

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

May 12, 2021



Trustees: (back row) Connie Huelsman, Vice Chair Melissa Copley, Allan Tarnoczi, Superintendent Kurt Sacher, Gord Kerr, Joe-Anne Knispel-Matejka (front row) Chair Holly Bilton, Colleen Butler, Sherry Cooper, Trudy James



Roy E. Cope Award - Long serving Trustee, Colleen Butler (above right), was presented with the Roy E Cope Award which is an award considered each year by the Board for a person who has made significant contributions to the welfare of students. Trustee Butler began teaching with Chinook's Edge in 1975 and spent her career in Delburne Centralized School before becoming Trustee in 2004. She quickly became Board Chair and was re-elected to that position year after year, because of the high level of confidence from her fellow Trustees. In presenting the award, retired Trustee and past Roy E Cope Award recipient, Ron Fisher, described Trustee Butler as an incredibly fair, strong and courageous leader who enjoys incredible support well beyond the division. Mrs. Butler has indicated her plans not to run in the October Trustee Election. The Board extended their best wishes on her upcoming retirement and acknowledged her hard work and lengthy commitment to Chinook's Edge. Her daughter surprised her with a flower delivery during the virtual meeting.

Pre-Kindergarten Program Update:

Marcie Perdue, Associate Superintendent of Student Services, reported on the extensive work that continues to be undertaken by the Student Services team to ensure the division continues to meet student needs within significant government changes in assessment, budgeting and programming for three to five year-olds. Trustees have advocated alongside schools to ensure the government is aware their new criteria depletes resources to students who require extra supports to be successful in school. The Board will continue their efforts around this by inviting the Rural Caucus of Alberta School Boards in advocating possible solutions with the Minister of Education, as the changes negatively impact rural schools in particular. In the end, the Chinook's Edge priority continues to be providing a robust, developmentally-based early years program to set every student up for success.

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Technology Services Quarterly Update:

Karyn Barber, Associate Superintendent of System Services, provided a report on the current priorities in technology, including an overview of plans for the June 1st launch of the redeveloped division website and all school websites. The report also outlined the positive work of Michelle Baragar, Learning Services Coordinator - Educational Technology, who has been working alongside teachers across the division as they continue to refine their online teaching and learning approach through Google Classrooms.

Transportation Administrative Procedures:

There were no suggestions or revisions on two procedures (AP 5-06 Transportation of students in private vehicles, and AP 5-11 School Bus Transportation) that are required to be brought to the Board annually for review.

COVID-19 Update:

Superintendent Kurt Sacher indicated that schools have moved successfully to learning online from home until May 25, as per government directives.

Under the Education Act, School Board responsibilities are to govern, advocate and promote. For more information please visit [About the Board](#).

The next meeting of the Board of Chinook's Edge School Division is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, May 26, 2021.

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