

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS



April 7, 2021



Trustees: (back row) Connie Huelsman, Vice Chair Melissa Copley, Allan Tarnoczi, Superintendent Kurt Sacher, Gord Kerr, Joe-Anne Knispel-Matejka (front row) Chair Holly Bilton, Colleen Butler, Sherry Cooper, Trudy James

2021 Edwin Parr Award nominee:

Meaghan Halkyard has been named the Chinook's Edge School Division Edwin Parr Award nominee, which recognizes teachers who are new to the profession who show significant promise in their first year. Meaghan teaches high school English and Social Studies at Hugh Sutherland School in Carstairs. A separate media release is being distributed with details.



School and Transportation Fees:

The Board passed a motion that will see both the School and Transportation fees remaining unchanged for the upcoming school year. The Board approved a new payment plan option over six months for the transportation of students during the 2021-2022 school year. As well, a Transportation fee refund of 15% was approved for the COVID-related disruption of Transportation services during the 2020-2021 school year.

2022-2023 School Calendar:

The Board approved the 2022-2023 school calendar, which will be posted to the website. The in depth annual process to determine the calendar involves consultation with multiple stakeholders.

Second Quarter Financial Report:

Treasurer Susan Roy provided a second quarter report, which included costs relative to the pandemic. COVID-19 has created certain unusual impacts, such as a revenue decrease in facility rentals but also a cost savings in substitute teacher costs due to restrictions on field trips. Additional costs such as PPE, sick leave and daytime custodians were offset by the \$3.9 million federal government allocation for COVID-19 expenses last fall. Aside from pandemic anomalies, Treasurer Roy indicated the financial summary is on track with budget expectations.

Recognition of Excellence:

The Board congratulated two Innisfail High School students Justin Motley and Ashley Arthur, and their teacher Erin Lapierre Hand, for achieving 100% on their January Math 30-1 diploma exam.

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Proposed K-6 curriculum:

The Board discussed a number of concerns they have received regarding the proposed curriculum and the implications of piloting this with Chinook's Edge students. The Central Office Leadership Team and the Learning Services Team are studying the draft curriculum, and the Board directed the Superintendent to bring more detailed information back to the Board so that a thoroughly informed decision can be made moving forward.

COVID-19 update:

With community case numbers on the rise, schools are also beginning to see a slight increase in positive cases and a broader number of people isolating as close contacts. The provincial government has re-implemented restrictions at Stage 1, and the Central Office Leadership Team continues to plan accordingly to be prepared for disruptions the pandemic may cause for schools.

Under the Education Act, School Board responsibilities are to govern, advocate and promote. For more information please visit [About the Board](#).

The next meeting of the Board of Chinook's Edge School Division is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, May 12, 2021.

MEDIA for more information please contact:

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