annual Super Hero Fun Run. We will also be hosting a "Still Social, but Distant" outdoor play day featuring outdoor physical, and academic learning as well as Traditional Indigenous Games.

In the area of Fine Arts our music teacher worked hard to teach music on a cart in each classroom. Because of her creative work we held a virtual winter concert, and had students participate in a drumming contest where they created their own beats and choreographed a song.

Our students were recently participating in Education week activities featuring an Inside/Out art gallery, a Chalk your Walk activity showcasing support for mental health and we will be having a Bulletin Board exchange between grade levels.

Our staff had never lost focus on encouraging all students to be well rounded and academically successful. We celebrate several students who were recognized during the recent Southern Alberta Science Fair:

- Arven Narra Grade 5/Gold Award and Best Elementary Project Project: Aerodynamics
- Abhigyan Nagaruru Best Experimental Design award Project: Buzz with Orbeez
- Dave Virk Best Orator Award Project: The Best Paper Aeroplan Ever

We thank Division 51 for their unwavering support through this year, and also to our School Council for providing us with treats and lunches to keep us going. We are proud of all of our Lakeview family!

#### **Immanuel Christian Secondary School:**

As has been the experience for schools across the province, the year at Immanuel Christian Secondary School has been characterized by change, adaptation and support. Much has been asked of staff, students and our parent community who have all responded with grace, grit and resiliency.

The gathering of our school community for chapel and worship is a key practice at ICSS that we needed to adjust for this year. We moved to a virtual chapel format which included a taped message from pastors or speakers in our community along with worship music included. Our school theme this year was "Unity in Christ" and focused on themes of what binds us together as community, our actions and affections, and promotion of justice and equity. Our staff began to reflect on and refine their personal and professional "Deep Hopes" as a means to guide teaching practice and relationship building.

Our students were still able to engage in creative forms of expression and learning in their core and elective/exploratory courses. Movement towards project-based learning came to the forefront and allowed students to explore 3D printing, robotics, podcasting, woodworking, culinary arts and 3D art design. Outdoor play also became a much-needed emphasis where students were able to then focus and learn in the classroom. Band classes were shifted to general music classes where bucket drumming and guitars were explored by our middle school students.

In November, grade seven students had a great day of exploratory learning through the Skills Alberta Exploration days where they designed a prototype and then constructed it using materials and skills from a variety of skilled trades. The creativity and resourcefulness was neat to witness. Two of our high school students competed in the Regional Skills Canada competition for Carpentry. Congrats to Josh Bosma for winning the silver medal and to Arie Haar for winning the bronze medal.

# 10. Acknowledgements of Excellence Immanuel Christian Secondary School:

Middle school house activities and high school dress-up days were outlets of fun for our students and provided some much need normalcy to the school year. Our supportive parent community continued to stand behind us and we look forward to a positive finish to the school year where we look forward to a Grade 12 drive-in graduation ceremony to acknowledge our graduates' hard work and determination in their time at Immanuel Christian Secondary.

# Mike Mountain Horse Elementary School:

It has been an eventful year at Mike Mountain Horse as we continue to focus on high quality teaching and learning. Supporting a continued focus on project-based learning, teachers in kindergarten to grade four have completed or are in the midst of projects. Grade four completed their board game creation project and are currently working through a numeracy focused Food Truck project while students are online! Grade three successfully completed their building focused project, Looking at Lethbridge, where students determine a need in the city and then plan, draw blueprints and build models of their designs. Grades two are in the early stages of their Bug PBL, while grade one is getting ready to kick off their Birds PBL.

Finally, Kindergarten has introduced a new project focused on names and family while students access learning from home. We have had Melanie Morrow join us via Teams, offering mini lessons on the four plants that are sacred to the Blackfoot people. We purchased four Addition and Subtraction Fact Fluency kits prior to board approval of supplying these kits to the division and have had teachers engaged in the pilot and feedback of the Fact Fluency Kit for multiplication and division.

Mike Mountain Horse has traditionally held monthly Spirit Assemblies based on the Seven Sacred Teachings, where students who demonstrate the qualities of Love, Respect, Courage Honesty, Humility, Wisdom and Truth are acknowledged. This year, these assemblies take place on Teams and have been hosted by students in a variety of grade levels and always feature a visit from our school mascot Spirit the Horse. The importance of offering students opportunities to participate in traditional activities has been at the forefront of planning. With this in mind, we were able to offer a digital Remembrance Day Assembly, Christmas concert and online Christmas caroling. We have also held a number of fun theme days such as crazy hair day, pajama day, book character day, and an upcoming beach day!

Our very active school council has embraced the digital world moving all meeting online. We have worked closely with the council to meet all safety protocols and have continued to offer our hot lunch program. The school council Society has run three new, amazing fundraising events (Mixing spoon, Donut Day and Cookie Dough) while still supporting staff and students with appreciation gifts, resiliency gifts, and creating a Family Fun Outdoor Challenge.

# 11. Donations and Support

Lethbridge School Division is fortunate to be in a community that strongly supports programs and services for students. The Division is appreciative of the difference the support makes to the lives of children. These partnerships and support further the efforts of helping children come to school ready to learn, providing opportunities for engagement, and facilitating student growth and well-being. Listed below and attached are the donations and support received by the Division.

- Vishal Sukhadiya, Pharmacist/Owner of The Medicine Shoppe is providing scholarships to eight high school students in the areas of Best Leadership skills (\$625) and Top Grades (\$625) for a total of \$5,000.
- The Evangelical Free Church made a generous donation of 40 Chromebooks to be distributed to students in need of technology devices for access to learning at home. The Chromebooks were presented to the receiving schools on May 18. The following schools received the Chromebooks for distribution:
- WCHS 10 Chromebooks
- Wilson 10 Chromebooks
- GS Lakie 5 Chromebooks
- Paterson 5 Chromebooks
- Galbraith 5 Chromebooks
- Fleetwood 5 Chromebooks

# 12. School Graduation/Yearend Celebrations

Given the pandemic and subsequent Alberta Health Services guidelines for protecting the health and safety of all public members, regular graduation ceremonies for high schools are not possible for the second consecutive year. The staff and administration of the high schools have been incredibly innovative in their development of different graduation ceremonies that adhere to the guidelines of Alberta Health Services. The activities that are being put in place have not been finalized given the potential change in guidelines that may occur the last week of May. Trustees will be provided with the final plans of the high schools once they are in place. It is the goal of the high schools to honour the graduates and provide opportunity for celebratory closure to a milestone in the lives of these young men and women. The Board received the report as information.

#### 13. Board Reports

Reports were delivered for Policy Advisory Committee, Poverty Intervention Committee, ATA Local Council, Board Budget Committee and ASBA General Meeting. The reports begin on Page 68 of the <u>AGENDA</u>.

# 14. Correspondence Sent - Minister of Education

Lethbridge School Division sent a letter to the Minister of Education to convey the Division's appreciation for the announcement on May 3 providing school staff access to COVID-19 vaccination.

# 15. Correspondence Received - City of Lethbridge Land Development

Lethbridge School Division received a letter from the City of Lethbridge's Land Development Manager with information pertaining to the city's Watermark Community Outline Plan and the options created to send in feedback.

# BUDGET MEETING - 2021-2022 Preliminary Operating Budget - May 25, 1 p.m.

# 1. Opening Comments

Trustees were permitted five minutes to make general comments on the budget or to identify particular issues that they wished to highlight. Trustees comments on the budget can be found at the 1 minute and 35 seconds mark of the 2021-2022 Preliminary Operating Budget meeting video here: <u>BUDGET MEETING</u>.

# 2. Review of Belief Statements

Board Chair Christine Light reviewed the Board's Budget Belief Statements.

#### 3. Revenues and Allocations

Debate in this section focused on revenues and allocations, including projected operating revenues, fees, interfund transfers, etc. Total revenues and the allocation to each block will be finalized.

The use of one-time operating reserves is subject to Ministerial Approval for the 2021-2022 school year; therefore, the budget may need to be subsequently adjusted if the use of reserves, as outlined in the 2021-2022 budget, does not receive Ministerial Approval.

#### **Fees**

Fee information was attached to the agenda, including fee overview, the summary of significant changes, and the 2021-2022 detailed proposed school fee listing.

The Board approved the 2021-2022 School Fee Schedule as presented.

#### **Overall Revenues and Allocations**

The Board approved the Revenues and use of one-time Reserves for the 2021-2022 Budget, as per pages 30-33, as presented.

#### 4. Expenditures and Transfers

Overall expenditures and transfers for the Division are outlined as per pages 34-35 of the 2021-2022 Budget.

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# 4. Expenditures and Transfers

Debate occured in the five sections:

#### **Instructional Block**

The Board approved the Instructional Block expenditures and transfers, as per pages 36-38 of the 2021-2022 Budget, as presented.

# **Governance and System Administration**

The Board approved the expenditures and transfers for Governance and System Administration as outlined on pages 39-41 of the 2021-2022 Budget as presented.

#### **Operations and Maintenance**

The Board approved the expenditures and transfers for Operations and Maintenance, as outlined on pages 42-44 of the 2021-2022 Budget, as presented.

# **Transportation**

The Board approved the expenditures and transfers for Transportation, as outlined on pages 45-46 of the 2021-2022 Budget, as presented.

# Capital

The Board approved the Capital and Debt Services expenditures and transfers, as outlined on pages 47-48 of the 2021-2022 Budget, as presented.

# 5. Budget Approval

The Board approved the 2021-2022 Budget for Lethbridge School Division, as detailed in the previous motions, and authorized administration to allocate and expend funds in accordance with the budget, and the Board authorized administration to amend the 2021-2022 Preliminary Budget, if required by changes in the requested Ministerial Approval on the use of reserves.

More information on the budget can be found here: BUDGET.

The executive summary of the 2021/2022 Preliminary Budget can be found here: SUMMARY.

To view the budget inforgraphics, click on the following link: INFOGRAPHICS.

The budget boards for the preliminary budget can be found here: BUDGET BOARDS.

Regular meeting video: REGULAR

**Budget meeting video: BUDGET** 



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Meeting highlights from May 25 - Next meeting June 22