



Highlights from the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Meeting highlights from September 28 - Next meeting October 26

1. Presentation – Making Connections and Mental Health Capacity Building

DeeAnna Presley-Roberts, Family Support Supervisor, provided an update on Making Connections and Mental Health Capacity Building activities of 2020/2021.

The Board received the report as information.

2. Friends of 51

Friends of 51 is a Board program that is intended to provide formal recognition to individuals or groups who, as determined by the Board of Trustees, have provided significant service or contribution to the school division. The Board is grateful that individuals and groups in the community continue to go above and beyond in supporting schools with a breadth of contributions ranging from financial support to expertise and services, to time and commitment.

On Sept. 28, the list of recipients below were presented with a gift of acknowledgement during an event held outside the Education Centre:

Evangelical Free Church
Barry and Terry Bannerman

Lethbridge Family Services
Lethbridge Police Services

United Way Lethbridge
Panago Pizza North

University Drive Alliance Church
Save on Foods North

Lethbridge Food Bank
Cobs Bread

My City Care
Baker's Appliances

Staples
Best Buy

Shane and Allison Roest
Luke Davis, Subaru of Lethbridge

Vishal Sukhadiya, The Medicine Shoppe Pharmacy
Darren McFadden, Lethbridge Honda Centre

Ricky Sharma, Davis Dodge Lethbridge

Sunrise Rotary Club

Bert Faulkner, Westside Community Church
Immanuel Christian Lutheran Church

Cory Medd, 2 Guys Pizza
Tim Day, TIMCO Hoists

Courtney Ylioja, Cut & Dried Coatings Ltd.

Shelley Shaw, Shelly Shaw Professional Corp.
Sean Andrews

Jeanna Gabriel, Fee Simple Law
Darci Campbell, Jetz Carwash

Justin and Stephanie Myer

Brent and Shannon Francis, Brent Keith Francis Professional Corp.

Courtney and Rob Edmonds, Prairie Source Trading Ltd.
Chad Doren, BJD Electric

Don Cheung and Bora Kim

Scotty and Ashley Fabro

Shaw Communications Ltd.

Visit the Lethbridge School Division website for photos and a video from the event: [FRIENDS OF 51](#).

The Board received the report as information.

3. Trustee Recognition

This was the final scheduled Regular Board Meeting for the collective group of trustees currently serving the school division. The role of trustee calls individuals to oversee governance and essentially establish the vision and priorities that will ultimately move students toward the goal of growth and achievement.

The trustees who have determined that this term will bring their service as trustees to a close were recognized for their contribution.

More information can be found on the Division website: [TRUSTEES](#).

4. Authorization of Locally Developed Courses – High School

Alberta Education requires that all locally developed senior high courses be authorized for use by the Board of Trustees.

Division high schools have requested to use LDC3608 Extended Essay (2021) 35 for 3 credits, newly acquired from the St. Albert School Division from September 1st, 2021 to August 31st, 2025 to enhance program offerings to students. This course replaces the previously acquired LDC3147 Extended Essay (IB) 35-3 from the St. Albert School Division.

The Board of Trustees approved the use of LDC3608 Extended Essay (2021) 35 for 3 credits, acquired from the St. Albert School Division from September 1st, 2021 to August 31st, 2025 to enhance program offerings to students.

5. Authorization of Locally Developed Courses – Middle School

Alberta Education requires that all locally developed grade 7 to 9 courses be authorized for use by the Board of Trustees. As the middle schools and high schools have expanded their educational opportunities for students, it has become necessary to create a number of locally developed courses to adhere to Alberta Education policy. Karen Rancier, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, has worked closely with the secondary schools to develop course outlines and student learning outcomes for each course. Although the course below is submitted by Wilson Middle School, it is recommended that the course be approved for use in all Division schools.

Wilson Middle School - Dinosaurs & Paleontology 6-8 (course outline was attached).

The Board of Trustees approved the use of the Dinosaurs & Paleontology 6-8 locally developed for grade 7 to 9 course in all Division middle and high schools from September 1st, 2021 to August 31st, 2025.

6. Community Engagement

The Board has traditionally engaged students, staff, parents, and public members in different ways as part of their role as governors. Moving forward within an Assurance Framework that guides the governance role including planning and reporting, engagement will continue with enhancements intended to visibly highlight and track engagement activities for our community partners. One of those enhancements will be a Division “Engagement Website” that will house all engagement activities and outcomes of those activities. Communication Officer Garrett Simmons took a few minutes at the Board meeting and shared what the site will look like once it is launched.

We recently completed collating the outcome of the 2021/2022 Re-entry Plan survey that was accessed by parents, students and staff. The outcomes of this survey will be shared at this time and then posted for the public.

Re-entry survey results can be found here: [RE-ENTRY](#).

The Board received this report as information.

7. ASBA Curriculum Feedback

The Alberta School Board Association (ASBA) is working with school boards to provide feedback regarding the proposed provincial curriculum implementation for K-6. The Draft K-6 curriculum is currently being implemented in a few school divisions in the province. The majority of school divisions opted out of piloting this year identifying a number of difficulties with the curriculum.

The Minister of Education, Adriana LaGrange, conveyed commitment to stakeholders that the government will review feedback and make revisions according to feedback prior to implementation province-wide. Stakeholders can access a feedback loop to the province at this link: [Have your say | Alberta.ca](#)

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7. ASBA Curriculum Feedback

The board values and welcomes community feedback. To provide informed feedback to ASBA and the province that represents the breadth of community perspectives, Lethbridge School Division will be implementing community information sessions followed by feedback loops hosted on the Board Engagement website. The first session will provide background information regarding curriculum development/content. It will be hosted the evening of Tuesday, October 19th at 6:30 p.m. (virtual) with the first set of feedback topics posted on the website following the session. The Board received the report as information.

8. Board Standing Committees Annual Reports and Terms of Reference Review

Reports were delivered for the Board Audit Committee, Board Budget Committee, Community Engagement Committee, Division Wellness Committee, Facilities Committee, Indigenous Education Committee, Policy Advisory Committee, Poverty Intervention Committee, Spirit of 51 Committee and the Superintendent Evaluation Committee. The reports can be found on Page 17 of the [AGENDA](#).

9. Associate Superintendent Reports

Christine Lee, Associate Superintendent, Business and Operations; 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 62 of the [AGENDA](#).

10. Board Priorities Report

The Division Office Leadership Team is committed to keeping the Board informed regarding progress in Board priority areas. The priority areas (Achievement, Inclusion, and Innovation) are identified under the Assurance Domains in the Lethbridge School Division 2021-2022 Assurance Plan approved by the Board in May.

The leadership team will provide a monthly summary at Board meetings outlining strategies that have been implemented to address the three priorities.

The Board received the report as information.

For more information, please see Page 79 of the [AGENDA](#).

11. 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.

Ready Set Go Sponsors:

- Southern Alberta Summer Games – 800 backpacks
- Cor Van Raay through Lethbridge Community Foundation
- Knights of Columbus
- Daytona Urban Development

This year Ready Set Go partnered with My City Care – Stuff the Bus Campaign and the YMCA to support students in Lethbridge and surrounding area acquire the supplies needed for back to school. Ready Set Go specifically ensured all schools in Lethbridge had access to supplies during the weeks leading up to startup and into September.

My City Care and YMCA hosted three pickup locations for students who pre-registered for supplies.

Together, the partnership served approximately 2,000 students.

The Board received the report as information.

12. Acknowledgements of Excellence/Highlights

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:

Wilson Middle School staff member Tyler Keraiff and Division substitute teacher Stacey Keraiff became Pickleball National Champions this summer.

Acknowledgement of Excellence lies with ALL of our schools and staff this month for working tirelessly in August preparing for a seamless re-entry into school for students. Thank-you to caretaking staff and the maintenance team for working all summer to ensure staff and students returned to clean and well-maintained facilities. Thank-you to Education Centre staff for ensuring preparation was being done behind the scenes and thank-you all school staff for welcoming students into schools that are inclusive, welcoming, and centered on engaging classrooms.

For the month of September, we thought we would share some of the comments about what was great about coming back to school from the re-entry survey sent to students, parents, and staff. For the remainder of the school year, individual schools will be showcased.

Students:

- I was very, very excited to be with and see my friends and to keep learning.
- Sports being back on.
- My best things are that I get to see my friends in person, not on a computer. Its also better for me to learn in person.
- We get to go to the library, not the library coming to us.
- It's nice to be able to play with other classes during lunch. It's also nice having lockers this year.
- I was happy to see my teachers and my friends.
- The best thing about returning to school was things were so much more normal. Participating and watching sports again has been so fun and it has been great to not have three-hour classes and not having to wear a mask in class makes it way easier to learn.
- I think the best things are options and having lockers.
- Everyone was very welcoming, friendly. Everyone was keeping everyone safe.

Parents:

- This year was more of the 'normal' middle school experience, getting lockers and options. I am glad that a very thorough plan was in place and that when the emergency restrictions came into place, the district was already prepared and there was no disruption to education and the kids continued to have consistency, instead of back and forth from in class to online, etc.
- Good communication from principal
- A return to in-person classes and extra-curricular events that give the kids a more wellrounded school experience.
- Great communication ahead of time to prepare my kids and talk to them about the plan moving forward.
- Back to a regular schedule, happy with their teachers and seeing friends again.
- Staggered entry is a good way for children to be introduced to their class in smaller groups.
- Interacting directly with peers and teachers in class for learning and for play was so good. It significantly improves moods, engagement in learning and all around well being.
- The kids getting to use a locker. That they use assigned doors. Smaller class sizes.
- The social aspect and the directed learning in school has, so far, given them a healthier look at future life with this virus.
- The best thing about returning to school is how close it is to resembling normal activities while still having some safety measures in place.
- Return of options, less covid protocols.
- Principal communicating well to parents via email.
- Great teachers, being able to learn and be with friends.

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12. Acknowledgements of Excellence/Highlights

Parents:

- I'm glad that teachers are wearing masks, this way some students are more comfortable to have their mask on.
- The drop off process was made clear.

Staff:

- Having students in school, ready to learn, excited to be here.
- Reconnecting with students and staff members. It was wonderful to meet families outside.
- Student ability to engage outside of the classroom with co/extra-curricular activities. More normalized schedule that allows for more consistency in learning.
- The energy, the new opportunities, hopes and dreams for students, staff and the larger community.
- I felt that our re-entry guide met the needs of our students and staff.
- Staggered start continues to be a great idea. Staff can review procedures and routines with students in an effective way with the smaller groups.
- I love that we can have option classes and lockers. I love that we are starting in sports. I think normalcy is the best for kids.
- Being in-person is better than online in general for most people. Seeing students and colleagues in-person makes teaching more rewarding.
- Organized and proactive plan.
- I felt like our division leadership took a great approach with the ease in and see how things unfold provincially was amazing. I'm glad I work in this division instead of the ones outside the city who did nothing. Knowing that staff, students, and visitors were coming into the building in masks reassured me.

13. World Teachers' Day

World Teachers' Day is held annually on October 5th since 1994 to celebrate the essential role of teachers in providing quality education at all levels. As outlined on the UNESCO website, the aim of World Teachers' Day is to ensure that the needs of future generations will continue to be met by teachers. It also commemorates the anniversary of the 1966 signature of the UNESCO/ILO Recommendation Concerning the Status of Teachers.

The strength of Lethbridge School Division has historically been its staff members, who are committed to providing outstanding learning opportunities for all students while ensuring that each young person feels valued and supported.

Division teachers are recognized across the province for their expertise, with a number serving on regional and provincial curriculum and professional learning committees.

The Board received the report as information and took the opportunity to publicly acknowledge the commitment.

14. Board Reports

Reports were delivered for the Policy Advisory Committee, Facilities Committee, Board Audit Committee and the ASBA General Meeting. The reports begin on Page 92 of the [AGENDA](#).

15. Correspondence Received

A letter was received from Education Minister Adriana LaGrange, to thank Board Chair Christine Light for sharing the Division's reasoning as to why the Division decided not to pilot the draft curriculum.

16. Correspondence Received

A letter was received from Education Minister Adriana LaGrange to remind the Division that an annual budget must be submitted to Alberta Education by May 31 of each year. For 2021/2022, the Division requested just over \$2.6 million in reserve spending. That request was approved by the Minister.

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17. Correspondence Received

A letter was received from the Alberta School Councils' Association, which thanked the Division for renewing its membership for school councils in the Division.

18. Correspondence Received

A letter was received from the Alberta Infrastructure to advise the Division the New Elementary School in West Lethbridge project will be included in a potential public-private partnership (P3) bundle. The Minister of Education also wrote the Division to confirm the school project has been approved for full funding, as part of the March 10, 2021 capital announcement.

19. Correspondence Received

A letter was received from The City of Lethbridge to confirm the city has approved the upsizing of the gym planned for the new elementary school in west Lethbridge. The approval will shift the new school's gym from an elementary-sized gym to a middle-school-sized gym.

20. Correspondence Sent

A letter was sent to The City of Lethbridge to express the Division's appreciation for the City of Lethbridge's continued commitment to investing in the community through the long-standing Joint Use Agreement partnership with school boards.

21. Public Forum

David Euston made a presentation during the Public Forum, Euston's concern centred around his wish that the Board would mandate students keep masks on during instruction. He was also concerned about the Division's COVID-notification process, and noted school divisions in Edmonton are notifying students and conducting active tracing based on parental reports.

Regular meeting video: [LIVESTREAM](#)



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