



BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

Feb. 1, 2017 Board Meeting

Trustees: (back row) Sherry Cooper, Ron Fisher (Vice Chair), Colleen Butler (Chair), Superintendent Kurt Sacher, Connie Huelsman
(front row) Sheldon Ball, Trudy James, Jackie Swainson, Holly Bilton, Gordon Kerr

Jessie Duncan Relocatable Classrooms:

Alberta Education has approved modular classrooms that will provide additional learning spaces at Jessie Duncan School. Rapid growth in the Town of Penhold has resulted in capacity and utilization challenges at all three Chinook's Edge schools in that community, and the addition of four modular classrooms at Jessie Duncan will ease the pressure at each school. These classroom spaces, which include washroom facilities and a hallway connection to the school, are expected to be in place by the start of next school year. This expansion will allow Grade 2 students to remain at Jessie Duncan School in September 2017 and alleviate the pressures at Penhold Elementary School, which currently has very high utilization rates. As a result, the following grade configurations will be in effect at the beginning of the 2017-2018 school year:

- Jessie Duncan School: Pre-Kindergarten - Grade 2
- Penhold Elementary School: Grades 3-5
- Penhold Crossing Secondary School: Grades 6-12

Closure of Chinook Center School:

The Board of Education passed a motion to close Chinook Center School effective June 30, 2017, so that students can be relocated into École John Wilson Elementary School at the start of the 2017-2018 school year. This relocation has long been a component of the extensive modernization project underway at École John Wilson Elementary. The Central Office Team is working closely with administration and staff at both schools to facilitate this transition and are confident quality learning environments will continue to thrive as École John Wilson Elementary School welcomes students and staff from Chinook Center School in Fall 2017.

Career Expo participation:

The Board contributed \$1,250 in support of the 11th annual Career Expo at Red Deer College on April 27, which features 100 booths from post-secondary and industry representatives and familiarizes 3,700 students with a variety of career choices. The event aligns with key Chinook's Edge goals of enhancing career connections, dual credit programming, high school completion and transitions to post-secondary. Chinook's Edge will be provided with a booth at the Expo to promote these priorities and opportunities.

Trip request:

The Board passed in principle a request from Hugh Sutherland School in Carstairs for a trip to New York, Boston and Washington in April 2018. The Board reiterated the priority to ensure participants are aware that trip cancellation insurance is highly recommended for out of country travel.

Central Alberta Regional Science Fair:

The Board made a motion to contribute \$1,700 to the Central Alberta Regional Science Fair in March, which historically involves many students from Chinook's Edge schools.

Electoral boundaries discussion:

The Board made a motion directing the Board Chair to provide feedback to the Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission expressing concern regarding losing rural representation in the legislature should the electoral boundaries change. The Alberta Electoral Boundaries Commission is currently undertaking a review of the 87 constituency boundaries.

The next meeting of the Board of Chinook's Edge School Division No. 73 is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, March 8, 2017.

For more information please contact:

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