

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Dec. 14, 2016 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

Budget update:

Treasurer Susan Roy provided a Fall Update to the 2016-2017 budget, which will now be submitted to Alberta Education. As well, the Board reviewed the first quarterly financial report (September 1 to November 30, 2016). Findings in both reports were in line with expectations, and were received for information.

Kindergarten fees remain at no charge:

The Board approved a motion that continues their longstanding approach of providing Kindergarten fees at no charge for Chinook's Edge students, for the 2017-2018 school year.

Establishing a Rural School Board's Caucus:

The Board reviewed an open letter from Buffalo Trail Public Schools to all School Board Chairs in the province, advocating for the establishment of a rural school boards' caucus. The caucus would be focused on raising common issues and concerns in providing educational programming to students in rural Alberta. While rural transportation continues to be a key area of concern, it is expected the mandate of the proposed organization would be broadened to include a variety of other challenges faced by rural school boards. The Board will write a letter indicating interest in the caucus, and Trustee Sheldon Ball will be the Board's representative should the caucus move forward.

FESTIVE ENTERTAINMENT



Students from the École Innisfail Middle School Band provided the annual holiday entertainment at the Board Meeting, under the direction of their teacher, Chris Bushell. Board Chair Colleen Butler and Vice Chair Ron Fisher shared their appreciation (and a festive treat!) with the talented students following the recital.

Bruce Moltzan Scholarship:

Janine Nel from Olds High School attended the meeting with Vice Principal Kent Lorenz, to accept the Board's 'Bruce Moltzan Scholarship' for high academic achievement. Ms. Nel achieved an average of 96.5 percent in Biology, Chemistry and Physics 30 and Math 30-1. The scholarship is presented to the student who achieves the highest marks in the division in Grade 12 Diploma courses.

Photo: Superintendent Kurt Sacher, Olds High Vice Principal Kent Lorenz, Janine Nel, Board Chair Colleen Butler and Trustee for Olds/Reed Ranch Trudy James.

**Transfer of Cenotaph land:**

The Board considered a request from the Town of Innisfail to purchase a small piece of land at the corner of Chinook's Edge Division Office property, on which the Cenotaph is located. Corporate Services staff were requested to gather further information, prior to a Board decision. Any decision for land transfer would be subject to Ministerial approval.

Carstairs Planning Meeting:

A meeting involving community and school representatives from both Carstairs Elementary School and Hugh Sutherland School took place on December 6, as part of a continual review and dialogue to ensure sufficient learning spaces into the future. The Town of Carstairs continues to see growth, even during the economic downturn.



The Board extends best wishes for a happy holiday season and thanks everyone in our schools and departments for another wonderful year of working together in Chinook's Edge, where students come first.

The next meeting of the Board of Chinook's Edge School Division No. 73 is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, January 11, 2017.

For more information please contact:
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