



Highlights from the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Meeting highlights from April 27 - Next meeting May 25

1. Presentations - Counselling

Kathy Mundell, Counselling Co-ordinator for Lethbridge School Division, delivered a presentation for Trustees. Mundell explained there are two teams that offer very different supports - Family Support (funded through Child Family Services and FCSS) and Mental Health Capacity Building (funded through AHS). She provided a recap of the current situation in Lethbridge, as it pertains to the pandemic, where 58 per cent of families have experienced income loss and in 20 per cent of home, all income sources have been lost.

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.

202.2 Chair of the Board - Amended

202.3 Individual Trustees - Amended

203.2 Long-Range Planning - Amended

203.4.1 Standing Committees - Amended

203.5 Special (Ad Hoc) Committees - Amended

203.6 Joint Committees - Amended

203.6.3 Board Representatives - Amended

204.9 Board Meeting Procedures - Amended

204.13.1 Public Solicitations of the Board - Amended

1003.1 Channels of Communication and Disputes Resolution - Amended

The policies begin on Page 11 of the [AGENDA](#).

3. Art's Alive and Well in Schools

Art's Alive and Well in the schools is a yearly art exhibit put on by all the Lethbridge city schools within the Holy Spirit Catholic School Board, Lethbridge School Division and École La Vérendrye. It is displayed in co-operation with the Southern Alberta Art Gallery and usually takes place in the spring. Last year, due to Covid, "Art's Alive and Well in the Schools" moved online and was well received in that format. For that reason (and the continuation of Covid restrictions) it was decided to move the exhibition online permanently. It is a pleasure to announce our re-named and re-branded 44th annual exhibition: "Virtually Installed: Lethbridge Schools. Students. Art".

The exhibition will be hosted on a page on the Lethbridge School Division website starting May 3, 2021 and promoted by the Southern Alberta Art Gallery and the Holy Spirit Catholic School Board. In addition, the SAAG will be showing a virtual tour of the artwork on their website.

Like last year, there will be an opportunity for everyone to vote for their favourite works and we are also pleased to include the University of Lethbridge and the Allied Arts Council as award sponsors. All the award winners and favoured artwork pieces will be announced in the last week of May.

The Board received the report as information and extended appreciation to Kathy Knelsen for her efforts to co-ordinate this celebration of student art in Lethbridge.

4. 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 31 of the [AGENDA](#).

5. 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 47 of the [AGENDA](#).

6. Education Week, May 3 to 7, 2021

The first Alberta School Week (Education Week) was held December 2-8, 1928. Its purpose then, as now, is to call attention to the importance of education and to show the public the good things happening in Alberta schools.

Education Week provides all Albertans with an opportunity to highlight the important role education plays in shaping the future of our province.

The Education Week theme is "Learning is a Journey."

To celebrate Education Week at the Division level this year, the Lethbridge School Division trustees will recognize staff and celebrate the week using the website and social media.

The Board received the report as information.

7. 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:

General Stewart Elementary School:

General Stewart is very proud to share our highlights so far this year. We have tried very hard to keep students and families engaged in our school during this school year. We purchased school shirts and masks for all of our students and staff as a way to connect to one another and build community. We have moved to Daily Morning Meetings over Teams during which we have a rotation of students from each class that participate in the announcements by sharing Celebrations of the Day as well as Jokes of the Day. On Fridays, our grade 5 students rotate hosting our meetings and they take over all of the technical and speaking parts, including our Land Acknowledgement and gratitude statement, which is spoken in Blackfoot. We also have Melanie Morrow join us for our Tuesday Morning Announcements for our Indigenous Education spotlight.

General Stewart has traditionally held monthly walks to Henderson Lake and this is something that we have continued. When we hold these events, we invite parents to join us while wearing masks and distancing. We have also held a virtual Halloween Parade, a virtual Remembrance Day Assembly, as well as a virtual Christmas Concert. These events were live streamed, and we invited parents and relatives to join us over Teams. They have been very well received. We held a virtual book fair and our annual March Book Madness Tournament of Picture Books.

We are also planning on holding a French Celebration of Learning for Le Festival du Voyageur that will be pre-recorded and then added to our school YouTube Channel. We have also created a Numeracy Corner on our school web page where we have linked to Numeracy games that our staff recorded to encourage families to play them at home. We highlight a different game each newsletter and we are planning on adding more games as the year continues. We have also purchased a large inflatable outdoor movie screen that we are planning to use for our Community Engagement Nights. We are hoping to hold one in the spring, depending on COVID-19 restrictions.

Thanks for giving us this opportunity to share some of our highlights this year!

Chinook High School:

The Chinook High community has aimed to meet excellent standards in achievement, growth, community and safety these last months.

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7. Acknowledgements of Excellence

Chinook High School:

“As a new staff member to Chinook but having previously worked in schools for more than a decade I have been impressed, amazed and consistently in awe of the flexing, bending, twisting, turning and contorting that staff members in all areas of our school did before students arrived and have continued to do in our joint efforts to support students to know their why, aim for growth and to take ownership! It’s been enriching and inspiring to work with and alongside our staff and support one another to continue to do our very best for students and their families each and every day.”

Acknowledgement to Sydney Whiting, a grade 12 student and future political science scholar at the University of Lethbridge who recently penned a guest article for CBC news. Sydney is a thoughtful grade 12 student leader with the Climate Hub of Southern Alberta. <https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/calgary/road-ahead-mobilizing-youth-climate-action1.5973603>

A core value at Chinook High is to approach daily work as learners. The following staff are enrolled in Master’s and college studies all while balancing exceptional daily work: Stefanie Desrochers, Taryn Woods, Alisha Sims, Neil Forsyth, Duane Piper, Shelby Klein, Josh Boettcher, Rebecca Hutchins, and Jaclyn Teyke.

Buthina Mohamed, a grade 10 student, continues to be a strong and positive leader at Chinook inquiring into the nature of oppression and racism aiming to eliminate both for students in Lethbridge.

Jorja Evans, a grade 12 student talented and engaged with fashion design recently competed in the Skills Canada competition. Her ability to create fashion is exceptional.

Shout out to Adam Christiansen, A Chinook High Alumni who completed his Master’s Degree at the University of Lethbridge in 2020, developing a laser that operates in the extreme conditions of space. The soon to be Dr. Christiansen is currently pursuing a PhD in Physics under Dr. David Naylor studying the design of photonic systems for the next generation of astronomical instrumentation.

Chinook High School congratulates the following athletes who will be moving on to compete at the post-secondary level in their respective disciplines. Brantley Saar and Angelina EllisToddington will be wrestling with the University of Calgary Dinos. Tielle Hagel will be competing in volleyball with Brandon University. Abbie Froom is set to golf for Marian University (Wisconsin). Cole Hemmerling will be playing volleyball for the Lethbridge College Kodiaks, while Charlie Block will suit up for Kodiaks men’s soccer.

Finally, Chinook High is a busy place and the front office team of Candice, Shauna, Bonnie, and Jeremy demonstrate a commitment to kindness and excellence each day to colleagues, students, parents and community.

Kip Kangogo received a Lethbridge Sport Council Achievement Awards in the Master Athlete category. Kangogo has been a Canadian National Champion in the 5,000 metre, 10,000 metre and Half Marathon distances.

8. 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.

- Fleetwood-Bawden School School Council fundraiser was given a boost in the form of a donation of \$1,000 from Panago Pizza (15% of sales over a two-day period).
- ATB Financial worked alongside United Way to respond to current community needs by donating 66 Chromebooks. The Chromebooks were distributed to students in 7 different schools in Lethbridge School Division. The student recipients will be able to more seamlessly continue learning when schools transition from in-school to at-home learning as part of ongoing response to COVID-19 cases and quarantine situations.

The Board received the report as information.

9. Response to Public Forum

Lethbridge School Division Board Chair Christine Light provided a response to a March 23 Public Forum presentation from Allison Purcell-Pike. The Board’s written response can be found on Page 61 of the [AGENDA](#).

10. Board Reports

Reports were delivered for Division School Council, Policy Advisory Committee and the Division Wellness Committee. The reports begin on Page 62 of the [AGENDA](#).

11. Correspondence Received - Alberta Education

Lethbridge School Division received a letter from Alberta Education, as Alberta Education thanked the Division for participating in a meeting to discuss the Division's 2020/2021 Education Plan and 2019/2020 Annual Education Results Report.

12. Correspondence Received - Alberta Education Minister Adriana LaGrange

Lethbridge School Division received a letter from Minister LaGrange to congratulate the Division on the announcement of a new westside elementary school. LaGrange added the government looks forward to the successful and timely completion of the new school.

13. Correspondence Sent - Premier Jason Kenney

Lethbridge School Division sent a letter to Premier Kenney to urge the government to address the health risk of staff in schools by expanding the vaccination program to include educational workers.

14. Correspondence Sent - Adriana LaGrange, Minister of Education

Lethbridge School Division sent a letter to Minister LaGrange to urge the government to address the health risk of staff in schools by expanding the vaccination program to include educational workers.

15. Correspondence Sent - Tyler Shandro, Minister of Health

Lethbridge School Division sent a letter to Minister Shandro to urge the government to address the health risk of staff in schools by expanding the vaccination program to include educational workers.

16. Correspondence Sent - Alberta Education Minister Adriana LaGrange

Lethbridge School Division sent a letter to Minister LaGrange concerning the Division's decision to not pilot the draft Alberta K-6 Curriculum. The Division added the draft Alberta K-6 Curriculum is too far removed from the Division's vision, mission and priorities to ethically and responsibly support participation.



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