



BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

May 13, 2015 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

Transportation Fleet Renewal:

The Board approved the use of a portion of reserves, an allocation of up to \$700,000, to replace a number of school buses which are at the end of their life-cycle. The last bus purchase was in 2011, and the optimal practice is to replace approximately ten percent of buses each year to maintain the highest level of safety and efficiency. Costs of the maintenance required to keep each bus operating is escalating, which the capital purchases will help alleviate. The growing number of students in Chinook's Edge requires a structured renewal plan, and the Board approved setting aside annual funds which will be dedicated toward ongoing bus replacements and incorporated into the budget. The Board directed the Superintendent to bring a full plan for fleet renewal to the next Board Meeting.

Facilities and Maintenance:

This department continues to deal with a challenging budget and just completed the process of staff restructuring that eliminates the services of day custodians throughout the division. For optimal efficiency, all custodial work will take place when school facilities are not in use. As well, the budget requires that certain equipment purchases will be postponed. This represents a \$600,000 reduction in services which will impact schools and, despite these changes, this department is still predicting a deficit of nearly \$45,000.

Correspondence:

Board Chair Colleen Butler will send a congratulatory message to Premier Designate Notley, along with the three MLAs who were elected in ridings within Chinook's Edge. Trustees requested that the messages also contain a strong request that the new provincial government ensure proper funding to education.

Trip requests:

The Board approved in principle the following trip requests: Innisfail High School to New York City in April 2016; and Didsbury High School and H.J. Cody High School to France for the 100th anniversary of Vimy Ridge in April 2017.

Edwin Parr award:

The Board congratulated Malynn Frank (Cremona—centre) who is the division's nomination for this year's Edwin Parr award, which recognizes teachers new to the profession who show significant promise in their first year. Board Chair Colleen Butler and Superintendent Kurt Sacher also acknowledged Kassia Rawlinson (École Fox Run), Matthew Kennedy (École H.J. Cody) and Chris Grudeski (Bowden Grandview—missing from photo), who were also considered for the award nomination.

Recognition of Excellence:

The Board congratulated Nicole Hartley along with her teacher, Rebecca Schaab, from École H.J. Cody School for achieving a rare mark of 100 percent on her Math 30 Diploma Exam.



The next meeting of the Board of Chinook's Edge School Division No. 73 is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, June 24, 2015.

For more information please contact:

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