



## BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

**April 6, 2016 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

### **Benalto School**

After a lengthy review and deliberation, the Board of Education has made a motion to close Benalto School at the end of this current school year. Benalto School has been involved in a viability and closure review process because of the school's low student enrolment numbers, which is currently 21 students. Paramount to the Board's decision is the educational experience for students at Benalto School. There is a high level of quality teaching and learning at Benalto, but the challenges of low enrolment affects students and staff on a daily basis. Along with this, the Board considered the impact of their decision on the other 42 schools in Chinook's Edge.

Trustees commended the hard work and diligence of the Benalto School Review Committee, and thanked Benalto parents and staff for their dedication to the process and their devotion to the school. A subsequent motion directed the Superintendent to begin a process of establishing strategies and timelines to support Benalto School families and staff in finalizing next steps and transitions.

### **School Fees**

The Board passed a motion that school fees for the 2016-2017 school year remain unchanged:

Kindergarten—no fee

Grades 1-6—\$64

Grades 7-9—\$79

Grades 10-12—\$104

### **Second Quarter Financial Report**

Treasurer Susan Roy presented an interim report for the September 1, 2015 to February 29, 2016 period, indicating the overall status is precisely where it was expected to be when the budget was passed last spring. That said, the Transportation and Facilities budgets continue to present challenges and may come in over budget.

**Trip Requests**

The Board approved in principle a request from Innisfail High School to travel to Alaska in July 2017, and a request from Penhold Crossing Secondary School to Boston, New York, Philadelphia and Washington in April 2017.

**Community Learning Campus**

The Board heard a very positive update regarding dual credit programming through the Community Learning Campus, where 55 high school students from across Chinook's Edge have completed a dual credit course with a reported 100 percent satisfaction. Several new dual credit courses are being developed, which are available to every high school student in the division. Dual Credit Programming provides students the opportunity to earn credits at both the high school and college levels.

**The next meeting of the Board of Chinook's Edge School Division No. 73 is scheduled to take place on Wednesday, May 11, 2016.**

*For more information please contact:*

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