

BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

June 17 & 24, 2015



CELEBRATING SUCCESS

Black Gold Division Office

On May 22nd, Jennifer Kosiorek was invited to provide a presentation to the Destiny User Network meeting in Vancouver where she spoke to a group representing various school districts from across British Columbia. They were interested in learning the strategies that Black Gold has implemented in providing and managing digital content, specifically, building partnerships within various departments, such as Student Services and the IT, ET and Data departments, as well as the types of content we are providing. It was also discussed that these relationships are crucial when overcoming challenges, such as a lack of understanding and confidence by users and technology overload. We maintain that technology should enhance digital content and allow it to be used more often.



It was a great opportunity to showcase our Division and be a source of reference for others, as well as, exchange experiences and solutions with those going through a similar process.



Congratulations to Division Office staff who raised \$1,689.65 and collected food for the Leduc & District Food Bank. This contribution was a result of the Division Office Denim Fridays and the 2015 Leduc County Centre Food Bank Challenge.

Black Gold Elementary Track Meet

The BGRS Elementary Track Meet held on June 6th was a spectacular success again with over 1400 students participating. Congratulations to Track Meet Coordinator Katherine Kloschinsky, Riverview Middle School Principal Harv Boschman and Staff, Track Meet Equipment & Field Prep Coordinator David van den Bijaart, Track Meet Announcer David Law, RMS Parent/Concession Coordinator Terri Delbridge and to all the other Track Meet Officials who volunteered their time to ensure that this huge event operated smoothly. The students enjoyed the day and had lots of fun! Thank you.

Black Gold Home-Based School

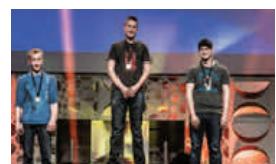
BGRS Home-Based student Conner Modin was chosen by Alberta Health Services as one of the recipients of a Great Kids Award for 2015. The awards recognize young people for doing great things every day – at home, at school, and in their community. In May 2015, Conner was honoured at a provincial celebration for his outstanding determination, generosity, and compassion. The Great Kids Award was first launched in 1999 to celebrate children and youth who positively impact their communities. Congratulations Conner!



Calmar Secondary School Owns the Podium



Calmar Secondary School, boasting one of the top Precision Machining programs in the province, stood the true test of their mettle at the Provincial Skills Canada competition on May 13th and 14th winning Bronze, Silver and Gold in CNC Machining. Tucker Weldon took bronze, Conley Wurban won silver, and Jorn Peeters won gold. Conley Wurban, grade 12, has qualified every year since grade 10 and won the gold medal in his grade 10 year. Jorn Peeters represented Calmar Secondary at the Skills Canada National Competition in Saskatoon on May 28th and 29th, taking silver within micrometers of the gold medalist from Quebec. Former Calmar alumni Trevor Fandrick, now with the Canadian National Team, has travelled internationally and will be competing in the World Skills Competition in Sao Paulo, Brazil in August.



CELEBRATING SUCCESS

École Beau Meadow School



The École Beau Meadow choir placed First in both their categories at the Leduc Music Festival and were recommended to Provincials by the adjudicator. At the May 8th provincial competition, the Alberta Music Festival Association awarded the EBMS choir Distinction standing for their performance. Their Choir Director, Accompanist and school community are very proud of all their hard work and accomplishments!

École Coloniale Estates School

On Wednesday June 3rd, Cate Chorney (Grade 5) became the Environment Minister for the day. She surveyed her post at the Legislature, went for a ride on the North Saskatchewan River, and toured a number of facilities including the Gold Bar Waste Water plant. She won this experience by submitting an essay which was chosen over 2200 essays submitted province wide.

Recently a group of five inspired and motivated Grade 6 girls at ÉCES formed the “Bake A Difference Club”. They held their first fundraiser, a bake sale, on May 27th and raised \$1408.30 to donate to projects supported by the Free the Children foundation. The girls had fun deciding how to divide the money between the various projects available. All the funds went to people in less fortunate circumstances as follows:

- 2 families will have access to clean water for life
- 2 goats for food and sustainable income for 2 families
- 1 set of school supplies to remove barriers to education for children
- 1 bundle of chicks for food and sustainable income for a mother and her children
- 1 mobile health clinic for an entire community



The Club will be holding more fundraising opportunities next year and opening the Club membership to any who wish to volunteer.

BGRD 20TH ANNIVERSARY COMMITTEE



Deb Ponich, Chairperson for the BGRD 20th Anniversary Committee, stated that activities are being planned for the 20th Anniversary Celebration. The Celebration will recognize Black Gold Regional Division's history of coming together as one school jurisdiction. Black Gold Regional Division No. 18 was established in 1995 when three smaller school jurisdictions—County of Leduc No. 25, Leduc School District No. 297 and Devon School District No. 4972 regionalized.

The anniversary acknowledgement and celebration will focus on the past, present and future. The celebration will also include the accomplishment of being one of the exemplary school jurisdictions in Alberta. Celebrations will involve participation and input from students, staff and the community. Activities will be woven throughout the year and will allow for flexibility for every school to celebrate with activities of their choice that includes the uniqueness of the school as part of the community in the last twenty years.

BGRD BANK ACCOUNT

Associate Superintendent Andres stated that we are closing the bank accounts at the schools and centralizing the bank accounts at Division Office. In order to do this, we need to open a new bank account at ATB Financial where the schools will deposit funds to be forwarded to the Division Office bank account.



The Board gave approval to open an account in the name of Black Gold Regional Division No. 18 at ATB Financial. Two signatures are required, one from the Board Chairman or Vice-Chairman, and the second from the Superintendent or Associate Superintendent - Business & Finance who are authorized to sign, make, draw, accept, endorse and deliver cheques, promissory notes, bills of exchange drafts, transfer vouchers, order for the payment of money and such agreements and instruments as may be necessary or useful in connection with the operating of the said account.

ELECTORAL WARD BOUNDARY REVIEW - AD HOC COMMITTEE



Trustee Misselbrook brought forward the draft terms of reference for the Ad Hoc Committee for the Electoral Ward Boundary Review. The purpose will be to formulate additional parameters for the Electoral Ward Boundary Review, to formulate a draft policy for Board approval, and to communicate with and receive feedback from constituents and government officials on ward boundaries of school board trustees.

The powers and duties are as follows: to gather information for parameters of the Electoral Ward Boundary Policy, and to have the authority to gather information from all stakeholders involved in the implementation of the Electoral Ward Boundary Review.

The time frame will be a minimum of two meetings with recommendations to the Board.

The membership will consist of three trustees: one trustee representing a rural ward (population under 10,000), one trustee representing an urban ward (population over 10,000), and one trustee at large.

The Board accepted the Terms of Reference for the Electoral Ward Boundary Review - Ad Hoc Committee as established above as well as for the membership of the committee to consist of the following trustees: Trustees Koroll, Eilander, and Misselbrook.

INNOVATION AND IMPLEMENTATION FUND

Trustee Eilander expressed interest in submissions that are innovative ideas and to explore implementing projects that have already been accepted. Trustees discussed the criteria of the submissions.

Trustees commented that the Ad Hoc Committee for the Innovation and Implementation Fund will need to look at different terms of reference. Trustee Eilander will gather information from trustees to submit to the Policy Committee for the establishment of the terms of reference for the Innovation and Implementation Fund.



The Board supported \$150,000 to be taken out of reserves for the Innovation and Implementation Fund.

NAME THE NEW SCHOOL CONTEST



Trustee Misselbrook provided information on the names submitted for the new school in Beaumont. Because of the quality of the submissions, additional time is required to make a decision. The selected name will be announced at the first Board meeting in September.

CALMAR SECONDARY MODERNIZATION

Superintendent Yanitski received confirmation that the Government of Alberta has approved the modernization at Calmar Secondary School and has awarded the contract to Krawford Construction.



PARENT PRESENTATION

Dr. Tran-Davies, a BGRD parent, thanked the Board for the opportunity to bring forward the concerns she has with Alberta Education's *Inspiring Education*. Dr. Tran-Davies has met with the former Alberta Education Minister and plans to meet with the new Minister soon to discuss her concerns. Trustees thanked Dr. Tran-Davies for her passion for student learning, and for the information provided in her presentation.

FIELD TRIP REQUEST



The Board gave approval in principle to the field trip request from École Secondaire Beaumont Composite High School. The field trip is to New York City from February 11 to 15, 2016 for 10 Grades 10 - 12 musical theatre students with one supervisor.

ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE 260 - STUDENT EXCURSIONS

Associate Superintendent Romanchuk presented the Administrative Procedure 260 – Student Excursions for information. Mr. Romanchuk asked the Board to consider a need to change the deadlines in the procedure. After discussion, Trustees agreed to revise the wording in Appendix A - 'Deadline for Request for Approval in Principle' to 10 months instead of 18 months prior to proposed date of departure outside of Canada.



WEST HAVEN PUBLIC SCHOOL GROUNDBREAKING CEREMONY

Trustees, Administration and representatives from the City of Leduc attended the groundbreaking ceremony on May 28, 2015 for the new school in Leduc, West Haven Public School. This school will be a Kindergarten to Grade 9 school.



Trustee Martinson commented that the groundbreaking ceremony was gratifying for the City of Leduc and BGRD. Trustees thanked Division Principal Norm Dargis, Communications Coordinator Carmen Stone, Leduc Estates School Principal Carla Fisher for planning the ceremony, and thanked Leduc Estates School students for attending the ceremony. The event was a huge success and well attended.



SPECIAL BOARD MEETING—JUNE 24, 2015 2015-2016 BUDGET

Associate Superintendent Andres provided the Board with the proposed 2015-16 school year budget and presented the budget highlights, plans and assumptions, along with significant business and financial risks. The Projected Schedule of Changes in Accumulated Operating Surplus (summary) was also presented.

Trustees expressed appreciation and thanks to Associate Superintendent Andres and the Finance Department for the detailed reporting and preparation of the budget. Superintendent Yanitski expressed thanks as well, and congratulated the Division on their solid financial practice.

The Board approved the Budget Report to be submitted to Alberta Education for the year ending August 31, 2016 with the budget projecting \$116,494,062 in revenue, and \$117,283,180 in expenses for the 2015-2016 school year, for a projected deficit of \$789,118 for Black Gold Regional Division No. 18.

