



Board of Education

Date : Wednesday, April 12, 2017

Start time : 9:00 AM

Location : Boardroom

Call to Order

Trustees Present: S. Ball, H. Bilton, C. Butler (Chair), S. Cooper, R. Fisher, C. Huelsman, T. James, G. Kerr., J. Swainson

Staff: S. Bexon – Communications Officer, S. Russell – Associate Superintendent Corporate Services, K. Sacher – Superintendent/CEO, R. Hoppins – Associate Superintendent People Services, S. Babb – Executive Assistant to Superintendent/Recording Secretary

Chair C. Butler called the meeting to order at 9:05 a.m.

Agenda Approval

Chair C. Butler called for additional agenda items.

Resolution #20170425003

Moved By: T. James

Motion to approve the agenda with the following additions:

3.6 PSBA Update

4.8 Olds College - Tom Thompson

4.9 Bowden Town Meeting

Carried

Minutes Approval

The minutes of the March 8, 2017 Board of Education meeting were provided for review.

Resolution #20170425005

Moved By: S. Ball

Motion to approve the minutes of the May 8, 2017 Board of Education meeting with the following revision:

Transportation Fees - Page 2 - "changed" to "charged"

Carried

Resolution #20170425006

Moved By: H. Bilton

Motion to move the meeting In Camera at 9:08 a.m.

Carried

It was noted that S. Ball, H. Bilton, C. Butler, S. Cooper, R. Fisher, C. Huelsman, T. James, G. Kerr, J. Swainson, S. Russell, R. Hoppins and K. Sacher remained in the meeting at this time.

R. Hoppins left the meeting at 9:43 a.m.

Resolution #20170425008

Moved By: S. Cooper

Motion to return to the regular meeting at 10:25 a.m.

Carried

Personnel

Associate Superintendent People Services R. Hoppins provided a personnel update during the In Camera portion of the meeting.

Resolution #20170425010

Moved By: J. Swainson

Motion to accept the personnel report as presented.

Carried

**Superintendent's
Personnel
Update**

Superintendent K. Sacher provided a personnel update during the In Camera portion of the meeting.

**Accounts
Payable**

The listing of Accounts Payable cheques over \$500 and direct deposits for February 2017 were provided for review during the In Camera portion of the meeting.

Facilities Update

Associate Superintendent Corporate Services S. Russell provided a facilities update during the In Camera portion of the meeting.

Resolution #20170425014

Moved By: G. Kerr

Motion that Chinook's Edge School Division No. 73 Board of Education approve the sale of the River Glen property as presented subject to approval of the sale by the Minister of Education.

Carried

**Negotiations
Committee**

A negotiations update was provided during the In Camera portion of the meeting.

PSBA Update

A PSBA update was provided during the In Camera portion of the meeting.

**Red Deer College
Memorandum of
Understanding**

Superintendent K. Sacher reported that the RDC Memorandum of Understanding has expired. It is not expected that the wording will change significantly but if it does, it will come back to the Board for review.

The event being held on May 17th was discussed. It was agreed that Superintendent K. Sacher and Trustee H. Bilton would attend.

Resolution #20170425018

Moved By: H. Bilton

Motion that Chinook's Edge School Division No. 73 Board of Education authorize the Board of Education Chair to sign the memorandum of understanding with Red Deer College.

Carried

The first annual State of the College Address held on May 13th was discussed.

Trustee H. Bilton attended on behalf on Careers. She shared positive comments about the event and encouraged representation from CESD next year.

Concerns were expressed regarding Trustees not being introduced when attending events held at the post-secondary institutions. A suggestion was made to share introduction protocol with the organizations.

Superintendent Update

Superintendent K. Sacher provided a verbal update:

Staff Wellness – Associate Superintendent Student Services W. Christensen has taken the lead in this project. Teacher representatives from every school met on March 16th to discuss how to promote staff wellness. It was noted that if staff is supported they will be better positioned to help students. There have been some early positives including the promotion of Homewood Health which is a tremendous resource that staff had limited awareness about. Division Office is modeling the way with a health challenge currently underway.

FNMI Efforts – Efforts are being made in schools across the division to honour our Indigenous students. Welcoming artwork by Janice Gallant has been placed in many schools and a print was also installed in the reception area of Division Office. There are currently 800 students in CESD that have self-identified.

Pre-K at River Valley - A need for Pre-K has been identified at River Valley so this will be moving ahead for the upcoming school year.

Career Connections - As one of the four key goals, J. Taylor and L. Steele are meeting with career teams in every school. Hugh Sutherland School shared what they are doing as a result of the High Tech High visit with the administrators.

ADCOS - An excellent planning day was held in April. Superintendent K. Sacher commented on the positive representation from Trustees at the meeting.

3 Year Mentorship Program - R. Hoppins and K. Sacher presented on dealing with parents. Positive feedback was received from participants.

RCSD Funding Cuts – Although advocacy occurred prior to the budget announcement, significant cuts were made to Regional Collaborative Service Delivery funding. Mr. Sacher is encouraging neighboring Superintendents to advocate. He suggested that this topic be discussed at the Zone level as well.

Resolution #20170425021

Moved By: G. Kerr

Motion that Chinook's Edge School Division No. 73 Board of Education direct the Board Chair to write a letter to the Minister of Education with copies to local MLAs, ASBA, PSBA and the Rural Caucus of School Boards expressing concerns regarding funding cuts to Central Alberta's Regional Collaborative Service Delivery (RCSD).

Carried

Resolution #20170425022

Moved By: J. Swainson

Motion that Chinook's Edge School Division No. 73 Board of Education direct the Board Chair to write a letter to Red Deer College and Olds College expressing concerns regarding Trustee introductions at events.

Carried

Budget Fine Print - Superintendent K. Sacher reported that clarification was recently received and the funding reduction due to the budget fine print will be \$150,000 rather than \$600,000. Mr. Sacher noted that an additional \$450,000 in expenses were reduced centrally. The Board will make the final decision regarding where the \$450,000 will be directed (i.e. transportation, reserves). Staffing reductions will be accommodated through attrition. It was noted that there are higher needs for EAs than can be funded.

Ministers Message - The Trustees discussed the Minister's message regarding informing parents of a child's involvement in GSAs and QSAs. The Division's guidelines were shared with the government and no feedback was received. Professional judgment in dealing with students on a case by case basis is extremely important and additional support is now available to students, teachers and administrators with the Proud to Be Me resource. This resource was shared with administrators at their March meeting. Concern was expressed regarding very young students and parents not being informed.

The Trustees agreed that they would like further clarification from the Minister regarding his message.

Resolution #20170425024

Moved By: S. Ball

Motion that Chinook's Edge School Division No. 73 Board of Education direct the Board Chair to write a letter to the Minister of Education requesting a face to face meeting as per his initiative to discuss expectations around communication to parents regarding their child's involvement in GSAs and QSAs, concerns regarding Regional Collaborative Service Delivery funding cuts, transportation funding and capital priorities.

Carried

**School Fees -
2017/2018**

Associate Superintendent Corporate Services S. Russell indicated that the basic school fees line item in the budget (\$778,000) is being reimbursed by the Government.

The regulation will be approved by June 1st and Boards are required to submit new or revised policies and procedures by June 30th so that everything can be approved by the summer.

It was noted that the school fees should be indicated as nil in the questions and answers document. S. Babb will let S. Roy know that this needs to be corrected.

S. Russell indicated that enhancements to basic education can still be charged. It is unknown if these will be phased out in year two. Consultation will begin early in the fall.

Associate Superintendent Corporate Services S. Russell reported that he is attending a two day meeting to help define what is considered basic education (i.e. textbooks, agenda, etc.) Representatives from CASS, ASBOA, the Alberta School Council and Alberta Education are involved and their recommendations will go to the Minister for consideration.

Resolution #20170425026

Moved By: H. Bilton

Motion that Chinook's Edge School Division No. 73 Board of Education set school fees for the 2017/2108 school year at:

Kindergarten - no fee

Grades 1-8 - no fee

Grades 7-9 - no fee

Grades 10-12 - no fee

The Option/CTS Fees (grades 7-12) will be \$7.00 per credit (25 hours). Band instrument rentals, field trips and swimming lessons will be charged according to cost.

Carried

Recognition of Excellence - Diploma Exam

The Board congratulated the following Grade 12 students who earned 100% on Math 30-1 and also acknowledged the hard work of their teachers:

- Faith Gette, Innisfail High School (Teacher - Erin Lapierre)
- Riona Wiberg, Innisfail High School (Teacher - Erin Lapierre)
- Nolan Moody, Olds High School (Teacher - Louan Statchuk)

RECESS: 11:48 a.m

RECONVENE: 12:43 p.m.

Central Alberta Regional Science Fair

A copy of the March 20th Celebrating Chinook's Edge was provided highlighting the science fair projects. It was noted that Team Central Alberta, heading to the Canada-Wide Science Fair in May, is comprised entirely of Chinook's Edge students.

Tentative Board Meeting Dates - 2017/2018

The tentative Board and Education Committee meeting dates for 2017/2018 was provided for review. It was agreed that the November 8th Board meeting will be canceled so that Trustees can attend Remembrance Day ceremonies. The Board meeting will be held in conjunction with the November 1st organization meeting.

2nd Quarter Report (September 1 to February 28)

Treasurer S. Roy attended the meeting to present the 2nd Quarter Report (September 1 to February 28) for information. The following documents were provided for review:

- Financial Reporting Profile
- Financial Update from September 1st to February 18th - Overall, revenue and expenses are on track and things are looking good.
- Detailed Report - this was reviewed in detail at the Finance Committee meeting.

Concern was expressed regarding dealing with an increase in complexity of students with the same pool of money. It was noted that this should be discussed with the Minister.

D. Brandt and P. Thompson entered the meeting at this time.

Transportation - School of Choice & Service Discussion

Further to discussion at the Transportation Committee meeting and the motion passed regarding implementing a school of choice fee of \$300 up to a maximum of \$600, Associate Superintendent Corporate Services S. Russell indicated that a couple of situations have come up for the Board to review.

- Charging this fee could potentially place small schools such as Elnora and Reed Ranch into a viability situation by affecting enrolment. An example of a concern received from an Elnora parent was provided for review. It was noted that approximately 15 students attend each school from out of area and there is a potential that these students could go elsewhere.
- The second issues is around french immersion in Sylvan Lake. Siblings of french immersion students have been allowed to attend Steffie Woima in order to keep the family together. Charging the fee may result in a loss of these students which could be detrimental to the program.

Resolution #20170425032

Moved By: J. Swainson

Motion that Chinook's Edge School Division No. 73 Board of Education waive the School of Choice transportation fee for students wishing to attend a school with a population of less than 100, effective the 2017/2018 school year.

Carried

Resolution #20170425033

Moved By: S. Ball

Motion that Chinook's Edge School Division No. 73 Board of Education waive the School of Choice transportation fee for siblings of students attending french immersion in Sylvan Lake, effective the 2017/2018 school year.

Carried

The Transportation department will send out revised letters to those affected by the change.

A list of the pros and cons for urban busing as well as a fact sheet regarding the cost of busing students was provided for information.

Transportation Director D. Brandt reported that the urban busing situation in Sylvan Lake may lead to the need for additional buses to accommodate eligible students. The grade 6 students staying in the elementary schools may also cause problems as younger siblings will be able to ride and they won't. The Department is trying to look for efficiencies by picking up urban kids on rural routes. The demand for service continues to rise and additional routes may be needed to maintain service levels.

It was noted that non-eligible students could be bumped if additional eligible students require transportation. It was agreed that this should be communicated in the letter. Pro-rated fees would be reimbursed in this situation.

The Trustees agreed that all eligible students should continue to be accommodated even if it means additional buses. It was also agreed that once the government makes a decision regarding transportation fees, a plan moving forward regarding urban busing must be formulated.

Looping buses was discussed. It was noted that this would have a negative impact on rural student ride times, additional supervision would be required and it could also create problems for families with children attending more than one school.

Resolution #20170425035

Moved By: T. James

Motion that Chinook's Edge School Division No. 73 Board of Education maintain the current level of service for eligible urban transportation for the 2017/2018 school year.

Withdrawn

Concern was expressed regarding subsidizing some of the eligible students but not all of them. It is unknown how many additional students may require transportation. There is a concern that there may be a need for two additional buses in Sylvan Lake to accommodate all eligible students that have requested transportation. Increasing populations in Olds and Carstairs may also create a similar problem.

The benefit of filling the buses with non-eligible students to offset costs was discussed.

The Trustees asked for additional information regarding the number of eligible riders in each community.

**Graduation Dates
- 2017/2018**

The graduation dates for 2016/2017 were circulated and the Trustees indicated the events that they would be attending.

**Olds College
Tom Thompson**

A retirement event for Dr. Tom Thompson, Olds College President is being planned for May 18th. The cost to attend is \$110.

**Bowden Town
Meeting**

Trustee C. Huelsman indicated that she attended a joint meeting between the Town of Bowden and Red Deer County. A question was presented regarding the parking lot and roof at Bowden Grandview School. S. Russell explained the process for principals to submit IMR requests. It was noted that the Innisfail parking lot was completed due to traffic concerns and the addition of the Chinook Center students in the upcoming school year. Safety is always the top criteria when prioritizing requests.

Audit Committee

No report at this time.

**Finance
Committee**

The minutes of the May 21, 2017 meeting were provided for review.

**Education
Committee**

The minutes of the March 22, 2017 Education Committee meeting were provided for review.

Resolution #20170425043

Moved By: R. Fisher

Motion that Chinook’s Edge School Division No. 73 Board of Education nominate the Olds Kiwanis Club and the Red Deer Kiwanis Club for the ASBA Friends of Education Award.

Carried

Resolution #20170425044

Moved By: S. Ball

Motion that Chinook's Edge School Division No. 73 Board of Education approve an additional \$165,000 from the sale of land for the division office renovation.

Carried

Resolution #20170425045

Moved By: G. Kerr

Motion that Chinook's Edge School Division No. 73 Board of Education no longer be involved in or be the banker board for the Personal Empowerment and Employment Program (PEEP) effective the end of the 2016/2017 school year.

Carried

Facilities and Maintenance Committee

No report at this time.

Parents Matter Committee

No report at this time.

Policy Committee

Board representative S. Cooper provided an update from the March 10, 2017 Policy Committee meeting. The minutes of the meeting were provided for review.

Resolution #20170425049

Moved By: R. Fisher

Motion that Chinook's Edge School Division No. 73 Board of Education review the Trustee Handbook at the April 2017 Education Committee meeting.

Carried

Public Consultation Committee

No report at this time.

Teachers Matter

No report at this time.

Technology Committee

Board representative S. Ball provided a verbal update from the March 22nd Technology Committee meeting.

There were no concerns expressed regarding using a cloud server structure. It was noted that the servers are reaching the end of their life and that it could cost \$500,000 to replace them including ongoing maintenance. The cloud storage company is based in Lethbridge.

The Google Summit being hosted by CESD this summer was discussed. Administrators will use PD funds to cover their registration fees and there will be no additional cost to the Board. The total cost will be approximately \$50,000 but this will be recouped through attendance fees. It will be held August 24th and 25th.

The Learning and Technology Policy Framework was provided for review. The Trustees did not answer the questions.

Transportation Committee

Board representative S. Ball provided a verbal update from the March 16th Transportation Committee meeting. The minutes of the meeting were provided for review.

Community Learning Campus

No report at this time.

Enrolments

Superintendent K. Sacher reviewed enrolments as of March 24, 2017.

Correspondence

There was no correspondence received.

Trip Requests

There were no trip requests received.

A summary of field trips approved for 2016/2017 and 2017/2018 was provided for information.

Trustee Remuneration and Expenses

Chair C. Butler called for Trustee Remuneration and Expenses for March.

Board Strategic Plan

The 2016-2017 Board Strategic Plan was provided for review.

Alberta School Boards Association

Board representative H. Bilton provided a verbal update:

- An update was provided from the March 20th ASBA Zone 4 meeting. Trustee Bilton indicated that she would forward the highlights to the Trustees.
- The next Zone 4 meeting is being held April 24th in Rocky Mountain House.
- The SGM is being held June 5-6, 2017 at the Sheraton Red Deer. Please let S. Westwood know if you are planning to attend.
- The budget and bylaws were provided for review:
 - Motion 1 / SGM17 - Page 27 - The Trustees agreed to listen to the presentation prior to making a decision regarding the budget.
 - Motion 2 / SGM17 - Page 59 - support was provided.
 - Motion 3 / SGM17 - Page 61 - no issues were raised.
- The Edwin Parr evening is being held on May 29th. Cocktails are at 5:30 p.m. with dinner served at 6:00 p.m. at the Innisfail Library. The awards presentation will be held following dinner. Please let B. Milman know as soon as possible if you are attending.

**Public School
Boards
Association**

Board representative S. Cooper provided a verbal update from the April Public School Board Council meeting.

The Spring General Meeting is being held June 2-4, 2017 at the Sheraton Red Deer. Please let S. Westwood know if you are planning to attend.

D. Brandt and P. Thompson returned to the meeting at this time.

**Transportation -
School of Choice
& Service
Discussion**

Transportation Director D. Brandt provided information on the number of eligible students that could potentially request transportation in Sylvan Lake, Carstairs and Olds. It was noted that Innisfail is not yet a concern. There is a potential for an additional 6-7 buses needed if all eligible students request a ride.

The options of reducing service levels or increasing fees were discussed.

C. Butler left the meeting at 2:46 p.m.

It is not known what the government will do with transportation funding. The Trustees agreed to maintain the status quo for one more year. As part of the strategic plan for next year, the Board will discuss a long term plan to address urban transportation concerns.

The Board thanked D. Brandt and P. Thompson for the information.

D. Brandt and P. Thompson left the meeting at this time.

**Canadian School
Boards
Association**

No report at this time.

**National School
Boards
Association**

No report at this time.

**Meeting
Evaluation**

Trustee C. Huelsman provided an evaluation of the meeting. Trustee G. Kerr will provide the evaluation at the next meeting.

Resolution #20170425066

Moved By: C. Huelsman

Motion to adjourn the meeting at 4:01 p.m.

Carried

C. Butler - Chair

R. Fisher - Vice Chair

S. Russell - Corporate Secretary