



Highlights from the Budget Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Lethbridge School Division Budget Meeting highlights from May 26

1. Opening Comments

Lethbridge School Division Superintendent Mike Nightingale provided opening comments, which begin at the 4:05 mark of the [LIVESTREAM](#).

2. Review of Feedback From Public Budget Presentation

Avice DeKolver, Director of Finance, provided a summary based on the feedback received from the public budget presentation.

3. Opening Comments - Trustees

Each Trustee was permitted five minutes to make general comments on the budget or identify particular issues that they wished to highlight.

Trustee comments begin at the 2:39:25 mark of the [LIVESTREAM](#).

4. Revenues and Allocations

Discussion in this section focused on revenues and allocations, which included projected operating revenues, school fees, etc. Total revenues and the allocation to each block was finalized.

a.) Fees

Discussion opened with a motion from Trustee Genny Steed, which was passed by a 6-1 vote, as Trustee Tyler Demers voted against the motion:

That the Board update Policy 802.2 School Fees, to include direction and guidance which reflects and supports the overarching philosophies and values of this Board, and effectively supports Division operations.

Avice DeKolver provided an overview of the process used to collect the fee information from the schools. Fee information was attached to the agenda, and included a fee overview and the 2025/2026 detailed proposed school fee listing.

The Board approved the 2025/2026 School Fee Schedule as presented, by a 5-2 vote. Trustees Allison Purcell and Genny Steed voted against the motion.

Discussion on the topic begins at the 3:15:50 mark of the [LIVESTREAM](#).

b.) Overall Revenues and Allocations

Avice DeKolver provided a high-level overview of revenues and allocations.

The Board unanimously approved the revenues and use of one-time reserves for the 2025/2026 budget as per [Page 27](#) as presented.

5. Expenditures and Transfers

Overall expenditures and transfers for the Division were outlined as per [Page 28](#) of the 2025/2026 budget.

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5. Expenditures and Transfers

The discussion took place in five sections. Avice DeKolver provided a high-level overview of expenditures and inflationary impacts for each area.

a.) Non-Union Salary Increases

The following motion was deferred from the April 29, 2025 Board Meeting:

Lethbridge School Division provide non-union staff wage increases as follows:

- Effective Sept. 1, 2024 three percent
- Effective Sept. 1, 2025 three percent
- Effective Sept. 1, 2026 three percent
- Effective Sept. 1, 2027 three per cent.

The motion was carried unanimously.

b.) Trustee Honoraria Increase

The following motion was passed by a 6-1 vote. Trustee Andrea Andreachuk voted against the motion:

That the Board approve the trustee honoraria to increase three per cent, effective Sept. 1, 2025, and that any future considerations for honoraria changes be aligned with increases to ATA wage increases, effective Sept. 1, 2026.

c.) Instruction

The Board approved the Instruction expenditures and transfers as per [pages 32-34](#) of the 2025/2026 budget as presented, by a 4-3 vote. Trustees Andrea Andreachuk, Allison Purcell and Genny Steed voted against the motion.

d.) Administration

The Board approved the Administration expenditures and transfers as per [pages 35-36](#) of the 2025/2026 budget as presented, by a vote of 6-1. Trustee Allison Purcell voted against the motion.

e.) Plant Operations and Maintenance

The Board unanimously approved the Plant Operations and Maintenance expenditures and transfers as per [pages 37-38](#) of the 2025/2026 budget as presented.

f.) Transportation

The Board unanimously approved the Transportation expenditures and transfers as per [pages 39-40](#) of the 2025/2026 budget as presented.

g.) Capital and Debt Services

The Board unanimously approved the Capital and Debt Services expenditures and transfers as per [pages 41-42](#) of the 2025/2026 budget as presented.

6. Budget Approval

After consideration of the budget assumptions used in developing the budget and the Board budget beliefs and priorities, the Board passed the following motion:

That the Board approved the 2025/2026 preliminary budget for Lethbridge School Division, as detailed in the previous motions, and authorized administration to allocate and expend funds in accordance with the budget.

The motion passed by a 5-2 vote, as Trustees Allison Purcell and Genny Steed voted against the motion.

Budget Meeting video: [LIVESTREAM](#)