

TRUSTEE COMMUNITY UPDATE



**BLACK GOLD
REGIONAL
DIVISION NO. 18**

NOVEMBER/DECEMBER 2009

The Black Gold Regional Division No. 18 is made up of 9 communities, including Leduc County. These communities are: New Sarepta, Beaumont, Leduc, Devon, Calmar, New Humble, Thorsby, Warburg and the Hutterite Colony. We also operate programs in Home-Based Schooling and Distance Learning from our Outreach School.

School Visits

Every year Black Gold Regional Schools trustees visit all of our 27 schools. Our tours let us see the diversities of our different schools and also developments in new educational programs in our Division. We are proud of all the ways our schools and staff give to our students and to their communities.



Strategic Planning

On November 9th and 10th, trustees, administration and department heads attended a Strategic Planning Session. Here we developed core values and short and long term plans for success in Black Gold. We will continue developing these goals at our December meeting.



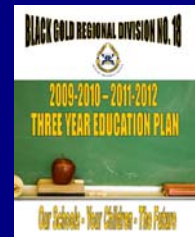
Black Gold Three Year Education Plan

The Three Year Education Plan was prepared under the direction of the Board in accordance with the responsibilities under the *School Act* and the *Government Accountability Act*.

This **Education Plan** was developed in the context of the provincial government's business and fiscal plans. The Board is committed to achieving the results laid out in this **Plan**.

The Three Year Education Plan is posted on our website at:

[www.blackgold.ca/
Publications/DivisionReports](http://www.blackgold.ca/Publications/DivisionReports)



Board Meetings

Our bi-monthly Board meetings occur on the 2nd and 4th Wednesday of each month beginning at 10:30 a.m., 5th floor at Central Office, County Centre in Nisku. If you have an item you wish to address, please contact Ruth Andres, Secretary-Treasurer, of Black Gold Regional Division at 780-955-6025. To access more information on Black Gold Regional Schools, please visit our website at:

www.blackgold.ca

Board Contacts:

As members of the Board of Education of Black Gold Regional Division No. 18, we commit ourselves to working with staff members and other relevant stakeholder groups to provide the highest possible standard of educational opportunities for our students. Our goal is to help students fulfill personal aspirations while they learn how to become life-long learners and contributing members of society.

Beaumont
County Central
County East
County West
Devon
Leduc
Leduc

Lorna Misselbrook
Kirk Popik
Johnette Lemke
Sam Kobeluck
Sandy Koroll
Barb Martinson
Christine Robertson

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Trustee Events

In November and December, trustees have attended and been involved in a variety of functions and committees including:

- Alberta School Board Association Fall General Meeting
- Awards ceremony for students
- School visits: trustees visit all 27 schools in our Division throughout the school year
- Fall planning session: focusing on strategic planning which will help drive grade configurations
- Alberta School Boards' Association Zone 2/3 and Public School Board Association meetings
- Opening of the new Black Gold Outreach School at the Leduc Recreation Centre
- Joint Action for Children Committee meeting
- Leduc Grade Configuration meetings
- School Christmas concerts and performances



ASBA News: Stop The Cuts Campaign

In response to anticipated cuts of \$340 million or more to next year's education budget, the Alberta Teachers' Association, Alberta School Councils' Association and Alberta School Boards' Association launched the *Stop the Cuts* campaign.

The campaign uses various advertising media to invite Albertans to visit a website where they can contact MLAs, the Minister of Education and the Premier to voice their support for investing in education.

The *Stop the Cuts* campaign continues to November 22nd, covering the period when MLAs are returning to the legislature and budget decisions are being made within government. Ensure that your voice is heard by visiting www.stopthecuts.ca and sending a message to your MLAs.

Minister's Education Leadership Recognition Awards (MELRA)

On November 27th, trustees attended the 2009 Minister's Education Leadership Recognition Awards ceremony.

Black Gold Regional Schools were awarded with "Significant Improvement" designation in six categories:

- Safe and Caring Schools
- Education Quality
- Provincial Achievement Testing (PAT) - Acceptable
- Provincial Achievement Testing (PAT) – Excellence
- Citizenship, and
- School Improvement.

The Division also received an award for "Very High Achievement" in School Improvement.

MELRA awards are a good benchmarking tool that helps to ensure our Division is meeting the needs of our students.



MERRY CHRISTMAS



From all the Trustees at
Black Gold Regional
Schools

we wish you and yours
a very

Merry Christmas

and a safe and

Happy New Year!

