



Highlights from the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Meeting highlights from December 15 - Next meeting January 26

1. Technology Evergreening Plan

The Board of Trustees requested the Finance and the Technology Departments consider the purchase of mobile computing devices (Laptops and iPads) that need replacing by schools using one-time capital funds received from the transition of school bus operations.

Furthermore, that a plan be developed to continue the evergreening of laptops and iPads on a go forward basis as part of the Division's technology evergreening plan.

Jesse Sadlowski, Director of Technology and Innovation and Mark DeBoer, Director of Finance spoke to the revised evergreening plan, that includes laptops and iPads.

The Division has also been alerted to a worldwide shortage of computer chips that is resulting in a shortage of laptops. To acquire laptops for the start of the 2021-2022 school year, it is recommended that orders are placed before the end of 2020.

The Board authorized the Technology Department to purchase the necessary laptops and iPads that need replacement in our schools funded through capital reserves, subject to the development of an evergreening plan in consultation with schools.

2. Board Donations in Lieu of Christmas Treats

For the past number of years, the Board has made donations on behalf of each staff to charities identified by each school. This practice was put into place in lieu of some form of token of appreciation from the Board such as chocolate to acknowledge the efforts of staff. The Board continued with this practice, making a \$50 donation on behalf of each staff to a charitable organization identified by the staff.

For a list of the charitable organizations that the Board will make donations to on behalf of the respective staff groups, please see Page 9 of the [AGENDA](#).

3. 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 10 of the [AGENDA](#).

4. 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 is provided in the form of a report each month.

The Board received the report as information.

The report can be found on Page 26 of the [AGENDA](#).

5. 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: Zara Enayetullah, G.S. Lakie student, won a Bronze award for her poetry submission entitled "Across the Sand" to the 2020 Ocean Awareness Contest.

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5. Acknowledgements of Excellence

Showcasing Dr. Probe:

Dr. Probe Elementary has enjoyed a successful and rewarding start to the school year. We have capitalized on a nutrition grant to support students through a safe and healthy snack-bin program as well as bagged lunches to ensure all students have access to food while at the school. Additionally, Dr. Probe staff members secured a wellness grant from the school division that funded the purchase of 10 stationary bikes and an elliptical trainer. These pieces of exercise equipment have made their way into our hallways and have offered students opportunities for additional intensive movement breaks to help with focus and regulation. Our focus on health and wellbeing during COVID has also seen the planning and implementation of wellness curriculum in grades 1-5 that support students with strategies and awareness surrounding their own mental and physical health and wellbeing.

In collaboration with our school council, we have launched and successfully raised over \$20,000 to secure appropriate funds in replacing our outdated laptops. A true community initiative, funds have been contributed by local businesses, parents and families of the school, staff members, our University of Lethbridge practicum students and even Probe students. Our grade 5 students were able to collaborate within their cohorts (both in-school and at-home) to develop and film a Remembrance Day presentation that was shared with our parent community. The success of this format has been the inspiration for our upcoming Christmas celebration that will be shared with our entire community and be representative of all of our students and their many talents.

Grade 5 teacher, Mrs. Jennifer LeGrandeur, was recently contracted to do the art for Jody Carrington's upcoming work. Our grade 2/3 teacher, Bobbie Mackinnon, was recently recognized for her work piloting "Number Talks" in her classroom and for her presentation to the numeracy committee. One of our grade 3 students, Roshelle Daniels, is the recipient of the 2020 Honouring Spirit: Indigenous Student Awards - Honourable Mention Certificate.

Showcasing École Nicholas Sheran:

Teacher Stephen Woodcock completed his Master's in Education.

École Nicholas Sheran School created a new Vision, Mission and Values that encompass all that we do. The 4 Values are now the basis for our Character Education program and guide our monthly learning and recognition. Within each of our Values the staff committed to all use the following Universal Strategies to support students.

Vision Statement

We are respectful, lifelong learners that are ready for the challenges of the future. Nous sommes de perpétuels étudiants, respectueux et prêts pour les défis du futur.

Mission Statement

École Nicholas Sheran School is an inclusive and collaborative community, where students build resiliency by embracing challenges with innovative and critical thinking.

L'école Nicholas Sheran School est une communauté inclusive et collaborative, où les élèves développent la résilience en acceptant les défis avec une réflexion critique et innovatrice.

Values

COLLABORATION - We work together toward a shared goal. Nous travaillons ensemble pour un but commun. Universal Strategy commitments – Class meetings, Parent phone calls, Staggered entry

RESPONSIBILITY / RESPONSABILITÉ - We do things we are expected to do and accept the consequences of our actions. Nous faisons ce qui est demandé et nous acceptons la conséquence de nos actions. Universal Strategy commitments – Breaks, Visual schedule

COMPASSION We show kindness, caring, and willingness to help others. Nous montrons de l'amitié, de la tendresse et la volonté d'aider les autres. Universal Strategy commitments – Peace corner, relationship building, Sept time

RESILIENCE / RÉSILIENCE We bounce back or recover from challenges. Nous rebondissons dans la vie après les défis. Universal Strategy commitments – Emotional regulation, mindfulness.

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5. Acknowledgements of Excellence

Showcasing Victoria Park High School and Lethbridge Alternative Schools and Programs:

Through our work at Victoria Park High School and Lethbridge Alternative Schools and Programs, we are currently supporting 313 students in achieving their preferred futures. Our days include the joys, successes, challenges and heartbreaks that come with supporting human beings in their growth and development. Along the way, we have much to celebrate and are very proud that our students and staff are engaging in:

- A place to belong and be a part of something larger than the individuals themselves
- An Advisor System that offers a chance to connect with each student individually, offering intensive supports in the academic, physical, emotional, social, and cultural domains
- An educational model that offers individual choice, tailored to meet student needs and designed for scaffolding unique pathways to success
- Therapeutic supports within comprehensive academic programming
- Option classes that are designed to meet the needs and interests of diverse learners in a variety of contexts
- Design of learning programs offered in-person, on-line, and via Distributed Learning, providing formats for curriculum delivery that are carefully matched to the student context
- A Mindfulness Partnership with the University of Lethbridge – practicing self regulation and mindfulness, specifically designed for students in Alternate School environments and incorporating a cancer risk-prevention model
- The creation and development of a Volunteerism Course that youth will be able to take part in to earn credits, gain skills, build resumes, and to give back to their community
- The You and Your Child Pre-Natal and Parenting program, where our students can learn healthy child and self-care practices, intentionally changing the trajectory of the generations to come
- The Stepping Away program which allows students a chance to develop skills in the trades, while growing in their resiliency, and nurturing of their own mental health and well-being
- Supported transitions to and from youth treatment programs in our local community
- Daily hot lunches, funded through grant applications and prepared by students in an effort to meet the needs and build the skills within our own school population
- A caring, compassionate, soft place to land, where students are able discover and nurture their own strengths and abilities, connecting to purpose and passion in their education

The realities of supporting people in their growth and development give us cause for constant joy, laughter, worry, and anticipation. Through it all, we make a concerted effort to practice recognition of the effort it takes to succeed, and to celebrate the forward movement that we see in our students' lives. Thank you for your support of our programs.

6. 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.

- Lethbridge Toyota donated a Hunter tire machine and Hunter tire-balancing machine to the Automotives program at LCI. More information can be found here: [LCI DONATION](#).

7. Board Reports

Reports were delivered for the Community Engagement Committee, Division School Council and the Poverty Intervention Committee. The reports begin on Page 39 of the [AGENDA](#).



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