



# BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

October 4, 2017



## WELCOME BACK & LONG SERVICE AWARDS CEREMONY

On September 15, 2017, the Board of Trustees of Black Gold Regional Division No. 18 hosted its annual Welcome Back & Long Service Awards Ceremony at Leduc Composite High School. Teachers and support staff attended the ceremony to celebrate long service achievements and recognize special award recipients. The ceremony was emceed by Grade 10 French Immersion Leduc Composite High School student, Reegan Broadbent, and Grade 8 French Immersion École Leduc Junior High School students, Liam Bolton, and Madeleine Dufour. This was Reegan's fourth year emceeing the Welcome Back Ceremony and Liam and Madeleine's first time. All three students' humour, energy and excellent French Immersion skills made the morning a pleasure for everyone in attendance.



École Beau Meadow School Teacher Jo-Anne Hendriks, led the 700+ attendees in singing the national anthem and the ceremony continued with the following introductions: Board of Trustees, Division Administrative Staff, Union & Contractor Representatives, School Administration and new staff introduced themselves.

Trustees presented long service awards to the 25, 30 and 35 year recipients and to staff retirees.



25 Years



30 Years



35 Years



Retirees

Superintendent Yanitski, presented the Superintendent's Service Award of Excellence to Margaret Brennan, Educational Assistant at Thorsby Elementary School, with 37 years of dedicated service to the Division. Congratulations Margaret! Additional information is posted on our BGRD website at: [2017 Superintendent's Service Award of Excellence Recipient - Margaret Brennan.](#)



The Board of Trustees presented the Inspiring Success Award of Distinction to Mo Brenneis, a teacher with 20 years of dedicated service to the Division, who works at Black Gold Outreach School. Congratulations Mo! Additional information is posted on our BGRD website at: [2017 Inspiring Success Award of Distinction Recipient - Mo Brenneis.](#)



The Welcome Back closed with a lively performance of 'Jail House Rock' by our Black Gold House Band. Trustees commented that the ceremony is a great tradition and is nice to see staff wearing their school colours. The memorable day continued with Professional Development. Congratulations to all Black Gold long service and special award recipients!

## MOMENT OF REFLECTION

Trustees, Administration and guests acknowledged a moment of silence in recognition of those affected by recent violent attacks.



## CELEBRATING SUCCESS

### Leduc Composite High School



Congratulations to the first French Immersion Graduating Class from Leduc Composite High School. Students and staff thanked the Board of Education and Senior Administration for their support in making the K—12 French Immersion program in Leduc a reality. The Board was presented with a framed picture celebrating this achievement.



### Willow Park School:



Congratulations to Miss Taylor's Grade 3 class who recently won the RCMP 'Name the Puppy' contest. The RCMP Police Dog Service Training Centre (PDSTC) asks for help from children across the country to select the puppies' names. This year, the PDSTC received approximately 21,000 entries for the name which had to begin with a 'K'. Kammo was the winning name suggested by Mia Sharpe.



Mia and her family were invited to the PDSTC to meet the puppies, tour the facility and attend the training demonstration. Congratulations Mia!

Student representatives, Logan Price, Gage Hawryluk, Ella White and Valentina Kusmizki, presented at the 17<sup>th</sup> Annual Alberta Recycling Conference on September 7th. They spoke to elected officials, community and environmental organizations, as well as waste management companies, sharing information about their recycling and composting program.



In 2015, Willow Park School won the Citizen of Distinction - Environmental Achievement Award from the City of Leduc for their efforts in waste reduction. The program has continued to grow and expand under the direction of the Grade 4 teachers, Heather Peterson and Larry Mackiewicz. Thank you for sharing your recycling knowledge and expertise as well as helping our environment!



## SCHOOL ACT ENGAGEMENT CONSULTATIONS

Superintendent Yanitski, Associate Superintendent Andres, Chairman Lemke, Trustee Koroll, and a parent representative from BGRD attended the School Act Engagement Consultation meetings held on September 27th and 28th. There was discussion on amendments to the current *School Act*. Alberta Education gathered the information and will report back to Boards on the information and decisions. There were comments that teachers need flexibility with regards to planning field trips so that there can be creativity in the classrooms.

## UPDATED BGRD 2017-2018 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDAR

Superintendent Yanitski presented the updated BGRD 2017 - 2018 School Year Calendar. There have been no changes to any dates, but the calendar provides clarity for the Administrative Window for scheduling of Provincial Achievement Tests in January and June. The 2017 - 2018 amended School Year Calendar is posted on our Division website @: [Amended BGRD 2017 - 2018 School Year Calendar](#)

## SHORT-TERM PD COMMITTEE

Trustee Misselbrook attended a Committee meeting for short-term professional development. The Committee reviewed the 22 requests from certificated staff who wish to pursue professional development courses. Approximately \$21,000 was requested in programs such as Culinary, Counselling, Welding, Math and various courses to work towards obtaining a Masters Degree.

*Develop a passion for*

**LEARNING...**

*If you do, you will never cease to grow!*

Anthony J. Angelo

