



Highlights from the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Meeting highlights from November 26 - Next meeting December 17

1. All Day Kindergarten

Associate Superintendent, Morag Asquith, provided an update on All Day Kindergarten. For the 2019/2020 school year, Fleetwood, Galbraith and Park Meadows are offering all-day Kindergarten, while Ecole Agnes David-son and Coalbanks are offering half-day and all-day Kindergarten. The Board received the presentation as information.

2. Approval of International Trips - WCHS

Winston Churchill High School (WCHS) requested permission to take the Griffins Basketball Team on an educational basketball trip to Honolulu, Hawaii from December 16th to December 24th, 2020. Information regarding the educational benefits of the trip and the proposed itinerary were attached. The estimated cost per student is \$3,000. Fundraising opportunities will be available to students to offset the cost of the trip. The WCHS Griffins Basketball trip to Honolulu, Hawaii from December 16th to December 24th, 2020 was approved, on the condition all division policies and procedures are strictly followed.

3. Approval of International Trips - Senator Fairbairn

Senator Joyce Fairbairn Middle School (SJFMS) requested approval to take a group of Grade 7 and Grade 8 band students to Magic Music Days 2021 in Anaheim, California in April or May of 2021. The trip will be organized with Affinity Tours. The educational benefits of the trip and the proposed itinerary were attached. The estimated cost per student is \$1,900. Fundraising opportunities will be available to offset the cost of the trip. The SJFMS band trip to Magic Music Days 2021 in Anaheim, California in April or May of 2021 was approved, on the condition all division policies and procedures are strictly followed.

4. Sock It To 'Em Campaign

The 17th annual Sock It To 'Em Campaign has been a tradition in Lethbridge School Division. Volunteer Lethbridge Association took over this event last year. Caretaking and Maintenance staff in Lethbridge and area schools are collecting new socks to be donated to local charities for Christmas. The campaign runs from November 1 to December 13, 2019. The Board received the report as information and made a donation of \$100, as has been done in the recent past.

5. 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. At the Nov. 26 meeting, the following policies were discussed:

500.1 - Student Rights and Responsibilities - Amended

501.6 - Resident Students - Amended

903.1 - School Closure - Amended

The policies which were up for discussion can be found starting on Page 25 of the [AGENDA](#).

6. Division Three Year Education Plan and Annual Education Results Report

Alberta Education requires that each school jurisdiction develop a Three-Year Education Plan (3YEP) which incorporates the vision, priorities, and strategies developed by the Board in consultation with stakeholders.

6. Division Three Year Education Plan and Annual Education Results Report

Alberta Education requires that the formally approved 3YEP combined with the Annual Education Results Report (AERR) be approved by the Board and posted on the jurisdiction website by November 30.

The Education Plan serves as a template for implementation of strategies, professional learning activities, and financial planning in the Division. Coordinator of Learning and International Education, Trish Syme has been instrumental in coordinating the production of the 3YEP/AERR document.

The Education Centre leadership team worked collaboratively to provide input into the plan.

The priorities and major strategies in the plan were developed by the Board subsequent to input received at the annual Town Hall Meeting and consultation with Division and school administration.

The results in the report contain Information from the provincial 2017-18 Accountability Pillar Report including the Provincial Achievement Tests and Diploma Exams.

The Board approved the combined Three-Year Education Plan and 2018-19 Annual Education Results Report as presented.

The report can be found here: [AERR](#).

7. 2018-19 Audited Financial Statement

School jurisdictions are required to submit an audited financial report to Alberta Education.

Will Zobell, Partner and Mina Church, Senior Accountant from BDO Canada LLP, attended the meeting and spoke to the audited financial statement, which appears on Page 34 of the [AGENDA](#).

The Board approved the Audited Financial Statements for the 2018-19 fiscal year.

8. 2019-20 Budget Update

Included with the memo was a Budget update for the 2019-20 school year based on September 30th enrolment numbers. Director of Finance Mark DeBoer attended the meeting to review the update and respond to any questions the Trustees may have.

The report begins on Page 111 of the [AGENDA](#).

For more on the budget, please see the media release on the Lethbridge School Division website: [BUDGET](#).

The Board approved the Budget Update for the 2019-20 fiscal year.

9. Public Forum

Brooke Culley made a presentation to the Board, as he outlined his concerns over the city passing a resolution to not renew the School Bus Operations contract with Lethbridge School Division and Holy Spirit Catholic School Division. He added the long-standing agreement between the city and the two divisions, which is the only such agreement in North America, should be celebrated.

10. City of Lethbridge Operational Review Recommendation Re: Transportation

Superintendents and Board representatives of both Lethbridge School Division and Holy Spirit Catholic School Division met with Mayor Chris Spearman and Councillor/Deputy Mayor Belinda Crowson to discuss the City of Lethbridge Operational Review recommendation regarding transportation for students. Implications of the Operational Review recommendation that the City of Lethbridge no longer partner with the two school divisions in the delivery of school bus services was discussed. Of significant concern is the short timeline the report recommends for any transition of services.

It was recommended that the Board endeavour to find avenues to engage the City of Lethbridge in conversations and advocacy regarding the benefit of continuing a cost-neutral school bus transportation partnership for students and families.

For more information, please see the joint Lethbridge School Division/Holy Spirit media release: [SCHOOL BUS](#).

The Board also unanimously carried the following motion:

That the Board of Trustees and the Lethbridge School Division endeavour to engage the City of Lethbridge and Holy Spirit School Division in conversations regarding the safe and efficient transportation of students in conjunction with a reasonable timeline to explore our partnership and possibilities.”

11. Public Forum Response from the October 22, 2019 Board Meeting

The Board of Trustees responses to a concern brought forward during the October, 2019 Board meeting, can be found on Page 161 of the [AGENDA](#).

12. Breakfast with the Board – G.S. Lakie – December 4, 2019

On a monthly basis trustees meet with the staff of at least one Division 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 Division initiatives and respond to questions staff members may have.

Breakfast with the Board has been scheduled at G.S. Lakie on Wednesday, December 4, 2019 at 8:00 a.m. Following the breakfast, Principal Sharon Mezei will provide a tour of the school for trustees.

The Board received the report as information.

13. Associate Superintendent Reports

Christine Lee, Associate Superintendent, Business Affairs; Rik Jesse, 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 163 of the [AGENDA](#).

14. Board Priorities Report

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

The Board received the report as information.

15. 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:

Division students Abigail Reimer (GPMS), Auron Emard (LCI), Kyira Franklin (GS Lakie), and Jasper Davis (WCHS) made the Team Canada Roller Derby teams. There were 86 competitors from across Canada and 40 were selected.

Immanuel Christian Elementary School teacher, Dana Heshka attended an Educational Leadership and Development Institute for teachers interested in leadership. She has taken on a leadership role with developing a numeracy plan for the school.

Immanuel Christian Secondary hosted the 2A Boys Volleyball Provincials in November with the help of WCHS gym space. We anticipate good volleyball and positive sportsmanship!

Matthew Bekkering (ICSS Principal) will be honoured with the 2019 Zone Award of Merit in recognition of his contribution to high school athletics in Alberta and to the zone.

Mark DeBoer, Director of Finance earned his Certified Administrator of School Finance and Operations (SFO) designation. Mark will join approximately 430 other school business officials from across North America who have earned the SFO credential and distinguishes them as a skilled professional who demonstrates a commitment to high standards in school business.

Lynn Wytrykusz, Westminster EEP Manager, made a presentation along with Dr. Robin Gibb from the University of Lethbridge to the staff at Westwind School Division as part of the Building Better Brains project and speaking about 10 play based activities that educators and parents can do regularly to strengthen executive functioning and brain development. Lynn practices these strategies everyday with students and it makes a difference.

Thank you to Westminster staff Bret Jesse and Cheryl McIntyre for participating in the Volleyball program being implemented in elementary schools. Andy Tyslau, Vice Principal of Galbraith helped organize the league and most elementary schools are now holding games after school this month. Students are excited to show off their skills.

LCI Top 10 Zone Cross Country finishers are:

For Juniors:

Kieran Schmidtke 1st, Parker Leavitt 3rd, Makena Wood 5th.

15. Acknowledgements of Excellence

For Intermediate: Owen Stewart 2nd, Carter Van Roon 3rd, Hayden Thomas 4th, Carter Lewis 5th, Courtlynd Cherpin 2nd

For Seniors: Mercy Trinh 1st, Kennedy Tanner 4th, Kya Bester 5th, Maddi Boehme 7th

LCI Top 10 Provincial Cross Country finishers: Kieran Schmidtke 2nd, Courtlyn Cherpin 9th, Owen Stewart 6th

LCI Cross Country coaches: Mrs. Sutherland, Ms Lavergne, Bruce Stewart, and David Stewart.

Bouquet to Isabelle Plomp and Rochelle Neville for recognition by Alberta Education for having 100% of the audit files approved for the last three consecutive years. Your diligence and thoroughness in preparing files for review is to be commended.

16. 2019 Christmas Celebrations

The 2019 Christmas Celebrations season schedule was attached. The schedule can be found on Page 192 of the [AGENDA](#).

The Board received the report as information.

17. Snacks with the Superintendents – Galbraith – December 5, 2019

At the beginning of each school year, Executive Council members are designated as school liaisons for each of the Division schools. As a liaison, the Executive Council members represent the Division at school functions. It has also been a long-standing practice for Executive Council members to visit schools and classrooms on a regular basis, observing first-hand the activities that take place in the school. Visits by Executive Council members are appreciated by staff. On a monthly basis Executive Council as a whole meet with the staff of one school for snacks.

The informal meeting provides an opportunity for staff to share highlights of their school.

Additionally, Executive Council members can share information about Division initiatives and respond to questions staff members may have. All the staff of Galbraith have been invited to have Snacks with the Superintendents on Thursday, December 5, 2019 starting at 7:45 am.

The Board received the summary as information.

18. 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.

- Panago Pizza owners Wade & Sandy Pierson made a donation to ATA Local No. 41 who in turn donated the funds towards the Division Nutrition Program in the amount of \$475.

The Board received the summary as information.

19. Board Reports

Reports were delivered for the First Nations Métis and Inuit (FNMI) Advisory Committee, Division Student Advisory Council, Division School Council, Facilities Committee, ATA Local Council and Policy Advisory Committee. The reports begin on Page 196 of the [AGENDA](#).

19. Correspondence - Received

Alberta Health sent a letter to the division in regards to recent concerns surrounding lead health risks in schools.

20. Correspondence - Sent

A letter was sent to the Lethbridge Police Service in regards to urge the Lethbridge Police Services and the City of Lethbridge to return School Resource Officer program staffing levels to where they were in 2016, to help meet the increasing complexity of the needs that present in our schools.

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