



## Division School Council Meeting Agenda

May 2, 2022

6:30 p.m.

Microsoft Teams / Board Room

### Presentation @ 6:00 – 6:30 pm

#### Explore the use of Minecraft in Education

Technology Director, Jesse Sadlowski, will show parents how to navigate going into the Lethbridge School Division Minecraft “Build a School Challenge” available on our website [Minecraft Challenge | Lethbridge School Division \(lethsd.ab.ca\)](#). He will also discuss how Minecraft Education is utilized in our schools and how it is different from the Minecraft game available to everyone outside of schools. Minecraft is an open-world game that promotes creativity, collaboration, and problem-solving in an immersive environment where the only limit is your imagination. Minecraft: Education Edition differs from the regular video game version as it is aimed for use in the classroom and contains features such as classroom mode and assessment tools that enable powerful learning experiences.

Note – An amazing learning opportunity for parents and community members regarding “Brain Science: Sciences of Hope and Resilience” is available online on May 9 (6:30 – 8:30 pm). [2022-03-03-18-27-49-May-9-Brain-Science.pdf \(hmhc.ca\)](#)

### Regular Agenda starting at 6:30 pm

1. Land Acknowledgement
2. Welcome and Introductions
3. Additions to the Agenda
4. Approval of the Agenda
5. Approval of the Minutes from April 4, 2022
6. Business Arising from the Minutes
  - 6.1. Elementary Bell Times *Note that since last Division School Council meeting, information regarding School Hours and Bell Time Changes have been put on the website at this link [School hours and bell time changes - 2022/2023 | Lethbridge School Division \(lethsd.ab.ca\)](#)*  
*There is also a link to the section of the April 26 Board meeting where bell times were discussed [April 26, 2022 Board Agenda](#)*
7. Engagement Fund Discussion
8. Trustee Report [\[Link\]](#)
9. Alberta School Councils Association
10. Reports from Division Committees

- 10.1. Policy Advisory Committee – Alison Alma-North, Jamie Walburger (alternate)  
April 6, 2022. The draft policy changes that went out to School Councils for feedback are attached to the email with this agenda.
- 10.2. Poverty Intervention Committee – Jamie Walburger, Shelley Roest (alternate) -
- 10.3. Division Wellness Committee – Edna Asem, Carrie Boschman (alternate)
- 10.4. Community Engagement Committee – Shelley Roest, Cynthia Young, and Jamie Walburger  
March 24, 2022. Report from March 24. Next meeting is May 12 (6:30 – 7:30) – ALL parents invited. Meeting information will be on the Community Engagement website.

11. Superintendent’s Report – Cheryl Gilmore

Upcoming events and important dates will be highlighted.

Note – If you are a parent of a student in grades 9-12, check out the Lethbridge School Division ICE Scholarship [Scholarship Applications | Lethbridge School Division \(lethsd.ab.ca\)](https://www.lethsd.ab.ca/scholarship-applications)

12. Roundtable Reports

Reports are included with the agenda: an opportunity to highlight a very significant event or for questions from the representatives about information in a written report.

Adjournment

**Division School Council 2021-22 Meeting Dates:** June 6, 2022

**2021-2022 Division School Council**

- **Chair:** Shelley Roest
- **Vice-Chair:** Alison Alma-North
- **Recording Secretary:** Marlaina Ditrich

## Division School Council Meeting Minutes

April 4, 2022

6:45 p.m.

Microsoft Teams

### 1. Land Acknowledgement

- Acknowledge that we are meeting as a Division School Council on Blackfoot land and give recognition to the Blackfoot people past and present.

### 2. Welcome and Introductions

- 16 Participants

### 3. Additions to the Agenda

- 11.a Transportation, added (bell times) in brackets
- Added '12. New Business'
- Added '12.1. Technology in Classrooms'
- Changed '12. Roundtables Reports' to '13. Roundtable Reports'
- Changed '13. Next Meeting Format' to '14. Next Meeting Format'
- Changed '14. Adjournment' to '15. Adjournment'

### 4. Approval of the Agenda – Approved and accepted as presented with additions

- Approved by: C.Y.

### 5. Approval of the Minutes from March 7, 2022 – Approved and accepted as presented

- Approved by: E.W.

### 6. Business Arising from the Minutes

- ASCA Resolutions – resolution regarding Plant Operations and Maintenance Funding (POM)
  - The ASCA general conference and AGM is April 22<sup>nd</sup> and 23<sup>rd</sup> and the Annual General Meeting (AGM) is on April 24<sup>th</sup>. <https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/about/annual-conference>
  - There are 4 resolutions that School Councils are able to vote on. <https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/public/download/files/200959>
  - Every School Council has the ability to send a member as an attendee.
  - Every School Council can carry a vote for the 4 resolutions/
  - You can also carry a proxy vote for other School Councils if they are not attending, there are forms to fill out for that.
  - The deadline for submitting the 2022 AGM Credential Voting Form for yourself is April 15<sup>th</sup> at 5pm. <https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/public/download/files/199610>
  - The deadline for submitting the 2022 AGM PROXY Voting Form is April 15<sup>th</sup> at 5pm. <https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/public/download/files/199611>

**Question:** Do we know of any School Councils that have a rep who can carry votes?

**Answer:** there is one from Wilson Middle School and possibly one from Winston Churchill

**\*\*Action:** an email will be drafted to send out to see if anyone is willing to carry proxy votes with a reminder of the deadlines.

**2022 Resolutions –** <https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/public/download/files/200959>

- P222-01 Diploma Exam Weighting Change.
- P22-02 Policy Review for Operations and Maintenance Funding
- P22-03 Restoration of Funding for Alberta School Council Association (ASCA)
- A22-01 Revise Advocacy Policy 12-2

**Question:** There was a question about the Policy Review for Operations and Maintenance Funding, what is that resolution and can someone explain that better?

**Answer:** It explores how we keep up the maintenance of the school to promote the health and wellbeing of students and staff.

- Operations and Maintenance Funding is the funding that covers electrical, heating, caretaking (ongoing operation of all of the school facilities) and small projects such as painting. It's not for significant restoration which comes out of Infrastructure Maintenance and Renewal. (IMR).
- Previous to the current funding model, POM funding was based entirely on student enrollment by school in the Division. The formula changed and is now weighted on area of the school as well as student enrollments. It takes into account the wear and tear of the facility and its size. It is fairer as it accounts for the space and students.
- The resolution states there is an unfair accounting for the funds or insufficient funds. It may be because they are a site based managed School Division, and the school is affected by allocation specific to the school or facility. Lethbridge doesn't use that method; Lethbridge funds are centralized to ensure that all schools have what they need to operate.
- Lethbridge's facilities are well maintained. There is not a long list of deferred maintenance.

**Question:** Please elaborate on the alternative schools as they are responsible for the funds to take care of the building.

**Answer:** For the alternative programs that are owned by Societies, Lethbridge Christian School, Immanuel Christian Elementary School, and Immanuel Christian Secondary School are not owned by the Division but do access lease funding that pays operation and maintenance. Every year money is transferred to the Society, as there is funding based on enrollment and square footage. What they don't get funding for is the IMR.

**Question:** If students moved to a different Division, what would we want for them corporately? Does the Superintendent think that this formula is fair for all the Divisions?

**Answer:** The lobbying piece of the resolution depends on where it's coming from. For rural Divisions, they may not consider the weighting on square footage enough. From our perspective it is enough. Lethbridge Division believe the current formula is fair and have been able to manage and maintain the budget.

#### **b. School Council – monetary support from the Division**

- Some feel that there are tight parameters with the money from the Divisions that they allocate to School Council.
- Lethbridge Division pays for membership to ASCA, that is a fee for which each School Council will never have to worry about.

- The Division pays for one registration to attend the ASCA Conference. If School Councils send more than one person, the School Council would have to look to see if the School Council can afford to pay to support another registration fee.
- There are questions about the \$250 that Division allocates to the School Councils. It was intended to assist with other costs that an individual incurred when they go to the conference, such as hotel, food, gas, etc.
- Historically, there are very few councils that send members to the ASCA Conference, so that \$250 can also be used to support Parent Learning, such as a Speaker, ASCA delivery sessions, or any other form of learning that a School Council wants to endeavor in.
- School Councils can also use the \$250 towards any activity that engages parents, such as BBQ.
- The money is put into the School Decentralized budget every year, it's flagged to be spent for School Council.

**Question:** Can we use the \$250 from past years if it hasn't been used? And can that be used retroactively so there could be potentially \$750 to \$1000 sitting there that hasn't been spent.

**Answer:** that \$250 has been sent to schools for the past 3 years, if the previously allocated money hasn't been spent, schools can use that now.

**\*\*Action:** an email will be sent to Administrators of schools to remind them of the \$250 that can be used from past years as well.

**Question:** If a school is having a Parent engagement night and the school is bringing in babysitters come in to encourage Parents to come, can they use the \$250 for a gift card for the babysitters for gratuity?

**Answer:** Yes, School Councils can use the \$250 for that.

## 7. Engagement Fund Discussion

- The Engagement Fund is \$500 from Alberta Education
- This amount has tighter parameters, for example, School Councils cannot use it for meals, snacks, fundraising events, etc. Please refer to the December 6, 2021 Division School Council Minutes for the full list under 5.1. <https://www.lethsd.ab.ca/download/375873>
- You have to send it back to Alberta Education if you do not use it. This means that it's invoiced by the end of the year and the speaker or parent learning resources have been paid.
- Alberta Education, in the 2022/2023 budget, have allocated the Engagement fund again, so it will be available next year.
- Partnership for strategic Alliance, with Debbie Pusher, and she does presentation. One parent did sign up and it was enlightening. To book a session with her, it costs about \$2,500, so if School Councils were thinking about combining their funds and it could tailor the session to our schools. <https://www.debbiepushor.ca/>
- Suggestions about how to spend the money:
  - Agnes Davidson if offering French lessons for parents.
  - One School is going to have a presentation on 'How to raise Gen Z' and talk about resiliency.
  - Nicholas Sheran is having a Provisional Psychologist, Dylan Tate, come to talk about children mental health, resources available in the community and conversation starters and how to get kids talking. They will also have an Arabic translator come in order to include more Parents/Guardians. From April 28<sup>th</sup>, if you would like to go, you can RRSP through the Nicholas Sheran School.

- One School is looking into Parent Book club, using the funds to order books and educate school community with appropriate use of technology in the home and community.
- One School is doing a Numeracy and Literacy night for Parents with take homes for families.

**Question:** Are we allowed to use the \$500 to pay for books?

**Answer:** Superintendent stated that you cannot use it for student resources, but you can use it for parent resources and if those resources are being used to engage parents for a shared book study, then it is ok.

**Questions:** For the Provisional Psychologist for the kids Mental Health, and how much does that cost?

**Answer:** \$250 for his time and \$50 for a translator.

## 8. Trustee Report – [Board of Trustees Report](#) – March 22, 2022, Pg. 9

- Please see the link for the Trustee Report
- They did talk about bus times and had good questions and passed some policies.
- The Board is trying to do School / Parent engagement with Community Conversations, there have been 2 so far.
- The next Community Conversation is April 13, 2022, at YMCA from 8:30am to 10am.

**Question:** At the YMCA, there is a fee for the little kids to play, is that covered by the Division?

**Answer:** There is not a fee, the Division has arranged the area for kids to play. The goal is to remove barriers for people to attend. This will be in one of the field houses. You can ask at the YMCA which field house and they will direct you. This is a drop in, so you do not have to be there right at 8:30am.

## 9. Alberta School Councils Association

- This year it is virtual
- You can just go to the Conference only, or to the AGM only or both. There are a tonne of topics that you can pick and choose some courses that are included with the registration.  
<https://www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca/about/annual-conference>

## 10. Reports from Division Committees

- Policy Advisory Committee** - Alison Alma-North and Jamie Walburger (alternate)
  - Policies are emailed to the School Council Chairpersons
  - Any feedback on those policies can be sent back to the contacts
  - The next meeting is Wednesday April 6, 2022
  - Following that meeting, the changes or editing that the committee does is sent out, School Councils can expect to see these by the beginning of next week.
- Poverty Intervention Committee** - Jamie Walburger and Shelley Roest (alternate) March 15, 2022
  - Tabled
- Division Wellness Committee** - Edna Asem and Carrie Boschman (alternate)

- Next meeting is in May.
  - At the last meeting they had someone from AHS speak about Covid.
- d. **Community Engagement Committee** - Shelley Roest, Cynthia Young and Jamie Walburger  
March 24, 2022
- Reviewed Town Hall feedback in regards to technology, the themes' that generated areas that are on the Community Engagement Website, it's broken down by different scopes. <https://lethsdcommunityengagement.schoolsites.ca/current-community-engagement-projects/town-hall-2022>
    - You can see the breakdown of the number of people who provided feedback
    - Some areas of focus and budget focus areas the Board uses for planning the upcoming year for the Assurance Plan.
  - The Division has a Communications Plan, a document that was created and reviewed with the new Board coming in this year.
    - You can find this on the Community Engagement website.
    - It's a live document and can change.
  - ICE Scholarship event was reviewed.
  - Community Conversation and the 2 previous and any suggestions.
  - All Parents are welcome to come to the Community Engagement Committee meetings, it's an open meeting.
  - Next Meeting is on Thursday May 12<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 p.m.

## 11. Superintendent's Report – Cheryl Gilmore

### a. Transportation (Bell Times)

- At the Division Office as well as Trustees have had some questions about the school bell times, that falls under Transportation
- Throughout the course of the current school year and moving to next year, the Division recognizes that there is some parent frustration.
- The current school year has been challenging, due to the transition from the City of Lethbridge to a private provider Southland. We changed some bell times and it became problematic. Not the provider's fault.
- The transition and bell times have not been working and there is frustration expressed by families and schools. There are consistently late buses, students that are missing beginnings of classes and late drop off times.
- This was compounded with the schedule that Southland made, which was overly compressed, so buses were not able to transition without late runs. The issues were compounded again by having difficulty with finding drivers for the buses and it was very common that they were short drivers on a daily basis for a variety of reasons.
- For next year they are looking at establishing more reasonable time spans between runs.
- They were trying to have the elementary schools start earlier and high schools starting later, but that did not work this year and not possible to schedule without additional costs.
- Bell times have been put out early this year to ensure communication to parents provides time for families to make arrangements.
- The Division and the Holy Spirit Catholic Division worked with Southland over the last few months. To stay within budget some schools must start early and some start late.
- Double runs are a complex pattern of transportation and the only pattern that is affordable.
- Moving forward, the times for the 2022/2023 school year, should be consistent for schools.

**Question:** Were parents or School Councils consulted with the decisions to change the bell times?

**Answer:** No, they were not. The challenge with the consultation with parents is to get the breadth of parent perspective on the bus schedules and stay within the budget (some funds are already being drawn from reserves). Parent feedback from last year stated that some preferred earlier and some preferred later. Early communication hopefully provides time for parents to connect with programs that can assist with care.

**Question:** Was there any consideration for the elementary school kids learning ability and mental health with extending the end of the day until almost 4pm? Most kids and parents are going to get up at the same time next year as they do now, and this means that the little kids will be in school longer and as we know, most elementary school kids are done with learning by 2 pm. Also, has there ever been such a late start for elementary schools in Lethbridge before?

**Answer:** 3:45 pm is the latest that an elementary school has gone before and that was a few years ago. There has to be the operational hours completed among all schools; elementary and middle schools need 950 instructional hours and high school has to have 1000 hours. The mental health and durations were not dismissed. Students are not at school longer. Schools will have to monitor as to what they are doing early in the day and later in the day when they are thinking about classroom strategies in relation to when students are engaged and active. The Division acknowledges the frustration and how it affects family's lives. The only way to accommodate not changing the times is to not have the routes doubled, but that would mean approximately \$600,000 coming out of instruction into transportation budgets.

**Question:** What is the appeals process for these time changes?

**Answer:** Superintendent is not sure, deferred to the trustee. This is operational and affects all schools if one is changed. Not instructional or program matter.

**\*\*Action:** Trustee will look into their policies to see if there is an appeal process for that and will get a hold of the parent asking the questions.

**Question:** Was there consideration to push the high schools later rather than making the elementary schools end later? Making the day later for high school kids rather than for the elementary kids makes more sense.

**Answer:** Its complex beyond pairs of schools and start times. Was tried this year and did not work. They also tried to take a look at feeder schools (middle schools) to the elementary schools. Worked as best as possible for the siblings' piece. Did not always work. The parent can email Superintendent to get more specific details to their schools.

**Question:** Was there a consideration to offer a bus fee, rather than the Division offset it? Families will now potentially have excess childcare fees and may have choose to pay a bus fee in lieu of the time change.

**Answer:** That was not looked into, they could look into that for future years. The challenge with fees is who will pay the fees.

**Question:** The dual working families will have to rely on BLAST, why couldn't they flip the times for High School and Elementary so that the High Schools start and end later and the



Elementary Schools can start earlier. Also a lot of programs start at 4pm. There is concern with the learning of children as they do learn better in the morning. Why could the City do it and Southland is struggling with it? The fees are not ideal but may be worth having as parents would see that it's worth it to have their elementary kids in earlier.

**Answer:** The fees are a Board conversation. The City of Lethbridge made the decision to move away from providing the service and the Division had to move to a private provider.

**Chat Question:** Can we return to the City of Lethbridge bussing?

**Chat Answer:** No, the busses have been sold and we cannot return to the City. This was a decision the City made.

**Question:** Parents empathize with families with bussing, but for those who live close to the schools that do not require bussing, could there be streamlined communications for families with bussing vs families without bussing, there have been a lot of emails about bussing, could that be streamlined for next year?

**Answer:** Next year, we are hoping that Southland can communicate by route, as there was a ton of emails to all parents about late or delayed buses and the Division recognizes that. They will do their best to correct that.

**Question:** Can we have an information session with the Operation Managers and Southland?

**Answer:** You have to take into consideration there are multiple partners including Holy Spirit Catholic schools. They all worked together to construct the best routes for the allocation of funding.

**\*\*Action:** Superintendent will take this away for them to maybe set up an info session or Q&A avenue for parents.

## **b. Upcoming Events**

- Community Conversation – next meeting is April 13<sup>th</sup>, at YMCA from 8:30am to 10am
- ASCA – April 22<sup>nd</sup> to 24<sup>th</sup>
- RAP (Registered Apprenticeship Program) – April 28<sup>th</sup>
  - 7pm -- Location: Southland Trailer (4400 9<sup>th</sup> Ave N.)
- Three Year Capital Plan Feedback – April 29<sup>th</sup>
- ICE Scholarship Applications – Deadline is April 29<sup>th</sup>

## **12. New Business**

### **12.1 Technology in Classrooms**

- Discussion as to how or when technology is used in Classrooms. As parents we are trying to limit the technology at home, however Covid has allowed technology to creep in and what are parents seeing in their school?

#### **Parent Discussion/Comments:**

- In middle school, students are asked to use their phones to access apps like Kahoot. Some students do not have phones and there is nothing at the school for them to use. This is not equitable. If there could be some devices that could be donated so all kids can use Kahoot and use technology that way.

- One parent stated that smart displays are being used at lunch times to put on cartoons at lunch time. This parent is not overly happy about that use as it discourages kid's discussions and connections. Understands that teachers need a break and there is less supervision at lunch breaks.
- One parent has commented that on occasion their child had to use their own data to download apps, and a lot of kids don't have data and have to rely on the Wi-Fi at the school.
- Another parent stated that we do have to have these conversations, there is good and bad issues with technology. There is a lack of availability due to time of school days and teachers having prep time, so kids watch YouTube during lunches and it's one of those areas where it was a challenge that was already there with teachers needing time and supervision being available. In some instances, there would be some parents who would be willing to volunteer. In one of the schools, they had a laptop per student and each kid was equipped and a lot of thought and effort with how that was utilized. We want to use the laptops as tools and not alternatives to other things. As making educated and strategic use of what is available and there are positive and effective ways to do it.
- Devices are harder to learn and navigate when they are older, and having positive opportunities and having support around you while navigating that is a good thing. Maybe a reminder, that technology should be used for positivity.
- A parent stated that one school practices mindful eating time at their school, so no talking, just eating, no devices, do any parents have any comments on that?
  - Another parent commented that they have experienced this, not in a school setting but in another forum and they feel that this is "creepy" as lunch breaks should be a time for conversations, expressions, and connections with their peers and to just be kids.
- One parent commented that there was a proposal to have one screen free lunch per week at their school, but also recognizes that teachers do need that time to breathe and to not get overwhelmed. But they are trying to approach a balance.
- The Trustee commented that as a former teacher, they had recess before lunch. With that it changed the dynamics with the kids because when they came in they were ready to eat and visit with each other. A number of schools in Alberta and Canada have moved to that model of playground first then lunch.

**Question:** Is there a Division policy for the use of technology in school, for education, lunchtime, for rewards, etc.?

**Answer:** The Division has an appropriate use of technology policy. This is on the Policies page and starts on Policy 607.4 ( <https://www.lethsd.ab.ca/our-district/policies2> ). There are two things that the Superintendent is hearing. 1) Accessibility to learning due to lack of technology is not equitable. They have invested funds, upgraded computers and iPads for kids and if that is not sufficient, we need more conversations. 2) Are we taking away from other opportunities with over reliance in supervisory using screen time. That is a conversation that we should have with elementary administrators.

**Comment:** Over the last 2 years, kids have had more access to technology and the school system can do engagement opportunities and rewards that do not have to be on a device.

- 13. Roundtable Reports** - Reports are included with the agenda: an opportunity to highlight a very significant event or for questions from the representatives about information in a written report.
- None were sent in

**14. Next Meeting Format**

- Putting in the chat for the preference.

**15. Adjournment – 8:49 pm**

**Future Division School Council 2021-22 Meeting Dates:**

May 2, 2022 June 6, 2022

**2021-2022 Division School Council**

Chair Shelley Roest

Vice Chair Alison Alma-North

Recording Secretary Marlaina Ditrich

Policy Advisory Committee Alison Alma-North and Jamie Walburger (alternate)

Poverty Intervention Committee Jamie Walburger and Shelley Roest (alternate)

Division Wellness Committee Edna Asem and Carrie Boschman (alternate)

Community Engagement Committee Shelley Roest, Cynthia Young and Jamie Walburger

## ENGAGEMENT HIGHLIGHTS

1. Lethbridge School Division Board Community Conversation  
YMCA at the ATB Centre 8:30 – 10:00 a.m.  
[Community Conversations | Community Engagement \(schoolsites.ca\)](#) April 13
2. Alberta School Council Conference and Annual General Meeting  
[Annual Conference: Alberta School Councils' Association](#) April 22-24 on-line
3. RAP (Registered Apprenticeship Program)  
7:00 pm  
Location: Southland Trailer (4400 9<sup>th</sup> Ave N.)  
On Community Engagement website  
[Home | Community Engagement \(schoolsites.ca\)](#) April 28
4. Three-Year Capital Plan Feedback  
On Community Engagement website  
[Three-Year Capital Plan | Community Engagement \(schoolsites.ca\)](#) April 29
5. ICE Scholarship Applications  
[Scholarship Applications | Lethbridge School Division \(lethsd.ab.ca\)](#) Deadline April 29



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## **TRUSTEE report to school councils:**

April 26, 2022

### **1. Associate Superintendent Reports**

Christine Lee, Associate Superintendent, Business and Operations and Mike Nightingale, Associate Superintendent, Human Resources, delivered their respective reports for the Board. To read the reports, see Page 10 of the [AGENDA](#). The Business and Operations report included a segment on transportation and the history behind the development of the bell times for the 2022/2023 school year. The discussion begins at the 13:27 mark in the livestream: [BELL TIMES](#)

### **2. Curriculum**

Supt. Cheryl Gilmore provided a report on the release of the new curriculum. She added Alberta Education sent curriculum information before the Easter break, and added the Division is very fortunate to have the expertise of Karen Rancier, Director of Curriculum and Instruction, and Lead Teachers Bev Smith and Michaela Demers. Gilmore provided information on the new curriculum and added Division teachers will be provided Professional Learning on Literacy and Numeracy in the spring, with PE and Wellness Professional Learning set for the fall. Trustees heard the Division will not be moving forward with Grade 4-6 ELAL and Mathematics curriculum in the fall of 2022.

### **3. 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.

- Wholesale Club donated \$500 toward Making Connections Weekends and More (WAM) bags.

The Board received the report as information.

### **4. Education Week, May 2-6**

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

The theme, Learning is a Journey, celebrates the legacy of public education and work contributing to an inspired future including the following:

- Optimal learning conditions for every child
- Creative and innovative learning programs
- Students who enjoy learning and who achieve their learning goals

**CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE**

### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Allison Purcell, Christine Light, Andrea Andreachuk, Tyler Demers, Kristina Larkin, Genny Steed, Craig Whitehead

## **CONTINUED FROM THE PREVIOUS PAGE**

### **4. Education Week, May 2-6**

- Parents and communities that are involved and supportive of learning
- Opportunities for staff to continue developing their skills as professionals

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.

### **5. School Transitions**

Schools have been transitioning to contexts that do not have the COVID mitigation restrictions that were in place for over two years. As schools re-imagine what the school context looks like without restrictions they are considering good practice and learning from structures that were put in place during restrictions as well as support for student, parent, and community engagement in activity and the school community. Supt. Cheryl Gilmore reviewed how schools are progressing with the transition.

The Board received the report as information.

### **6. Second Quarter Financial Report**

The 2021-2022 Second Quarter Financial Report for the Division was provided for review.

Director of Finance, Avice DeKelder was in attendance to respond to any questions Trustees had.

The Board approved the 2021/2022 Second Quarter Financial Report as presented.

The report can be found on Page 36 of the [AGENDA](#).

### **7. Bill 15**

The proposed Bill 15 removes the ATA's ability to discipline teachers professionally. The creation of a new disciplinary committee, without ATA representation, effectively changes the ATA from a professional organization to a union. Under current legislation, the ATA has exercised the ability to discipline their members for over 80 years. The current model is congruent with the medical, dental, and legal professional disciplinary committees. This Bill will change the dynamics of how Alberta School Divisions interact and work with the ATA.

The Board discussed possible advocacy action should be taken regarding Bill 15.

### **8. Full-Time (950 hours) Kindergarten**

At the March Board Meeting a committee was formed to write a resolution (attached) to present (if approved and supported) at the ASBA Fall General Meeting calling for provincial government funding support for Full-Time (950 hours) Kindergarten for all Alberta Kindergarten students.

We have been hearing about the benefits of full-day all week Kindergarten for many Kindergarten children.

The extra time given to these young students, to practice important language and social skills, to develop early literacy and numeracy skills through play and to develop a love of life-long learning is invaluable and this is reflected in their later literacy and numeracy skill development.

The Board approved the proposed resolution with amended paragraphs and agreed that it be sent out to all Zone 6 Boards on April 27, 2022 as well as to Zone 6 Director, Brad Toone, and that the Board also have this topic added to the May 18, 2022 Zone 6 ASBA agenda for the Boards to vote for the draft resolution to go forward to the 2022 ASBA Fall General Meeting.

### **9. Transportation and Bell Times**

We continue to hear concern about bell times and busing from members of the community. We are looking for assurance of reliable, safe and consistent transportation and education opportunities for our students.

## **CONTINUED ON THE NEXT PAGE**

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Allison Purcell, Christine Light, Andrea Andreachuk, Tyler Demers, Kristina Larkin, Genny Steed, Craig Whitehead

## **9. Transportation and Bell Times**

The Board would benefit from additional information from Division staff to assist our understanding of contributing factors and the complexity of these processes.

The Board passed a motion by a 4-3 vote to agree to meet with Holy Spirit Catholic School Division Board to see if they are experiencing similar concerns and feedback from constituents.

The discussion on bell times started at the 13:27 mark of the livestream and ended at the 57:14 mark: [BELL TIMES](#)

## **10. Board Meeting Structure and Organization**

We receive valuable information in the form of presentations during our Board meetings. The duration of presentations is significant and, while the information is important for the Board to receive and understand, it does not always pertain directly to governance decision making and could be delivered in a Committee of the Whole setting. The Board and Division considered the idea of shifting comprehensive presentations to Committee of the Whole settings.

## **11. Policy Review**

Trustees were given information about changes suggested to Policy 204.2 and 204.6. Trustee Craig Whitehead proposed an amendment to Policy 204.6, Organizational Meetings through the following motion:

I would propose changing Regulation 1 of the policy to read as follows: The Organizational Meeting shall be held in conjunction with the regular meeting of the Board in August.

Trustee Craig Whitehead also proposed an amendment to Policy 204.2, Regular Board Meetings through the following motion:

I would propose changing Regulation 3 of the policy to read as follows: The Regular Board meeting shall be open to the public and shall normally be held once a month, except for July, when there will be no regular meeting, on Tuesday afternoons and beginning at 1 p.m.

The Board passed a motion to table these proposed amendments to the May Board meeting.

## **12. Policy Committee**

Trustees were given information regarding the number of policies the Division currently has, along with a suggestion to being a process of separating policies from procedures.

Trustee Craig White proposed the following motion: That we have an ad hoc committee, consisting of the Board Chair, Policy Chair and one additional trustee, plus the superintendent, to hire an outside consultant to help us understand and teach us the different models of policies and procedures.

The Board passed a motion to table this motion to the May Board meeting.

## **13. Community Conversations**

Community Conversations are time for parents, staff, students and the community to come together to have discussion with trustees. It is a time that has no formal agenda, they are held monthly, and the locations are in a variety of locations/times across the city.

Community Conversations are a great time for trustees to hear from parents, staff, students and community about great ideas, share successes, bring forward issues and concerns.

The Community Conversation for April was at YMCA during the daytime.

The Community Conversation for May is on May 19 from 4 - 5:30 pm at Gunnery Point Shelter – East end of Henderson Lake. The Board shared feedback from the April Community Conversation.

Trustee Genny Steed will organize the June Community Conversation. More information can be found here: [COMMUNITY CONVERSATIONS](#)

## **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Allison Purcell, Christine Light, Andrea Andreachuk, Tyler Demers, Kristina Larkin, Genny Steed, Craig Whitehead

#### **14. Virtually Installed: Lethbridge Schools. Students. Art**

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 cooperation with the Southern Alberta Art Gallery and usually takes place in the spring.

In 2020, 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) in 2021 it was decided to move the exhibition online permanently. It was our pleasure to hold our re-branded 44th annual exhibition under a new name: "Virtually Installed: Lethbridge Schools. Students. Art".

Now in 2022, as we are emerging from the pandemic, we are considering how to move forward.

Will it be only online? Will we incorporate an in-person exhibition with the SAAG again? For the 45th annual art exhibit, we are planning both! The online exhibit will begin on May 2, 2022 on the Lethbridge School Division website, AND we will be showcasing the artwork of Grades 9 – 12 from all Lethbridge Schools at the Southern Alberta Art Gallery!

The in-person showing will be held from May 14 – June 19, 2022. We are excited to have both shows running simultaneously... more visibility, more art, more opportunity for our city to show off the incredible talents of our students!

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

Artwork from Virtually Installed can be found on the Division website here: [VIRTUALLY INSTALLED](#)

#### **15. Alberta School Councils Association (ASCA) Conference and AGM – April 22-24, 2022**

The ASCA Conference and AGM will be held April 22 to 24, 2022.

The Board received the report as information.

#### **16. Board Reports**

Reports were delivered for the Indigenous Education Committee, Community Engagement Committee, Division School Council, Policy Advisory Committee, Civic Works Standing Policy Committee and the Economic Development Lethbridge. The reports begin on Page 84 of the [AGENDA](#).

**Regular meeting video: [LIVESTREAM](#)**

#### **BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Allison Purcell, Christine Light, Andrea Andreachuk, Tyler Demers, Kristina Larkin, Genny Steed, Craig Whitehead

**NEXT MEETING:  
Tuesday, May 24, 2:30 p.m.  
Public Forum begins at 5 p.m.**





## Division School Council School Highlights

<b>School:</b>	LCI
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### School Highlights:

LCI won six provincial championships – wrestling three individual gold and two team provincial titles, mixed curling provincial champions, hosted curling provincials and co-hosted basketball provincial basketball championships, LCI dance show, LCI’s Multi-cultural club is up and running, hosted parent-teacher interviews in person (awesome). Our parents supporting graduation with a parent committee and organizing a dry grad event.

### Participation in Decision-Making and/or Advocacy *(did you participate in any decisions at the school such as policy or join the school in advocating for something or decide as a School Council to advocate for something?)*

Our school council is advocating to help us to fundraise for a new score clock in the large gym

### Fundraising (Do you have a successful event to share?):


### Are there things your School Council is talking about/questions you have for other School Councils?


### Best Practices *(program, speaker, or other item at your school that has worked very well)*


**Division School Council  
School Highlights**

<b>School:</b>	Dr. Robert Plaxton
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**School Highlights:**

Abhigyan Nagaruru, a grade 4 student, won Gold for the intermediate (grade 4-6) science fair projects and also Best Elementary Project with his exploration entitled "Electrifying Electrolytes" at the Lethbridge Regional Science Fair.

**Participation in Decision-Making and/or Advocacy** *(did you participate in any decisions at the school such as policy or join the school in advocating for something or decide as a School Council to advocate for something?)*


**Fundraising (Do you have a successful event to share?):**


**Are there things your School Council is talking about/questions you have for other School Councils?**


**Best Practices** *(program, speaker, or other item at your school that has worked very well)*
