



BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Feb. 11, 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

Carstairs—Building a Plan Together:

Trustee Sheldon Ball, Superintendent Kurt Sacher and Associate Superintendent Ray Hoppins presented results from an extensive three-month review which had been undertaken by the Carstairs Planning Team. A resulting report, which is posted to the division website, outlines both long term plans and short term recommendations. The Board approved three immediate recommendations relating to Chinook's Edge schools in Carstairs:

- Approval of the Carstairs Plan as presented: <http://www.chinooksege.ab.ca/Carstairs%20-%20Building%20a%20Plan%20Together.php>
- Approval to amend the Chinook's Edge 2015-2018 Capital Plan requests to reflect the priorities from the recommendations of the Carstairs Planning Team, which includes Phase 1 (225 additional student spaces at Carstairs Elementary School) and Phase 2 (new 500 student capacity Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 4 elementary school).
- Authorize administration to temporarily reconfigure the grades in Carstairs effective in the 2015-16 school year as follows:
 - Carstairs Elementary School — Kindergarten to Grade 2
 - Hugh Sutherland School — Grades 3-12

Board Chair Colleen Butler extended her appreciation on behalf of the Board for the detailed work of the committee, which has created a template which may guide future Board reviews of Chinook's Edge school communities that are experiencing rapid growth or declining growth challenges.

Sylvan Lake Principal:

A recruitment process is currently underway for the role of Principal of the new Kindergarten—Grade 6 Chinook's Edge school in Sylvan Lake, which is scheduled to open in September 2016.

Parents Matter Committee:

The Board reviewed minutes of the January 28, 2015 Parents Matter Committee, which represents the third meeting of this new committee of the Board. Trustees discussed various options for more broadly sharing information on the work of this committee. Communication strategies will be brought to the next Parents Matter Committee meeting, which takes place on May 13.

Annual Results Report:

The Board reviewed a letter from Henry Pilipchuk, Education Manager, who commended Chinook's Edge for striving for continuous improvement, as indicated in the Three Year Education Plan and Annual Education Results Report. "I commend the jurisdiction for the high achievement results in Safe and Caring, Education Quality, Drop Out Rate, High School Completion Rate, Diploma: Acceptable, Rutherford Scholarship Eligibility Rate, and School Citizenship. I commend the jurisdiction on the continuous and significant improvement in High School Completion Rate... I hope that our ongoing dialogue will support your efforts to enhance student success in your jurisdiction."

Arts Festival:

The Board approved support of \$700 for the 2015 Red Deer Festival of the Performing Arts. Participants in this festival represent young music and speech artists from 30 Central Alberta Communities.

Early Child Development:

The Board reviewed a final report of the Early Child Development Mapping Project, which includes findings from its five-year research and community development mandate. The project was funded by Alberta Education and provides results from a province-wide baseline of 70,200 young children. The full report is available at www.ecmap.ca and is intended to provide data to support policies, programming and supports related to young children and their families.

The next meeting of the Board of Chinook's Edge School Division No. 73 is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, March 11, 2015.

For more information please contact:

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