

The Board has [given its nomination](#) for the Edwin Parr Award, for outstanding first year teachers, [to Amy Severtson](#), a first year teacher from Bowden Grandview School. The Board met with Severtson at its meeting on April 6, 2023. Trustees were inspired by Severtson's many gifts that are making a difference for students. Click [here](#) to see Severtson in action, and hear from students in her classes.

At its April meeting, the [Board updated](#) its [2023-24](#) and [2024-25](#) student attendance calendars, based on feedback it received from families, students and staff.

Also at its April meeting, the Board approved the [purchase of 7 school buses](#), bringing the total number of purchased buses this school year to 14. The additional purchase was approved in response to changes in provincial funding for transportation. The division anticipates having additional riders and routes as a result of the provincial change. The Board [also lowered bus fees for families](#).

[Two Chinook's Edge students](#) will be competing at the [provincial Skills Canada competition](#). Johan Eriksson, a student at Didsbury High School, placed first at regional competitions in construction, and Travis Lorenz, a student from Ecole H.J. Cody School in Sylvan Lake placed second. Trustees were not only pleased to see the two students advance to provincials, but were delighted that [12 students from Chinook's Edge](#) chose to participate in the regional competition. The Board is proud of the division's work strengthening opportunities for students to make career connections.

[Didsbury High School's band](#) has been [invited to MusicFest](#), a national music festival, as a result of its recent performance at Acadia University. Trustees are pleased students had a successful experience. Click [here](#) to learn more - and hear more - about why the band is so successful.

The Board celebrated two students from Innisfail High School who received 100% on their Math 30-1 Diploma Exams in January. The Board extended congratulations to [Swaleh Zaidi and Alexis Newberry](#) at the April 5 Board meeting.

[Chinook's Edge students](#) who participated in the Central Alberta Rotary Science Fair at Red Deer Polytechnic earlier this month did very well. Claire Friesen, a grade 7 student from Cremona School [won the gold medal](#) and "Best of Fair" and will be heading to provincials. The Board is pleased to see students enjoy the opportunity for academic excellence that comes from participating.

Chinook's Edge trustees support schools teaching students empathy. A popular event for this annually is the Terry Fox Run. The division recently learned that the [schools raised \\$27,000](#) for cancer research through the events in the fall of 2022. 25 schools participated.

The Board appreciates the efforts of educators to connect students to experiences that help them explore possible careers. A recent example was a ["health care skills day"](#) in Sundre, where [high school students visited](#) community facilities to understand more about careers in health care.

Trustees extend a welcome to Joy Agnew, [who has been named](#) the Vice President of Research at Olds College of Agriculture and Technology.