

Division School Council Minutes for April 12, 2021

1. Welcome and Introductions

2. Additions to the Agenda

2.1. What is the special Board meeting about on April 19, brought forth by a parent representative

3. Approval of Agenda – accepted as presented

4. Approval of the Minutes of March 1, 2021 accepted as presented

5. Business Arising from the Minutes - none

6. Trustee Report -

6.1. Presented by Christine Light

6.2. For details please see highlights attached.

6.3. Special Board meeting for next week on April 19, 2021

6.3.1.COVID and budget update

6.4. Division has decided not to participate in the pilot program for Alberta K-3 draft curriculum and will be providing feedback to the province.

6.5. Draft curriculum can be found here:

<https://curriculum.learnalberta.ca/curriculum/en>

6.6. Parents are also able to complete the survey to provide feedback, survey found here:

<https://extranet.gov.ab.ca/opinio6/s?s=public2021EN>

7. Alberta School Councils Association Report

7.1. Virtual conference on Apr 23 - 24, Division will pay for one member from each Parent Council to attend.

7.2. If you are interested in attending please email LeeAnne.Tedder@lethsd.ab.ca to have her register you and take care of payment.

8. Superintendent's Report

8.1. Pilot project for E-learning launching next year, schools facilitating this will be:

8.1.1.Elementary: Dr. Robert Plaxton

8.1.2.Middle: Senator Joyce Fairbairn

8.1.3.High: This will be done a little differently, this information will be communicated by the high schools to students and parents as part of registration processes.

8.2. No changes in regards to COVID protocols

8.3. Details regarding rapid testing of asymptomatic students for selected middle and high schools is to be determined.

8.4. It is not a School Division's decision to move a school to online learning.

8.4.1.It is decided by the province and AHS when a Division provides their input/data.

8.4.2.Not only are the number of cases considered, but whether the school is operational or not is also considered (how many staff are absent due to symptoms and how many substitutes are available to cover those absences), other factors are considered too.

8.4.3.Suggested to have School Councils discuss contact tracing, what we have learnt over the past year and different possibilities in regards to quarantining. Contact tracing and quarantine decisions are under the authority of Alberta Health Services.

9. Roundtable Reports

9.1. School Highlights

10. Adjournment - 7:50 pm, next meeting Monday May 3 @ 6:30 pm



LETHBRIDGE SCHOOL DIVISION
Board of Trustees
433-15 St. S., Lethbridge, Alberta, T1J 2Z5
PHONE: 403-380-5301
FAX: 403-327-4387
www.lethsd.ab.ca

TRUSTEE report to school councils:

March 23, 2021

1. Edwin Parr Nominee Video

The Lethbridge School Division nominee for the 2021 Edwin Parr Award is Mikaela McNab, a teacher at General Stewart Elementary School.

Trustees watched a video that showcased McNab's work at the school so far throughout the 2020/2021 school year.

The video can be found here: [EDWIN PARR](#).

2. Early Education Program (EEP) Fee

Early Education Program fees for the 2020-21 school year are currently approved at \$185 per month per student. Due to budget limitations for the 2021-22 school year, an increase in fees is required to promote the sustainability of the Early Education Program. An increase of \$15 per month per student is being recommended, to bring the total to \$200 per month per paying student.

The Board of Trustees approved the Early Education Program fee increase to \$200 per month for the 2021/2022 school year.

3. 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.

402.12 Staff Learning - Amended

403.3 Employee Discipline - Amended

505.9 Appeals Concerning Student Matters - Amended

1003.1 Channels of Communication and Disputes Resolution - Sent back to Policy Advisory Committee

The policies begin on Page 8 of the [AGENDA](#).

4. Second Quarter Financial Report

The 2020-2021 Second Quarter Financial Report for the Division is provided for review.

Director of Finance, Mark DeBoer was in attendance to respond to any questions Trustees had.

The Board received the 2020-2021 Second Quarter Financial Report as presented.

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

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Christine Light, Tyler Demers, Clark Bosch, Jan Foster, Donna Hunt, Doug James, Lola Major

5. Board Budget Belief Statements

During its 2021 Strategic Planning, the Board reviewed the Budget Belief Statements that will serve as a guide as the 2021/2022 budget is developed. The Board adopted the Budget Belief Statements for 2021/2022 as presented. The Budget Belief Statements can be found on Page 62 of the [AGENDA](#).

6. Three-Year Capital Plan

The Executive Summary to the 2022/2023 to 2023/2024 Capital Plan for the Division was provided for review. The detailed Three-Year Capital Plan will be located on the Division website.

The Board accepted the 2022/2024 Capital Plan as presented.

The report begins on Page 64 of the [AGENDA](#).

7. Public Forum

Allison Purcell-Pike and her son, Bradley participated in the Public Forum portion of the meeting via Microsoft TEAMS on the topic of E-Sports in Lethbridge School Division. The Pikes sought clarification and direction with ways for students to carry on with virtual activity such as E-Sports. It was mentioned innovation is encouraged for students but at the same time, the Division is putting roadblocks in the way to prevent that in this case. Allison Purcell-Pike added no description has been provided from the Division in terms of why an activity such as E-Sports could not carry forward.

8. Performance Infrastructure Program

On July 20, 2020 by way of Special Meeting, the Board of Trustees approved the awarding of RFP for Energy and Infrastructure Improvement Projects to Johnson Controls.

Lethbridge School Division Facility Services has been working with Johnson Controls on Technical energy audits to determine scope of the project. Johnson Controls has tendered the project and has provided a financial summary scenario for consideration.

The initial business case of a comprehensive energy replacement project that will impact 9 schools is approximately \$4.1 million. These projects would be funded through Infrastructure Maintenance and Renewal (IMR) funds that have been deferred for this project.

Further Shovel Ready projects have been provided that could be funded by 2021-2022 Capital Maintenance and Renewal (CMR) funding from the Province once the available funding has been announced. These projects are estimated to be around \$3.6 million. It is estimated that the school division would save more than \$200,000 annually on utility costs, have created 51 jobs, and a local economic impact of \$12.4 million when the full project is completed.

Facility Services is still assessing each project and some projects may be interchanged within the listings.

Administration is seeking high level Board approval to engage in a contract with Johnson Controls for the Comprehensive Project of approximately \$4.1 million to be funded by IMR and with approval to amend the contract for approximately \$3.6 million should adequate CMR funding be approved.

It was recommended the Board approves that administration may enter into a contract with Johnson Controls LLP for the Performance Infrastructure Program as presented under the condition that these projects are funded through available IMR and CMR funding available.

Instead, the Board deferred a decision on the motion, and set a Special Meeting for Friday, March 26 at 11 a.m. to discuss the matter further. The agenda for the Special Meeting can be found here: [AGENDA](#).

9. Pandemic Plan

The Board reviewed the data and trends of the COVID-19 impact in Lethbridge School Division schools. Active Lethbridge cases went from 175 in February to 502 in March. At a Division level, there are 144 staff and over 1,600 students in quarantine. The Board extended its appreciation to the staff who continue to deliver quality learning both in school and at home. The Board also recognized the challenges to families when their children are quarantined and added the Division is incredibly thankful that we can work together to support children in Lethbridge. The Board will continue to look at information on an ongoing manner and will be reviewing trends again after Easter break. The Pandemic Plan is now available on the Division website.

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Christine Light, Tyler Demers, Clark Bosch, Jan Foster, Donna Hunt, Doug James, Lola Major

10. Electricity RFP

Lethbridge School Division currently has an electricity supply agreement priced at \$56.63/MWH with Enmax energy with a term to expire June 2022.

Lethbridge School Division engaged the services of Energy Associates International last year to support management of the Division's energy portfolio. Part of this process is monitoring future pricing on electricity and natural gas.

Based upon the fast tracking of Coal-to-Gas conversions of electricity generation plants in Alberta, there has been an upward trend in the forward pricing of electricity. As such an Electricity Supply RFP was issued to develop a prequalification pool of suppliers. Four respondents met the criteria for prequalification and were asked to provide final indicative pricing. These four suppliers were Enmax Energy, TransAlta, Capital Power and Direct Energy.

Prequalification included indicative pricing, administration fees, and volume thresholds. The Board of Trustees were provided information relative to the initial prequalification proposals on March 5th at their annual planning meeting. All four respondents were asked to provide final price bids for each year going forward from July 2022 to December 2026.

Firm price bids were received as of 10 am on March 10th and a contract was signed with the lowest price respondent Capital Power at a five-year rate of \$55.45 /MWh and administration fee of \$.10 /MWh. A contract was required to be signed by 12 noon after receiving final price bids.

This rate is slightly lower (\$1.18 per MWh) than current rate, which consultants have indicated is very favourable given market indicators. This long-term pricing effective for July 2022 provides budget certainty given projections of increasing costs in the Electricity Supply market.

The Board approved the Electricity Supply contract signed with Capital Power at \$55.45/MWh from July 1, 2022 to December 31, 2026.

11. Public Forum Response

Board Chair Christine Light provided a written response to a Feb. 23 Public Forum submission from Allison Purcell-Pike. The response can be found on Page 76 of the [AGENDA](#).

12. 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 78 of the [AGENDA](#).

13. Board Reports

Reports were delivered for Division School Council, the Facilities Committee, the Poverty Intervention Committee, ATA Local Council, the Policy Advisory Committee and for the ASBA General Meeting. The reports begin on Page 105 of the [AGENDA](#).

To view the livestream of the March 23 meeting, click here: [LIVESTREAM](#)

BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Christine Light, Tyler Demers, Clark Bosch, Jan Foster, Donna Hunt, Doug James, Lola Major

NEXT MEETING:
Tuesday, April 27, 3:30 p.m.
(public forum begins at 5 p.m. via TEAMS)
Meeting livestreamed on YouTube

