

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

May 27, 2020



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

The May 27th Board Meeting took place through an online platform, with Trustees each participating remotely:

Budget 2020-2021:

The Chinook's Edge Board of Education approved a \$129 million budget for the 2020-2021 school year, which includes an operating deficiency of \$1.7 million. With net amortization of \$1.2 million and capital purchases of \$1.3 million, the division operating reserves are expected to decline by \$1.7 million. Alberta Education introduced a new model for funding school divisions for 2020-2021 that shifts funding to a Weighted Moving Average which captures student numbers across three school years to provide funding certainty at budget preparation time. Student enrollment is expected to remain stable next year, at approximately 11,120 students. Planning for next school year will be clarified when further government direction regarding COVID-19 is provided; however in the meantime the Central Office team is reviewing and preparing for the potential impacts of the pandemic as information arrives.

Additional IMR funding:

As with other school divisions in Alberta, Chinook's Edge was pleased to receive additional Infrastructure Maintenance and Renewal (IMR) funds as part of a recent provincial government economic stimulus package. Chinook's Edge was approved for a number of projects that will total \$4.23 million. The projects, which will begin soon with completion by October, will include: roofing, boiler replacements, rooftop unit replacements, new LED lighting and new flooring involving 15 schools.

Transportation Update:

Trustees were provided an update on the status of bus registrations, which are underway for next school year. Transportation staff are anticipating being able to modify routes to increase efficiency, based on the bus registrations they have received to date for the 2020-2021 school year.

Relaunch Strategies:

The Central Office team is working with school administrators and school staff throughout the month of June to prepare the school division for relaunch in the fall, with the information we have at present. More detailed information will be discussed at the June 24th Board of Trustees Meeting.

Under the School 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 No. 73 is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, June 24, 2020.

MEDIA for more information please contact:

Kurt Sacher, Superintendent (403) 227-7070 Sandy Bexon, Communications (403) 227-7085