



Board Highlights

November 14, 2023

Trustees (left to right):

Melissa Copley, Linda Wagers, De Anne Hutchison, Vice-Chair Sherry Cooper, Chair Holly Bilton, Terry Leslie, Jackie Swainson, Kathy Kemmere, Gord Kerr

English as Second Language high school courses receive approval

The Board approved ESL (English as a Second Language) English 15 and 25 courses for use in the division's high schools. The courses will be available for students who do not speak English as a first language.

Chinook's Edge Board approves advocacy document for use locally and provincially

The Board approved a one-page (front and back) document that outlines priorities for advocacy with the provincial government. The Board will use the document as trustees speak with provincial and community leaders. The Board's three recommendations and proposed actions include:

- Increasing cross-ministry work to better meet the complex needs of students
Recommended actions:
 - Collaborative discussions between local health and education staff, focused on student needs
- Enhancing career pathways
Recommended actions:
 - Simplify the process for school divisions gaining access to dual credit courses
 - Financially support and enhance access to: dual credit, work integrated learning and collegiate models
 - Simplify supervision requirements and the sharing of safety inspection reports
- Reducing red tape so that education can make the most of the resources it receives
Recommended actions:
 - Return to one provincial audit on student diagnosis for PUF (Program Unit Funding) rather than two
 - Provide the ability for Alberta Health Services and school divisions to share assessments
 - Change the pediatric rehab model so that allied health practitioners (such as speech language pathologists, occupational therapists, and physical therapists) and mental health professionals can provide support to students in schools.
 - Items referenced in the career section above would reduce red tape

Board prepares to advocate through the Alberta School Boards' Association

The Board is preparing for the annual ASBA meeting, where all 61 publicly funded school boards consider and vote on positions that, if approved, will be presented to the provincial government.

Board approves capital funds for Westglen School

Trustees voted to approve spending of capital funds of up to \$90,000 to purchase furniture that will go in four relocatable classrooms being placed at Westglen School.

Board receives report of out-of-province field trip plans

The Board received information that in April 2024 Ecole Fox Run School plans to send students to Quebec, and Sundre High School will send students to Ontario and Quebec. Students from Didsbury High School will go to Saskatchewan in March 2024, and Ontario in May 2024. Delburne School and Bowden School will send students to Washington and New York in April 2024. The Board sends its best wishes to students who will participate in these exciting learning opportunities.

**The next meeting of the Board of Chinook's Edge School Division is scheduled to take place on
Tuesday, December 12, 2023.**

MEDIA for more information please contact:

Laurette Woodward, Communications
(403) 227-7085

Kurt Sacher, Superintendent
(403) 227-7070