



Highlights from the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

**Meeting highlights from December 19
- Next meeting January 23 -**

1. Committee Reports

Reports for the Facilities Committee, Boundary Alignment Committee, Division School Council, Policy Advisory Committee, Poverty Intervention Committee and the ATA Local Council Meeting Report can be found starting on Page 3 of the [AGENDA](#).

2. Associate Superintendent Reports

Christine Lee, Associate Superintendent, Business and Operations and Robbie Charlebois, Associate Superintendent, Human Resources, delivered their respective reports for the Board. The Instructional Services report was also presented. To read the reports, see Page 20 of the [AGENDA](#).

3. Board Priorities Report

The Division Office Leadership Team is committed to keeping the Board informed regarding progress in Board priority areas. The priority areas as identified by the Board at their spring retreat were attached. The Education Centre Leadership Team is currently working on the development of strategies to address the priorities. An update on progress is provided in the form of a report each month starting in the October Board meeting.

The Board received the report as information.

The report can be found on Page 37 of the [AGENDA](#).

4. 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 are the donations and support received by the Division.

- Victoria Park High School received \$9,314.49 from people in the community for their Christmas Hampers.
- Lakeview Elementary received \$250 from Vital Essence Acupuncture
- Gilbert Paterson Middle School received \$300 from Schwartz Reliance Insurance Company and \$670 from Playgoers of Lethbridge
- Galbraith students and staff were given a free Winter Feast courtesy of LA Chefs
- Galbraith would also like to thank U of L Bookstore for donating hundreds of new books and Gayle Hiscocks from Stringam LPP and Stringam Law who purchased an Angel Tree from Chinook Regional Hospital Foundation and donated it to Galbraith School.
- Ecole Agnes Davidson received \$750 from Wayne at Panago Pizza North for their pizza night supporting school council initiatives for their students.

The Board received the report as information.

5. Acknowledgements of Excellence

Immanuel Christian Elementary School:

At ICES, we have deep hopes for our school community. Each staff member at ICES has developed individual Deep Hopes pertaining to their work within the school. Collectively, the staff also developed an ICES Deep Hope over the 2022/2023 school year. This Deep Hope framework is based on the Head, Heart, Hands model. The head represents learning, the heart pertains to growing, and the hands depict serving. Our Deep Hope serves as our guiding purpose: Equipping Learners (Head), Nurturing Faith (Heart), Flourishing in Community (Hands). Equipping Learners: In addition to the new curriculum, this year our focus on is on best literacy practices. Monthly staff meetings have embedded time for Literacy, Numeracy and Learning Commons committees to meet and successful site-based practices and growth are highlighted. Lead teacher residencies and collaborative time with Grade level teams provide autonomy over specific programs choices to meet the needs of the learners. Resources from the Division and PL to support the new curriculum and resources have been appreciated. The Teaching for Transformation (TFT) framework enables teachers to embed the Christian worldview throughout the all the curriculum. Nurturing Faith: In addition to Bible classes, daily classroom devotions and regular chapels nurture the Christian faith. Monthly theme chapels have been reformatted to include multigrade chapel groups. Not only do students sit with their chapel group through the service, but they also gather after each chapel with their designated teachers to participate in supplemental thematic activities. Seasonal chapels are lead by various designated grade-levels. Flourishing in Community: On August 31, our annual Open House was well-attended by families. This event provides opportunity to meet teachers, see classrooms, drop off supplies, and connect with peers. Connections to the various churches represented at ICES included our Pastors Appreciation Pancake Breakfast. Students enjoyed visiting with these guests over breakfast.

ICES had 3 teams participate in the Grade 5 Division Volleyball League and we look forward to participating in the upcoming Division Basketball League as well! Grade 4 and 5 students are involved in various service clubs serving our community including: Recycling, Lunch Leaders, Milk Delivery, Audio Visual, Intramurals, Monday Observances, Recess Helpers, Learning Commons Helpers, and Lost and Found. ICES continues to serve our local and global communities through various projects on a monthly rotation. In October, ICES had a successful food drive for the Interfaith Foodbank. Throughout Advent, staff and students are collecting socks, and winter attire for Streets Alive and the Grade 4 classes partnered with My City Care by donating items to support its Shop of Wonders. Collectively, the Grade 3 – 5 students decorated gift bags for the Lethbridge Correctional Institute's Christmas distribution. On a global level, ICES partners with Compassion Canada as students contribute funds earned of their own accord (baking, shoveling snow, home chores) throughout the Advent season. These funds are then designated by each classroom for specific global initiatives.

Senator Joyce Fairbairn Middle School:

The staff and students of Fairbairn are diligently working towards organizing our inaugural Fine Arts event for the 2023-24 school year. On December 14th, we will proudly present "Glow in the Snow" at our school. This event will showcase performances by the Grade 6-8 band, the Jazz Band, and the SJF Choir, who will enchant the audience with delightful holiday songs. Additionally, we will feature various projects in the fields of singing, acting, dancing, art, wood shop, foods, and STEAM. With the participation of over 100 students, this collaborative fine arts event promises to be a remarkable showcase of talent. The doors will open at 6:30 PM, and the program will commence at 7:00 PM. Tickets can be purchased for \$7 through the school cash online platform.

We are also thrilled to announce that Mr. Harmon's Band has achieved a remarkable feat by securing a spot in the Top 10 of the CBC Music Challenge! A distinguished panel of judges will soon determine the 1st, 2nd, and 3rd place winners in each category. The winners will be officially announced on the 13th at 6:00 AM.

The CBC Music Challenge is a prestigious event that celebrates music education in Canada. In collaboration with MusiCounts, CBC Music invites music instructors nationwide to teach their students a Canadian song from a pre-approved list. This year, numerous teachers, and thousands of students from all corners of the country have participated, showcasing their exceptional musical abilities on various instruments.

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5. Acknowledgements of Excellence/School Showcase

Senator Joyce Fairbairn Middle School:

We are particularly proud of the collaborative submission created by Kyle and Sarah Harmon. This joint effort involves the Senator Joyce Fairbairn Middle School Concert Band, led by Kyle Harmon, and the Dr. Robert Paxton Elementary School Music Class, led by Sarah Harmon. Kyle and Sarah, who have been happily married for 15 years, share a deep passion for music, which has always been an integral part of their lives. They strongly believe in the power of inclusive music-making and have found immense joy in bringing together students from grades 3, 6, 7, and 8 to perform Sloan's "If it Feels Good, Do It." Throughout the process of preparing for the recording, the students have experienced the true essence of authentic music-making, requiring focus, dedication, and a commitment to their craft.

The video can be found on YouTube at: <https://tinyurl.com/3s8way7r>.

The SJF Cross Country team had an exceptional season, performing admirably in the LSAA meet. Most of our runners qualified for the zone championships in Pincher Creek, showcasing their talent and dedication. In the aggregate standings, our school secured an impressive 2nd place. Furthermore, the SJF Volleyball program achieved remarkable success. Both of our Rep Teams reached the LSAA Championship games, where they proudly earned silver medals. The Senator Joyce Fairbairn staff and students are committed to lifelong learning and are dedicated to fostering an inclusive school community. We provide a wide range of opportunities for students, including classes, clubs, options, Fine Arts, and Athletics. In terms of academics, our teachers have been collaborating with division literacy and numeracy teachers to enhance student learning through embedded Professional Learning sessions throughout the Fall. Additionally, our timetable allows students to have dedicated blocks of time for numeracy and literacy, where they can practice foundational skills that are applicable to other subjects. We have also introduced a specialized class for students who are new to Canada, as well as homeroom classes and online classes, providing multiple avenues for students to engage with the curriculum. Furthermore, we have actively engaged with our community. For instance, in collaboration with our new grade 6 curriculum, SJF teachers and the Division Numeracy Lead teacher organized a parent night to inform stakeholders about the changes to the math curriculum. We have several upcoming events planned to involve parents in the school, such as the Fine Arts Glow in the Snow, the Musical production: The Musical, and the Short and Sweet Fine Arts Dessert concert.

At SJF, we are also focused on enhancing our character education program and are working towards creating Pillars for students to live by, using the acronym SOAR.

6. Annual Assurance Results Report Addendum

There is a new requirement to report on provincially mandated early years literacy and numeracy assessments. This data was not included in the Annual Assurance Results Report (AARR) that was passed at the last Board meeting and should have been in the document. The AARR has been updated with the correct data and write up. The additional information is on page 26 of the AARR and was included in the Board package for reference. The Board unanimously approved the following motion from Trustee Craig Whitehead: I move that we add to our Assurance Plan, Page 26 Early Years Literacy and Numeracy Assessments.

7. Superintendent Evaluation Policy Review

The Superintendent Evaluation Committee has been working to update the summative portion of the Superintendent Evaluation Policy (Policy 301.3) and has received feedback from stakeholders through the Policy Advisory Committee. The following documents are included for the Board's information:

- The current version of policy 301.3 that is in place and on the website. This policy was amended February 28, 2017.
- A marked-up version of policy 301.3 with suggested changes. New additions are in bold and removed language was noted with strikethrough.

The Board adopted the proposed revisions to the policy.

The policy can be found on Page 51 of the [AGENDA](#).

8. Policy Review

Division policies are reviewed to ensure they reflect the position of the Board. The Policy Advisory Committee has representation from the Board, Division School Council, employee groups and Division and school administration. The Board opted to send the revisions to the Policy Advisory Committee Terms of Reference back to the Policy Advisory Committee.

The Board also discussed amendments to Policy 504.11 - Healthy Nutritional Choices. The Board unanimously approved the following motion from Trustee Craig Whitehead: That Policy 504.11 be rescinded and assigned to the Superintendent to be developed as a procedure.

Discussion on this topic begins at the 1:46:50 mark of the [LIVESTREAM](#). The policy can be found on Page 60 of the [AGENDA](#).

9. Potential Kinder Care Pilot Program

Rochelle Neville provided the Board with an update on the potential for kinder care pilot programs within the Division. The presentation begins at the 2:08:55 mark of the [LIVESTREAM](#).

The Board unanimously approved the following motion from Trustee Andrea Andreachuk: I motion that the Division explores the possibility of running up to three kinder care pilot programs for the 2024/2025 school year. Kinder care programs typically combine traditional Kindergarten programming during regular school time with play-based programs during non-school time.

10. Mileage

Trustee Kristina Larkin relayed information that The Government Alberta mileage rate is set to change, effective Jan. 1, 2024, for the first time in many years, from 50.5 cents per kilometre to 55 cents per kilometre. The cost to the Division, based on initial calculations, was estimated to be less than \$5,000.

The Board unanimously passed the following motion from Larkin: I move that the Lethbridge School Division mileage reimbursement rate be changed from 50.5 cents per kilometre to 55 cents per kilometre, effective Jan. 1, 2024.

11. 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.

Board Chair Allison Purcell provided an update and added the next Community Conversations will be held on Jan. 16 from 1:2:30 p.m. The location has not yet been finalized.

The Board accepted this as information and will share the details with their respective schools as able.

It was further recommended the information is shared publicly on the website and other social media channels.

12. Public Forum

Nicole Williams appeared via Teams to request the Division consider to permanently allow individual school councils to decide whether or not they would like to be Alberta School Council Association members. The presentation can be found at the 2:36 mark of the [LIVESTREAM](#).

Regular Meeting video: [LIVESTREAM](#)



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