



Board Highlights

May 27, 2025

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

Board approves budget and sets financial direction for 2025-2026 school year

The Chinook's Edge Board of Trustees has approved a **\$140.9 million** budget for the 2025–2026 school year, following a presentation from CFO/Treasurer Nadeem Altaf and a detailed Board discussion. The Board anticipates revenue next year of **\$140.4 million**, with a budget deficit of **\$586,647**. The division will use reserves to balance the budget, anticipating that reserves at the end of the 2025–2026 school year will be approximately **\$4.0 million or 3.2%**. It is important to note that the Board is well under Alberta Education's reserve cap of **\$8.4 million or 6%**. Also, the majority of our reserve is restricted and available only for future planned capital projects.

Chinook's Edge has experienced stable enrollment trends over the past few years. For 2025–2026, the division projects an enrollment of approximately 11,198 students, slightly lower than the previous year. This figure will determine funding allocations under the Adjusted Enrolment Method (AEM) funding model.

The budget will be filed with Alberta Education and posted to the division website by the end of May 2025.

Trustees approve the Education Plan for the 2025-2026 school year

The Board approved the Education Plan for the 2025-2026 school year. Through the plan, the Board and division articulates its continued focus for work around three pillars: academic excellence, social emotional well-being and career connections.

Within the pillars are the following plans we are very excited about in our division:

- Piloting a blend of online and in person learning where students will have the opportunity to connect with their teacher, attend field trips, and access division standardized assessments while learning from home.
- Providing extensive learning opportunities within existing professional learning days for staff to enhance their capacity for dealing with an increasing number of student complexities.
- Expanding collegiate experience opportunities for our rural students by fully utilizing our partnerships with Olds College and Red Deer Polytechnic. These efforts will support students in post-secondary transition and ensure high school completion, allowing students to move forward with confidence into the world of work.

The Education Plan is posted on the division website.

**The next meeting of the Board of Chinook's Edge School Division is scheduled to take place on
Tuesday, June 24, 2025**

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