



# Board Highlights

December 12, 2023

## **Trustees (left to right):**

**Melissa Copley, Linda Wagers, De Anne Hutchison, Vice-Chair Sherry Cooper, Chair Holly Bilton, Terry Leslie, Jackie Swainson, Kathy Kemmere, Gord Kerr**

### **Board approves audited financial statements**

The Board approved the financial statements for the year ending August 31, 2023, as presented by Treasurer Nadeem Altaf. Independent auditors from MNP attended the Board meeting as well as community members of the audit committee. The division's expenses for the 2022-23 school year totalled \$133,467,055, and \$130,684,463 in revenue, with a planned deficit of \$2,782,592 which came out of the division's reserves. Chinook's Edge had \$3,835,212 in reserves at the end of August 2023. The reserves include \$2.2 million in operating reserves and \$1.63 million in capital reserves. The audited financial statements will now be filed with Alberta Education and posted to the Chinook's Edge website under Plans and Reports. The auditing firm, Superintendent Kurt Sacher and the Board of Trustees thanked Treasurer Altaf and the Financial Services team for their work and expertise throughout the year, which resulted in another successful audit. The process verified to Trustees that the Board priority of directing resources to student learning is being met, as was also evidenced through the 2022-2023 Annual Education Results Report.

### **Transportation update presented to Board**

The Board received a quarterly update from the transportation department. The division has been able to hire 25 new drivers who have completed their training and testing, or who are being trained and will soon be ready to drive. Despite the hires, the division continues to be challenged with a shortage of spare bus drivers. The Board also heard that bus safety evacuation drills on all routes are complete.

### **Trustees are enjoying visits to schools**

The Board discussed recent trustee visits to schools. The Board rotates through a two-year cycle of visiting all of the division's schools. The three or four trustees who tour each school always share their observations with the rest of Board. Trustees said how valuable it has been to connect with staff and students.

### **Board plans to develop artificial intelligence policy**

The Board observes that artificial intelligence is available to people and is impacting teaching and learning. The Board wishes to develop a policy that supports the appropriate use of this technology.

### **Trustee code of conduct and remuneration policies to be reviewed**

The Board will revisit its code of conduct and remuneration policies.



### **Christmas melodies!**

Trustees and Chinook's Edge division office staff members enjoyed hearing several Christmas numbers from Penhold Elementary School's Christmas Carol Club, during an annual Christmas lunch. The group is comprised of students in Grades 4 to 6, and meets twice a week on their own time. Students have performed three times in their community led by teacher Jessica Hammer. Thanks Penhold Elementary!

**The next meeting of the Board of Chinook's Edge School Division is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, January 9, 2023.**

MEDIA for more information please contact:

**Laurette Woodward, Communications**  
(403) 227-7085

**Kurt Sacher, Superintendent**  
(403) 227-7070