

# BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

February 5, 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*

## **Reduced Transportation Fee for Kindergarten students:**

The Board passed a motion that bus fees for Kindergarten students, because it is a mandated half-time program, will be reduced by 50%. The original motion to increase the fees for all students who use the Chinook's Edge bus service, including a new fee for rural students riding the bus, was passed at the January 15th Board Meeting. The fee structure will be in place at the start of the 2020-2021 school year and detailed information on Transportation Fees is available on the Transportation section of the website.

## **Capital Plan 2021-2024:**

The Board reviewed a report outlining the division's most pressing capital needs and approved an updated Capital Plan, which will be filed with the provincial government. This year's Capital Plan is focused on determining a Sector 2 solution (Chinook's Edge refers to the area surrounding the City of Red Deer, Gasoline Alley, Springbrook and the Town of Penhold as 'Sector 2'). Given the rapidly shifting growth patterns in Liberty Landing (Gasoline Alley), #1 and #4 on this Capital Plan may be adjusted to meet evolving needs in that high-growth area.

The 2021-2024 Capital Plan includes: 1. (may be adjusted to #4) Penhold Middle School (new 500 student capacity replacement school to replace the current Penhold Middle School); 2. New Grade 10-12 high school in Sylvan Lake (new 800 student capacity school to address the community's population growth, which will result in the current H.J. Cody School becoming a Grade 6-9 middle school); 3. New Olds Elementary School (new 400 student capacity Grade K-5 elementary school to address enrollment pressures in the community); 4. (may be adjusted to #1) New K-8 school in Liberty Landing (Gasoline Alley). More information is available under the Board section (Plans and Reports) on the website.

## **Automated External Defibrillator:**

The Board directed the Superintendent to develop a plan outlining costs and methods of ensuring AED devices are available at every school in the division, including the requirements for upkeep, maintenance and training.

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Indigenous Education Coordinator, Patrick Mitsuing, made an impactful presentation to the Board of Trustees and Division Office staff at a recent Education Committee Meeting. He shared some stories of his own personal journey, which inspired him to join Chinook's Edge so that he can share traditional teachings with all students and specific encouragement with Indigenous students. The Board Chair thanked him for his presentation and for his strong advocacy work with Chinook's Edge students and staff, and indicated the Board's resolve to continue the work of reconciliation together.

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#### **CASS Scholarship:**

Graduating students from Chinook's Edge schools have the opportunity this year to apply for two \$750 scholarships, as a gesture of thanks from the College of Alberta School Superintendents for Superintendent Kurt Sacher's time in the role of CASS President last year. The scholarship is based on academic standing and details are available at each high school in the division.

#### **Olds & District Kiwanis Music Festival:**

In response to a Board request made in conjunction with a November 13th Board motion to provide \$700 support to the Festival, the group provided a detailed breakdown of their annual budget.

***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 No. 73 is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, March 11, 2020.**

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