

The [Board re-elected](#) Holly Bilton as Chair and elected Sherry Cooper as Vice-Chair at its annual organizational meeting on September 5, 2023. The Board also selected committee membership for the upcoming year, and voted to increase trustee remuneration by two per cent, which matches the increase staffing groups will be receiving starting in September.

The Chinook's Edge Board of Trustees is pleased to [welcome Nadeem Altaf](#) as Treasurer and Chief Financial Officer. Altaf joined Chinook's Edge late in the spring of 2023, coming from Buffalo Trail Public Schools in Wainwright.

Safety is always the top priority for schools and for the Board. The Board was pleased to support the [First Rider program](#) again this year. [The program](#) gives kindergarten and Grade 1 students a chance to learn about riding the bus safely.

[The Board is pleased to welcome](#) 38 new teachers to the division this year. The Board and division ensures the success of these teachers in a variety of ways including [New Teacher Orientation](#) that was underway late in August.

The Board congratulates École H.J. Cody student [Amy Kingston](#), for her acceptance in a notable 6-week, paid science internship at the University of Alberta over the summer. [Kingston said](#) the “Women in Scholarship, Engineering, Science and Technology” program helped to make her more confident in her future career in science.

The Board was pleased to learn that more than 220 students participated in work experience or internship experiences over the summer. A key priority for Chinook's Edge is helping students make career connections. Some of these experiences were highlighted on Facebook over the summer. For example:

- [Two Innisfail High School](#) students worked on a local farm and gained experience in agriculture.
- Two students from Spruce View School [enjoyed working](#) at a local bakery.
- Three students from Delburne School, and a student from [Penhold Crossing](#), were selected for [internships at NOVA Chemicals](#) in Joffre.

The Board is also pleased to support [academic summer learning](#) opportunities for students. During July, 163 students participated in summer school in three communities - Sylvan Lake, Innisfail and Olds. Also, the division offered the Jumpstart program over the summer to give high school students a head start with understanding the google environment. 174 students in Jumpstart completed at least one credit, and [123 students completed six credits and earned a Chromebook](#).