



Highlights from the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Meeting highlights from Jan, 23 - Next meeting Feb. 27

1. New Westside Middle School Progress Report

Bill Bartlett, principal of the new westside middle school, set to open in September of 2018, provided an update on the construction of the building and preparations for the 2018/2019 school year. Bartlett told trustees staffing is well underway, as 11 teachers have been added from G.S. Lakie Middle School. An administrative assistant has been hired, and the school will soon posted eight other positions. It is expected Bartlett and his staff will gain partial occupancy of the building by June 1, as supplies will be delivered to the school starting in mid-June. The school will involve six collaborative areas for students, which Bartlett said will provide for unique learning opportunities.

"There's so much potential in the building," said Bartlett, who went on to speak about the vision he has for the new school. "We really want this school to be about strong academics."

Bartlett added the hope is to have most staff in place before February's teachers' convention.

2. Technology: Evergreening, Trends & Challenges

Director of Technology for Lethbridge School District No. 51, Jesse Sadlowski, provided an update on the District's technology evergreening initiatives. Sadlowski also highlighted projects which included wireless access point updates, phone system updates and storage drive updates. He added the District's elementary evergreening project over the summer resulted in 850 new desktop PCs installed, along with new monitors, keyboards, speakers, web cameras and portable DVD players.

Phase 2 of that evergreening project will shift the focus to interactive boards in the classroom, along with printers and iPad2 devices.

Sadlowski also highlighted the District's [Innovator's Corner](#) website, as he added District technology staff are working to demonstrate new classroom tools such as virtual-reality headsets, the Surface Studio and the iPad based video-production tool, the Padcaster.

3. Approval of International Travel - LCI

Lethbridge Collegiate Institute (LCI) requested approval to take a group of students on a tour of Italy in April of 2019. The tour will be booked through Mariden Tours. Information regarding the educational benefits of the trip and the proposed itinerary was attached. The estimated cost per student is \$4,395. Fundraising opportunities will be available to students to offset the cost of the trip. Organizers hope to have 24 students participate in the trip.

The LCI tour of Italy in April of 2019 was approved, on the condition all district policies and procedures are strictly followed.

4. School Name Change

Nicholas Sheran Community School requested a name change to reflect the student population. The new school name requested was Ecolé Nicholas Sheran School. Principal Deborah Constable and vice-principal Kathy Mundell were at the Board meeting to represent the school's request for change.

The Board accepted the school name change request, and will notify Alberta Education of the change, which will be in place for the 2018/2019 school year.

5. First Quarter Financial Report

The 2017/18 First Quarter Financial Report for the District was provided for review. Director of Finance, Mark DeBoer, presented the report, which can be found on Page 13 of the [AGENDA](#). The Board received the 2017/18 First Quarter Financial Report as presented.

6. Breakfast with the Board – February 7, 2018 – General Stewart

Lethbridge School District trustees have a long-standing practice of visiting District facilities in order to better understand the operations at each site. Visits by trustees are truly appreciated by staff.

On a monthly basis, trustees meet with the staff of one district site for a continental breakfast. The informal meeting provides an opportunity for staff to share highlights of their work with trustees. Additionally, trustees can share information about district initiatives and respond to questions staff members may have.

Breakfast with the Board has been scheduled at General Stewart School on Wednesday, Feb. 7, 2018 from 7:45 – 8:15 a.m. Following the breakfast, Principal Dieter Witzke will provide a tour of the school for trustees.

7. Associate Superintendent Reports - Business Affairs

Christine Lee presented her report, found on Page 47 of the [AGENDA](#), which highlighted the fact the [2018 ICE Awards Scholarship Breakfast](#) is now sold out. Work continues on the design for the southeast Lethbridge Elementary School site at the Canals at Fairmont. Construction documents are 60-per-cent complete. West Lethbridge Middle School construction is at 75-per-cent complete and on target for school opening in September of 2018.

8. Associate Superintendent Reports - Human Resources

Rik Jesse presented his report, found on Page 49 of the [AGENDA](#), which highlighted the recent hiring efforts of the District. Jesse added the Jan. 6 staff orientation event included 37 staff members, which comprised of teachers, substitute teachers, educational assistants, substitute educational assistants and non-union personnel.

9. Associate Superintendent Reports - Instructional Services

Morag Asquith's report, found on Page 54 of the [AGENDA](#), highlighted the work being done on principal evaluations and the District's Healthy Nutritional Choices policy.

10. Board Priorities

The District Office Leadership Team provided an update on progress of the implementation of the 2017/2018 District Priorities, provided in the form of a report.

The Board received the report as information.

11. 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 District staff and students:

Malcolm Fisher, Grade 12 LCI student, signed on to play volleyball with Lethbridge College Kodiaks.

Emma Arnell, Grade 12 LCI student, is fundraising to support the building of hand pump deep wells in underdeveloped countries as part of LCI's Association to Kill Apathy Club (AKA).

Victoria Park High School students Maddie MacDonald, Nadilie Merrick, Julia Hofer, Louis Day Chief, Bronwyn Young Pine, Melinda Bowns, Josie Garden and Nash Epp were honoured in a special awards ceremony as part of Daytona Cares Day.

12. Snacks with the Superintendents – February 13, 2018 – Fleetwood-Bawden

All the staff of Fleetwood-Bawden Elementary School have been invited to have Snacks with the Superintendents on Tuesday, February 13, 2018, beginning at 10:30 a.m.

The Board received the report as information.

13. Donations and Support

Lethbridge School District No. 51 is fortunate to be in a community that strongly supports programs and services for students. The District 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 are the donations and support received by the district.

- Victoria Park High School students Maddie MacDonald, Nadilie Merrick, Julie Hofer, Louis Day Chief, Bronwyn Young Pine, Melinda Bowns, Josie Garden and Nash Epp were honoured in a special awards ceremony as part of Daytona Cares Day. Staff from Dayton Homes handed out gifts such as laptops to assist the students in their day-to-day lives and prepare for what comes next after high school.
- Lethbridge Oldtimers Sports Association is donating \$1,000 to each of the city high schools for their athletic programs.

14. Reports - Poverty Intervention Committee

Trustee Christine Light highlighted the Weekends and More pilot project, which stemmed from the \$96,000 donation of the Evangelical Free Church from December of 2016. To date, 150 grocery bags have been shared within the district to approximately 130 families. The bag value is \$55 (\$30 for groceries in bag, \$25 gift card to Loblaws included for perishables). The project is housed at Wilson Middle School, Westminster Elementary School, Mike Mountain Horse Elementary School and Senator Buchanan School, but all schools can access this program.

15. Reports - Policy Advisory Committee

Trustee Lola Major's reported highlighted six policies currently up for review:

- 502.1 Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning Environments
- 502.1 Appendix A
- 700.6 Emergency Response Planning
- 504.9 Response to Crisis Situation
- 609.3 Placement, Promotion, and Retention
- 902.3 Audio and Video Surveillance

16. ASBA Zone 6 General Meeting

Trustee Donna Hunt reported that the Telecommunications Policy Position as presented by Lethbridge Public School District passed at the Zone 6 level and will be sent forward to the Fall Convention to be considered by all Zones. An in depth Cannabis Presentation was aimed at preparing Alberta schools for cannabis legalization.

17. District School Council

Trustee Doug James presented a report on the Jan. 15 meeting, which highlighted a parent concerns, interests and questions presentation. Superintendent Cheryl Gilmore presented to the District Council Members a powerpoint that explained the various forms of communication tools and proper protocols parents can use when there is a need to either access and or provide information.

18. Joint City of Lethbridge/School Boards

Trustee Jan Foster's report highlighted challenges surrounding parents illegally parking in school zones, the issue of safe needle disposal in and around schools, emergency evacuation planning and school bus parking in the area of CCH, St. Francis, Ecole St. Mary and LCI.

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