

**BLACK GOLD  
SCHOOL  
DIVISION**

# BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

September 11, 2019



## BOARD ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Trustee Devonna Klaassen was declared Chair of the Board of Trustees of Black Gold School Division for the 2019-2020 term. Trustee Klaassen took the Oath of Office as Chair of the Board of Trustees.



Trustee Sarah O'Gorman was declared Vice-Chair of the Board of Trustees of Black Gold School Division for the 2019-2020 term. Trustee O'Gorman took the Oath of Office as Vice-Chair of the Board of Trustees.

The Board approved the committee structure and ad hoc committee trustee representation for 2019-2020. The Board of Trustees Sub-Committees will be published in the Leduc Rep, Beaumont News and Devon Dispatch newspapers, as well as on our [Black Gold website](#).

The Chair or Vice-Chair and the Superintendent or Associate Superintendent, Business & Finance will be the signing authorities for Black Gold School Division for 2019-2020.



**Board of Trustees of Black Gold School Division**

(l to r): Barb Martinson, Vice-Chair Sarah O'Gorman, Esther Eckert, Chair Devonna Klaassen, Shawna Ofstie, Rebecca Eilander, Robyn Steed

## CELEBRATING SUCCESS

### Willow Park School

The Division 2 Choir from Willow Park School placed first in their category at the Leduc Rotary Music Festival and then went on to represent the region at the Provincial Music Festival. On May 30th the students performed at McDougall United Church and achieved a standing of Distinction and a mark of 89 for their performance. Congratulations to the choir members!

The Willow Park School music program received a unique donation from the April 26th Karma Concert. A set of drums was auctioned with businesses bidding to add their logos to the drum. The drum was presented to the school for the music program.



## NEW NAME - BLACK GOLD SCHOOL DIVISION

Superintendent Romanchuk stated that Alberta Education has distributed a Ministerial Order to address the names for all school Boards. Black Gold Regional Division No. 18 has been legislated to Black Gold School Division. There will be no other operating name. Trustees discussed the rebranding of BGSD, and changing the logo. Given the financial constraints and the costs already to be incurred via new stationary and signage required by the name change, no rebranding will be done at this time. However, a refresh of the current logo will be undertaken at minimal cost.



To comply with Ministerial Order #034, effective September 1, 2019 our jurisdiction name is **Black Gold School Division**. The Board will remove Black Gold Regional Schools as the Division's operating name and no new operating name will be created at this time.

## OFF-CAMPUS EDUCATION PROGRAM & BUSINESS SITES

Associate Superintendent Dargis requested that the Board approve the Off-Campus Education Programs (Work Study, Work Experience, Registered Apprenticeship Program, Green Certificate). Associate Superintendent Dargis distributed a listing of the Off-Campus sites, and explained the Off-Campus Programs provide students the opportunity to earn high school credits while gaining valuable real world experience. Trustees commented that they are supportive of the Off-Campus Programs for our students and the communities.



The Board approved the involvement of students in the Off-Campus Education Program (Work Study, Work Experience, Registered Apprenticeship Program, Green Certificate) for the 2019-2020 school year.

The Board designated Off-Campus Coordinators as the authority to sign that work sites/work stations have been visited and approved, with Norm Dargis, Associate Superintendent, to countersign the approvals as the designee.

## LOCALLY DEVELOPED COURSE EXTENSIONS

Associate Superintendent Dargis reported that Board approval is required to use Locally Developed Courses and stated that over 50 Black Gold students benefit from offering these courses. The Board approved the use of the following Locally Developed Courses:

- ◆ Video 15-5 – February 1, 2016 – August 31, 2020
- ◆ Video 25-5 - February 1, 2016 – August 31, 2020
- ◆ Video 35-5 - February 1, 2016 – August 31, 2020



## WEST END PROGRAMMING REVIEW

Superintendent Romanchuk recommended that a review of the programming in West End schools commence. Last year, the Board set aside funds to conduct consultations in the West End for equity in program delivery, transportation and staff deployment. Trustees discussed changes in the review. Superintendent Romanchuk will bring back further information at the next Board meeting.



The Board directed Administration to enter into a West End Schools Programming Review.

## SCHOOL FEES

Associate Superintendent Andres stated that the new School Fee Regulation eliminates the requirement to obtain Ministerial approval prior to charging fees but there are certain requirements that remain in place. The Finance Department recommends the following procedures for school fees:



Continue to require the establishment of a fee template in the spring, for all categories, subject to the following qualifications, by category:

### Optional Course Fees, Alternative Program Fees and Other Fees to Enhance Education

- ◆ Optional course fees may be increased by a maximum increase of the greater of \$5 or 5%.
- ◆ The Finance Department will continue to review the optional course fees. Any increase over and above the maximum will require approval from the Associate Superintendent, Business & Finance.
- ◆ The fees established in the spring will be charged in the fall, with no increases mid-year.

### Activity fees, Non-curricular Goods & Services, Non-curricular Travel Fees & Extra-Curricular Fees

- ◆ Schools will need to include these fees on the template in the spring with a best estimate.
- ◆ The Finance Department will not be approving activities fees, non-curricular goods & services, non-curricular travel fees or extra-curricular fees. Schools can set and charge these fees during the year.
- ◆ The Principals are responsible to ensure that the fees charged by their school for activity fees, non-curricular goods & services, non-curricular travel fees and extra-curricular fees are reasonable and supported by and clearly communicated to their school community.
- ◆ If there are any fee balances that are above the \$1,000 threshold at the end of the year, the school will be directed to refund or credit the student account in Rycor for the surplus.

## AUDIT COMMITTEE

Associate Superintendent Andres stated that there is a new requirement from the Education Act to establish an Audit Committee. The Audit Committee shall comprise of at least five individuals and shall include at least one of each of the following individuals:

- ◆ A member of the business community who is not a trustee
- ◆ A member of the adult learning community who is not a trustee
- ◆ A Trustee



The Board will need to discuss and establish a policy that addresses the scope and mandate of the Audit Committee. Administration will work on items in the Fall, and have an Audit Committee in place for January. The Board directed Administration to proceed with the time lines.

## MODULARS, PERMITS & CONSTRUCTION UPDATES

Superintendent Romanchuk provided an update on modulars:

- ◆ Three modulars from École J.E. Lapointe School have been moved to École Secondaire Beaumont Composite High School to accommodate students as the school goes through a modernization.
- ◆ One modular to be placed at East Elementary School.
- ◆ Five modulars at Caledonia Park School, have been approved but waiting for approval on the parking lot – gone back to Alberta Ed/Alberta Infrastructure.
- ◆ École Leduc Estates School – three modulars, groundwork has commenced, modular set to arrive next month, occupancy late November or early December.
- ◆ West Haven Public School – two modulars, waiting for permits, occupancy should be late November, or early December.
- ◆ Boiler upgrades at Leduc Composite High School complete by end of September.
- ◆ Roofing completed at École Bellevue School, École Corinthia Park School and Linsford Park School.
- ◆ LED upgrades completed at École Beau Meadow School, École Leduc Estates School and Caledonia Park School.



Superintendent Romanchuk commented on the great work done by our Facilities Department.

## POLICY 2 - APPENDIX A - BOARD WORK PLAN

Superintendent Romanchuk presented a draft of the Policy 2 - Appendix A - Board Annual Work Plan. Trustees discussed three major changes:



- ◆ Committee structure
- ◆ Changing the plan cycle for the Board – move the Organization meeting to June, instead of September so that the new Board is in place for the Fall (except on an election year)
- ◆ Consideration of hosting a Council of School Council meeting in March (tentatively March PD day), and including a large involvement of community members
- ◆ Agreed that as much as possible, the Engagement/Advocacy Committee and the Policy Review Committee meet monthly

The Board approved the draft Policy 2 - Appendix A – Board Work Plan with the changes as stated.

## CERTIFICATE OF APPRECIATION - EDKRA

Superintendent Romanchuk stated Summer School offered a two-week program whereby students were able to build a regulation go-Kart donated by Edmonton and District Kart Racing Association (EDKRA). EDKRA further donated track time for students to test drive their karts. Students earned high school credit in the Automotives stream for this project.

This is a world-class facility, and the organization did a fantastic job. Superintendent Romanchuk would like to send to the Association a certificate of thanks. This was a great opportunity for students, and proved that learning can be fun!



## SPECIAL NEEDS BUS



Superintendent Romanchuk commented that in the spring there was discussion about transporting special needs students to Edmonton who require specific programming. For some parents, transportation is a barrier to access these programs. BGSD now has a bus available that is driving from the City of Leduc to Edmonton. The number of students riding the bus will vary as programming becomes available.

## ASBA ZONE



Chair Klaassen provided a report from the last Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Zone 2/3 meeting. One of the Items discussed at the meeting was:

- ◆ ASBA has been invited to participate in Funding Formula Consultation discussions on Sept. 18th with Alberta Education.

## MOMENT OF REFLECTION

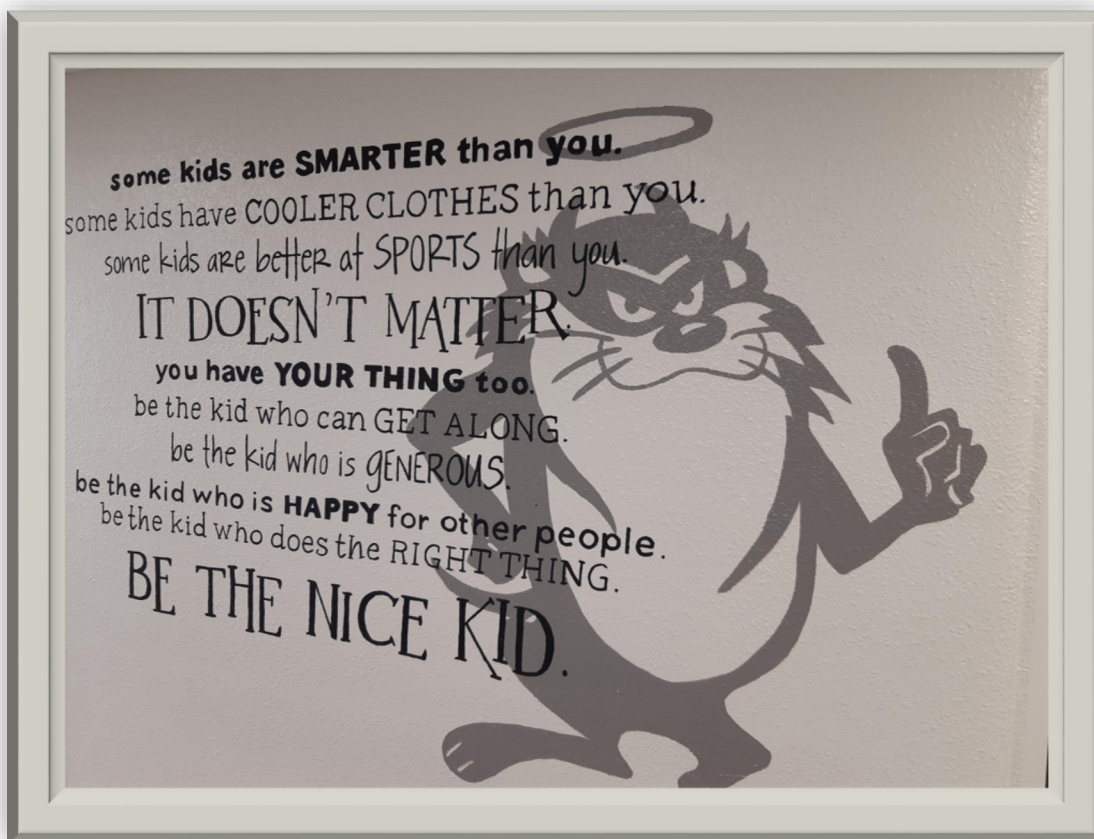
Trustees and Administration acknowledged a moment of reflection for those dealing with hardships.



## CSBA

Chair Klaassen and Trustee Martinson attended the Canadian Schools Boards Association (CSBA) conference in Toronto in July. The conference was titled “Leading Today with a Vision for Tomorrow”. Workshops attended were:

- ◆ Keynote Speaker – Valerie Chort, ‘The Coming Skills Revolution – How Canadian Youth Can Thrive in the Age of Disruption’
- ◆ Everything I need to Know I Learned from Realty TV/Putting Relationships back into Public Relations
- ◆ Techways – Building pathways for the Trades
- ◆ Local Board Autonomy vs Collective Agreements
- ◆ Chair Klaassen attended the first day of Indigenous Sessions



The above wall artwork was initiated by Chris Stiles, Principal of New Sarepta Community High school, and designed by Jeanine McIntosh, a local artist and former Thorsby Junior-Senior High School student.