

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

June 24, 2020



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

COVID-19 Update:

A lengthy discussion took place regarding the detailed planning underway by the Central Office team to outline guidelines for school re-entry in the fall. As always, Chinook's Edge is taking their lead from Alberta Education and Alberta Health Services, and are making plans for three different scenarios at their request (normal operations, in-school classes with additional health measures, and at-home learning online). The Minister of Education is expected to announce in early August which scenario will be formalized for the start of the new school year, and Chinook's Edge will communicate our division-specific plans by August 14th. The Central Office team is working with school administrative teams to prepare details in compliance with government health and safety guidelines for each scenario.

Third Quarter Financial Report:

Treasurer Susan Roy provided a summary report for the period ending May 31, 2020, as is standard practice. With schools being closed for much of the time being reported, along with a number of other challenges due to COVID, the review and analysis of this quarter looks somewhat different than usual. In the end, the division remains on track with budget expectations. The uncertainty of extra requirements associated with COVID moving into the fall continues to create challenges looking forward, as additional inventory is required for every school and facility (such as PPE, plexiglass installation, directional signage, etc.)

Superintendent Evaluation:

The Board completed the annual review and evaluation of Superintendent Kurt Sacher over the spring. They found the Superintendent to be effective in enacting the motions of the Board and noted his strengths in maintaining relationships with staff, which creates many efficiencies and successes in the division. They congratulated him, particularly, on his nimble response and clear communication regarding the global health crisis. The Board congratulated Superintendent Sacher on his work, and indicated they are pleased that he is at the beginning of a five year renewed contract.

Board Self-evaluation:

Trustees spent considerable time sharing their insights as individuals regarding the Board's governance and processes, progress and performance, as outlined in PL 2 'Role of the Board' policy. The Chair summarized the annual review as follows: the Board has a collective desire to improve; every Trustee is working in the best interest of students in everything they do; each Trustee believes they can make a difference in a positive way.

Transportation Update: The Board passed a motion to serve one year notice to parents whose child utilizes a school bus to their designated school and then ride an additional route to a Chinook's Edge school will be charged both the \$500 school of choice fee and the \$200 partially funded transportation fee for a total of \$700 per year starting in the 2021-22 school year.

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Edwin Parr Award:

Trustees had the opportunity to congratulate Kasey Graham, this year's division nominee for the Edwin Parr new teacher award. Photo 1 - Board Chair Allan Tarnoczi presented a gift from ASBA Zone 4 . Photo 2 - Division Principal Rod MacLean (who is responsible for evaluating all first year teachers in the division), Kasey Graham, Superintendent Kurt Sacher and Principal Clark Peters.

"I am amazed at the amount of appreciation I'm surrounded by and I am enjoying a successful launch to my career because of all the support I've received," Kasey Graham told the Board. "It means the world to me to be doing what I've always known I'm meant to do. I love the kids and am overjoyed to be here."

Appreciation:

The Board voiced heartfelt appreciation to staff and students for their efforts and commitment to learning during this challenging year, and thanked parents for their dedication to the unprecedented level of responsibility for their children's learning.

***Under the School Act, School Board responsibilities are to govern, advocate and promote.
For more information please visit About the Board.***

Trustees thanked everyone in our Chinook's Edge school communities for working to ensure this school year was a success in our division.

The next meeting of the Board of Chinook's Edge School Division is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, September 9, 2020.

MEDIA for more information please contact:

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