

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

March 11, 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

Inclement Weather administrative procedures:

The senior leadership team conducted a review and broad consultation on this administrative procedure, particularly as it pertains to extreme cold temperatures in determining when schools will be closed. A modification will be made to the temperature threshold at which a Red Day will be determined: Ambient temperatures of -40 (remains the same) and Windchill of -45 (this has been modified from -50). As well, when the determination of an Inclement Weather day is being made at 5:30-6:00 a.m., it will be based on the predicted weather conditions expected at the 7:00-9:00 a.m. window, which is a key travel time for students and staff. The Board and Central Office Leadership Team will continue to monitor the division's Inclement Weather procedures and, to support the highest degree of safety on Inclement Weather days, information has been compiled to ensure students are dressed properly for the elements. Once completed, it will be circulated to schools and posted to the website.

School trips:

In light of the Coronavirus (COVID-19), all Board-endorsed student and staff out of country travel will be canceled effective immediately until April 30, 2020. The Superintendent provided an email to all staff and parents on March 10, indicating that the school division is closely monitoring the unfolding global situation and is taking direction from Alberta Health Services. That ministry continues to indicate the risk remains low in Alberta, however the Chinook's Edge Pandemic Plan has been updated and is on standby should it be needed.

Transportation Quarterly Update:

The Board reviewed the year-to-date report, which outlines expenses in line with expectations. The Board also approved contracts for the provision of specific bus route service in the north part of the division. Transportation staff indicated registration information for next school year will be sent to parents of students who utilize school bus service in late April, which will also outline the new transportation fees specific to each household.

Video highlights division's wellness initiatives:

Chinook's Edge participated in a University of Alberta research project, which focused on school divisions that are moving toward a culture of wellness. They shared a video which highlights some of the Chinook's Edge wellness initiatives, which the Board reviewed. Board Chair Allan Tarnoczi thanked Aaryn Manning and Ray Hoppins for the efforts of the division's wellness team, which honours the priorities of the Board to ensure the values of a caring culture are present throughout Chinook's Edge. The video has been posted to the Staff Health & Wellness section of the website:

<https://www.cesd73.ca/Staff%20Health%20%20Wellness.php>

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Smiles thru Lindsey Foundation donation:

Rick More, along with the Red Deer & District Community Foundation, presented a \$10,000 cheque to continue the division's focused supports for students who are at high risk for self harm, depression or suicidal ideation. Dr. Marcie Perdue, Associate Superintendent of Student Services, accepted the cheque on behalf of the division, indicating the Student Services Dept is appreciative of the targeted supports for this vulnerable student population. She said the process was most meaningful in that it introduced a new and powerful relationship between Mr. More and Chinook's Edge.



Carstairs Design Committee:

The Corporate Services Department has begun a series of meetings with school administrators, staff and parent reps to gather information that will be forwarded to the architect as they begin the formal design process for the expansion of Carstairs Elementary School.

Presentation by Associate Superintendent of Learning Services:

Jason Drent provided detailed information to the Board as he begins his leadership role on the Superintendent's Team. Mr. Drent shared the team's division-wide focus on initiatives such as the foundational work of literacy, K-12 education, math and numeracy priorities, careers and Indigenous Education.

***Under the School 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 No. 73 is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, April 8, 2020.

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