



## BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

May 15, 2019 Board Meeting

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

### **Roy E. Cope Award:**

Each year, the Board of Education can present the Roy E. Cope Award to any person who in the opinion of the Board has made a significant contribution to the educational welfare of students. This award is typically announced at the annual Staff Celebrations event in the fall. The Board passed a motion to pay tribute to the recipient at Celebrations as is tradition, but also to announce the information at the Board Meeting at which the decision is made. Moving forward, this prestigious Board of Education recognition will be officially announced as part of the Board Meeting Highlights.

### **Jim Brittain named Roy E. Cope Award recipient:**

The Board enthusiastically endorsed the recommendation that Jim Brittain, long-serving Educational Assistant (EA) at Innisfail High School, receive this year's Roy E. Cope Award. Many staff, students and families in all three Innisfail Campus schools have been touched by Jim's skill and devotion over his many years of coaching, mentoring and working with students in Innisfail High, and his impact is felt well beyond the Innisfail community. He has led large recycling projects, has administered first aid training to many students and staff, and has garnered respect from everyone around him.

"If anyone in our schools is ever wondering about the kind of impact they are making, I would encourage them to take a lesson from EA Jim Brittain," said Superintendent Kurt Sacher, in photo with Jim Brittain above.



"Many times when I came into Innisfail High, I would see Jim working in the hallway with a student or helping coach the football team or arranging any number of activities for students. He told me everything he has ever done was for students. He's incredibly well respected as an EA. We came together recently to celebrate his retirement, after 20 years, and today we are celebrating his award from our Board of Education for his significant contribution. We are all very proud of Jim Brittain and so grateful for all of his work over the years."

...continued on Page 2

### **Alberta School Council Association Conference re-cap:**

Ley-Anne Mountain, President of Innisfail High's school council, provided a conference overview to the Board. She and a representative of Jessie Duncan school council, were the two reps who the Board supported (through a draw process) to attend the provincial conference. Both found the experience to be informative and empowering. Ley-Anne was invited by the Board to provide a message to the full list of school council presidents of Chinook's Edge schools.

### **Student presentation:**

Brynne Takhar, Co-Chair of the École H.J. Cody student council, had attended May's Education Committee Meeting to discuss international travel with the Board. She shared that she was representing the voice of several students and schools in the division, when she indicated that students are concerned with the Board's policy that restricts school trips to within Canada and the continental United States. The Board thanked her for her powerful presentation and shared the reasons why the Board restricts international travel. Brynne indicated her plan to share the updated information with the school's travel club, as well as other high schools in the division. At today's Board Meeting, Trustees directed the Superintendent to ensure the division's Community Trip Guidelines, and the opportunities this presents for more travel, are reviewed and clearly communicated.



### **Instructional Leadership:**

The Central Office Leadership Team (COLT) recently conducted a review of the IL approach to school administrator leadership development, which reinforced the value and success of this method. Chinook's Edge launched the IL project several years ago and it has since become a model approach to other divisions. School administrators in Chinook's Edge indicated their support and appreciation of the IL approach, and helped identify a number of improvements which will be acted upon by COLT.

### **Career survey:**

Grade 12 students will be surveyed this year, Grade 11 & 12 next year, to ensure Chinook's Edge is setting them up for success in their upcoming career/post-secondary transition.

### **Meeting with the Minister:**

In his role as CASS President (Council of Alberta School Superintendents), Superintendent Kurt Sacher has met with the new Minister of Education, Adriana LaGrange. He described the Minister as very keen to connect with different groups, to understand their priorities and challenges. Superintendent Sacher indicated he came away from the meeting feeling very optimistic.

**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, May 29, 2019.**

*MEDIA for more information please contact:*

**Kurt Sacher, Superintendent**

(403) 227-7070

**Sandy Bexon, Communications**

(403) 227-7085