

# MINUTES FROM THE MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF LETHBRIDGE SCHOOL DIVISION HELD February 27, 2024.

## In Attendance:

Trustees: Allison Purcell; Genny Steed; Kristina Larkin, Andrea Andreachuk, Tyler Demers, Craig Whitehead, Christine Light  
Administrators: Mike Nightingale, Christine Lee, Robbie Charlebois  
Regrets: Morag Asquith

Trustee Allison Purcell called the meeting to order at 1:02 p.m.

### 1. Move to In-Camera

Trustee Craig Whitehead moved:  
“that the Board move to In-Camera.”

*Move to In-Camera  
7235/24*

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Trustee Christine Light moved to come out of the in-camera meeting at 2:29 p.m. with a short recess.

*Reconvene Meeting*

Trustee Allison Purcell reconvened the meeting at 2:38 p.m.

### 2. Territorial Acknowledgement

A territorial acknowledgement was read.

*Territorial  
Acknowledgement*

### 3. Consent Agenda

Committee Reports:

- 3.1 Public School Boards Association Report
- 3.2 Indigenous Education Committee
- 3.3 Spirit of 51 Committee
- 3.4 Shaping the Future Conference Report
- 3.5 School Boundary Review Committee

*Consent Agenda*

Craig Whitehead requested to move item numbered 3.1 Public School Boards Association Report to Action Items as 10.2 in the regular meeting agenda. As there were no objections the consent agenda was adopted as amended.

### 4. Approval of Agenda

Additions to the Agenda:

- 12.4 Policy Consultant Update

*Approval of Agenda  
7236/24*

Trustee Andrea Andreachuk moved:  
“to approve the agenda, as amended.”

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

5. Approval of Minutes for January 23, 2024

Trustee Tyler Demers moved:

“The minutes of the regular meeting of January 23, 2024 be approved as presented and signed by the chair”

*Approval of Minutes  
from January 23, 2024  
7237/24*

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

6. Business Arising from the Minutes

6.1 March 2024 Kindergarten Parent Teacher  
Interviews/Celebration of Learning

*Business Arising from  
the Minutes*

A memo outlining the recommendation in response to the January 23, 2024 motion to explore providing additional time for Kindergarten Parent Teacher Interviews in March 2024 was included in the agenda.

*March 2024  
Kindergarten Parent  
Teacher  
Interviews/Celebration  
of Learning*

6.2 March 2025 Kindergarten Parent Teacher  
Interviews/Celebration of Learning

Trustee Andrea Andreachuk moved:

“That the Board amend the 2024-2025 school year calendar to designate March 12<sup>th</sup> and March 13<sup>th</sup> 2025 for kindergarten teachers to engage in parent teacher interviews and/or celebrations of learning.”

*March 2025  
Kindergarten Parent  
Teacher  
Interviews/Celebration  
of Learning  
7238/24*

For: Andrea Andreachuk, Kristina Larkin, Allison Purcell, Christine Light

Against: Tyler Demers, Craig Whitehead

**CARRIED**

7. Associate Superintendent Reports

*Associate  
Superintendent  
Reports  
Business and  
Operations*

7.1 Business and Operations

Associate Superintendent Christine Lee provided a written report.

*Instructional Services*

7.2 Instructional Services

Associate Superintendent Morag Asquith provided a written report.

*Human Resources*

7.3 Human Resources

Associate Superintendent Robbie Charlebois provided a written report.

*Superintendents  
Report  
Board Priority Report*

## 8. Superintendents Report

### 8.1 Board Priorities Report

Board Priorities were included in the agenda.

*Donations and Support*

### 8.2 Donations and Support

A memo outlining the generous donations to schools has been included in the agenda.

*Acknowledgement of  
Excellence*

### 8.3 Acknowledgement of Excellence

Acknowledgements of excellence and reports showcasing the accomplishments of Lakeview Elementary and Gilbert Paterson Middle School are included in the agenda.

*Calendar of Events*

### 8.4 Calendar of Events

Calendar of Events was included in the agenda. Items to be added:

- Friends of 51 event March 19th
- New Teacher Induction with ATA March 21 at 4:00
- March 27 1-2:30 pm Board Budget Committee meeting.
- Board Meeting March 26<sup>th</sup> adjust time to 1:00pm, 2:30pm for public.

*Town Hall*

### 8.5 Town Hall

A memo recapping the Town Hall Event on February 6<sup>th</sup> 2024 was included in the agenda.

*Board Strategic  
Planning Retreat*

### 8.6 Board Strategic Planning Retreat

A memo regarding the Board Strategic Planning retreat on March 7 and 8, 2024 was included in the agenda.

*Presentations*

## 9. Presentations

None.

## 10. Action items

### 10.1 Policy 501.3.1 School Choice

- Regulation 1 changed to read “Implementation of school choice shall normally be permitted between school years or semesters...”
- Remove the green “students residing in the attendance area” and leave the red statement requests being made...

- Under Regulations, under 1 added to read “A student who resides in the attendance area for a school must be given priority over a student who does not reside in the attendance area.”
- Remove section 31 of the education act.

Trustee Genny Steed moved:

“That the Board accept policy 501.3.1 School Choice as amended.”

*Policy 501.3.1  
7239/23*

**For:** Andrea Andreachuk, Kristina Larkin, Allison Purcell, Christine Light, Tyler Demers

**Against:** Craig Whitehead

**CARRIED**

**Public Forum:**

*Public Forum*

1. Nicole Williams- Spoke against updating language in the public school system to more secular language, expressed concern about the Division’s Anti-Racism, Anti- Oppression Policy and the Division’s guidelines related to Gender Identity, Gender Expression and Sexual Orientation and spoke in support of Premier Smith’s February 9<sup>th</sup> announcement related to pending policy changes regarding Gender Identity and Gender Expression in Alberta Schools.
2. Viviana Lartiga- Spoke in concern with Trustee Kristina Larkin’s attendance at the Ever Active Schools Shaping the Future 2024 conference and the report included in the agenda. Expressed concerns about emotional connections between students and staff as well as the Division focusing on identity politics and referenced specific concerns related to Professional Learning connected to Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Gender Expression and Truth and Reconciliation.
3. Amber Murray- Asked why the School Division had not released a statement after Alberta Government’s recent announcement related to pending policy changes regarding Gender Identity and Gender Expression in Alberta schools. Expressed concern that the new policies announced by the government were in conflict with numerous Division policies.

Policy 600.1 Guiding Principles for Educational Programming in Schools

*Policy 600.1  
7240/23*

Trustee Genny Steed moved:  
“That the Board remove policy 600.1 Guiding Principles for Educational Programming in Schools.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

*Public School Boards  
Association Report*

10.2 Public School Boards Association

Trustee Craig Whitehead reviewed the report provided in the agenda.

*Extend the Meeting  
7241/23*

Trustee Christine Light moved:  
“To extend the meeting past 6:00pm.”

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

*Division Highlights*

11. Division Highlights

**Allison-** esports presentation, Town Hall, engaging conversations with community members, Congratulations to LCI mixed curling team who won provincials.

**Christine-** Carnival at Ecole Agnes Davidson, Brothers Grimm at Paterson, Connecting with community members at Town Hall and Spanish Bilingual night.

**Andrea-** Sign Language learning with EAs at LCI, Brothers Grimm at Paterson, Delivered valentines pencils to Plaxton, General Stewart and Buchanan, Town Hall, curriculum review with Erin Hurkett.

**Genny-** Enjoyed an unexpected opportunity to connecting with administrative staff, Appreciation for the dedication of staff providing all the extra programming for students.

**Craig-** Dance Practice at Fairbairn, Churchill and Chinook tournament.

*Board Chair Report  
Community  
Conversations*

12. Board Chair Report

12.1 Community Conversations

Petals Paws and Beans Coffee shop one evening in March.  
More details will be posted online once confirmed.

*Request for  
Alternative Program  
with Lethbridge School  
Division*

12.2 Request for Alternative Program with Lethbridge School Division

A memo regarding the decision to not proceed with the proposal for an alternative program with the Lethbridge Muslim Association was included in the agenda.

*Policy Consultant*

12.3 Policy Consultant

Signed a contract with David Steele who will be starting as a policy consultant in March.

*Correspondence  
Received*

12 Correspondence Received

None.

*Correspondence Sent  
Public Forum Response  
to Nicole Williams*

13 Correspondence Sent

14.1 Public Forum Response to Nicole Williams

A copy of the Public Forum Response letter to Nicole Williams was included in the agenda.

*Adjournment  
7242/24*

14 Adjournment

Trustee Allison Purcell moved:

“To adjourn the meeting at 6:00pm”

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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Allison Purcell,  
Chair

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Christine Lee,  
Associate Superintendent  
Business and Operations