



BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

December 9, 2015



DRAFT 2016-2017 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR



The Board directed Administration to release the proposed 2016-2017 School Year Calendar to be distributed for feedback. Consolidated feedback from school staff and School Councils is to be submitted by January 29, 2016.

INTERNATIONAL STUDENT TRAVEL

Superintendent Yanitski presented updated information from our insurance agency, ASBIE on International Student Travel, and he provided information on the international travel survey distributed to parents and staff and posted on the BGRD website. There were 755 responses to the survey. Thank you to all parents and staff for taking the opportunity to respond to the survey. Trustees appreciated the survey information.

Trustees discussed the safety and risks associated with student travel. Trustees have been talking to their constituents and receiving responses back. Some parents have decided to pull their students from certain trips, whereas others are hoping that trips are not suspended. Parents do understand that trips may be cancelled for the remainder of this school year, but hope the trips are not cancelled any further. Other jurisdictions are only suspending trips for the remainder of the 2015-2016 school year right now. Trustees discussed the implications of cancelling for one year, and then reviewing further trips at the first meeting in September 2016.

Trustees felt that the Board needs to ensure safe and caring environments, and also are concerned for the supervisors/chaperones responsible for the trips. Trustees discussed the political climate change, and that it could change for future travel trips.

Associate Superintendent Romanchuk presented statistical information on the number of students signed up for the Vimy Ridge field trip. It was noted that parents have the right to pull students out of field trips at any time. Also noted was that the Board could cancel a field trip at any time.

Trustees were also concerned with the fundraising that students are part of, and where these funds will go if trips are cancelled.

The Board cancelled all international field trips up to August 31, 2016.



MACLAB AGREEMENT EXTENSION



The Board approved the extension of the Maclab Centre for the Performing Arts Operating Agreement until December 31, 2017.

BUS CONTRACTOR RATES



Associate Superintendent Andres stated that Administration has done a review of bus contractor rates. The Board accepted the recommendation to increase the bus contractor rates by 2% effective September 1, 2015.

TEACHER EMPLOYER BARGAINING ASSOC. (TEBA)



Chairman Lemke discussed the Teacher Employer Bargaining Association (TEBA) which is requesting that we choose a representative for this Committee. Associate Superintendent Andres mentioned it would be helpful to have someone on the Committee that is also part of the Negotiations Team for the ATA. This Committee is being requested by the Alberta Government, and the Government is asking for one member from each School Board. Trustee Koroll was declared to be the representative for the Committee with Trustee Misselbrook as the alternate.

8-WAY ALTERNATING LIGHT SYSTEM—LEDUC

STAR Catholic approached Black Gold to ask for assistance in requesting the City of Leduc adopt a bylaw stating that school buses are not to use the 8-way alternating light system within city limits while loading and unloading students. Associate Superintendent Andres and Transportation Manager Sue Timmermans stated that the Black Gold Bus Contractors' Association group deliberated and recommended that the bylaw state that the 8-way alternating light system not be used when a school bus is in a school zone while loading and unloading students at the schools.



The Board requested that the City of Leduc adopt a bylaw to read as follows: that no person shall activate the 8-way alternating light system on a school bus while parked in a school zone for the purpose of loading or unloading students within the City of Leduc.

SCHOOL VISITS

Trustees and Superintendent Yanitski attended school visits on November 26th to: Robina Baker Elementary, Riverview Middle and John Maland High; and December 3rd to: École J.E. Lapointe, École Secondaire Beaumont Composite High, Black



Gold Outreach – Beaumont, and École Dansereau Meadows. Trustees thanked all the schools that hosted the visits.

