



BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Oct. 11, 2017 Board Meeting

Trustees: (back row) Sherry Cooper, Ron Fisher (Vice Chair), Colleen Butler (Chair), Superintendent Kurt Sacher, Connie Huelsman
(front row) Sheldon Ball, Trudy James, Jackie Swainson, Holly Bilton, Gordon Kerr

Capital Plan 2018-2021:

The Chinook's Edge Board of Education approved the list of priority projects, which includes: Carstairs Elementary School addition and gym expansion, Jessie Duncan School (Penhold) addition, École H.J. Cody School (Sylvan Lake) modernization, École Olds Elementary School modernization, Penhold new elementary school, and Carstairs new elementary school. A detailed report is available under the Plans & Reports link on the Board section of the division website.

Transportation Quarterly Update:

The Board reviewed bus route timelines which, in some communities, are approaching the maximum desired ride times. This is a challenge being faced in school divisions across the province, where funding shortfalls are requiring that each bus be filled for maximum efficiency which is adding to ride times in certain cases. Trustees will continue their lobbying efforts to ensure adequate provincial funding to support the distance challenges in a large rural school division.

Real Property Surplus:

In accordance with policy requiring an annual report, the Board received information on the following surplus lands: former River Glen property in Red Deer, West Hope property east of Carstairs (which has been leased out until 2020).

Naloxone Kits:

The Board directed the Superintendent to pursue the implementation of Naloxone Kits in schools. In keeping with the division's top priority of safety, Naloxone Kits are a response to fentanyl overdose which is a growing concern in society at large. A detailed strategy is being put in place, in conjunction with the division's insurance specialists, regarding staff training and education in best practices.

Animals in Schools:

The Board approved Administrative Procedure 2-23, which outlines guidelines and expectations around animals in schools (excluding service dogs). The inclusion of animals is recognized as an opportunity for significant, motivational experiences that enhance learning, however the inclusion must take into consideration the health and safety of students, staff and animals.

Trustees do important work!

Please vote on October 16

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Recognition of Excellence:

The Board congratulated students, along with their teachers, who achieved 100 percent on June Diploma Exams. Pictured here: Superintendent Kurt Sacher, Olds High teacher Louan Statchuk with Nicholas Lutz (Math 30-2), Olds Koinonia Christian School teacher Ken Lafferty with Dylan Kwok (Physics 30), Innisfail High mom Cheryl Janssen (whose daughter Mikayla achieved 100 percent on Math 30-2) with teacher Deen Lockhat, and Board Chair Colleen Butler. Missing from photo is Didsbury High School: Anna Wassmer and teacher Curtis Dick (Biology 30), and Wyatt Vipond and teacher Mark Schultz (Chemistry 30).

Farewell:

The Board expressed gratitude and best wishes to two retiring long-serving Trustees, Jackie Swainson (Sylvan Lake) and Ron Fisher (Sundre). They began serving the Board on the same day in 1998, and will be replaced through acclamation following next Monday's (October 16th) election.

This was the final Board Meeting before the Trustee Election on October 16. An Organizational Meeting of the Board of Chinook's Edge School Division No. 73 is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, November 1, 2017.

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