



BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

December 11, 2019



CELEBRATING SUCCESS

West Haven Public School

On October 22nd, 41 members of the West CREW student leadership team attended the WE Day Alberta event at Rogers Place to learn more about what it means to be a leader who can inspire meaningful change. The atmosphere of world-class speakers, entertainers, and 16,000+ student leaders in one building was absolutely electrifying. Students were energized and empowered to return to WHPS and make a difference.



West Haven Public School is working with local elders to bring authentic learning to the students. Elder Liz Daniels from the Enoch Cree Nation shared her story and experiences about Residential Schools with students and staff.

Clayton Aubouchon, a traditional drummer and singer, along with a friend, performed some traditional songs and led the students through a round dance. Many students wore orange shirts in support of Residential School survivors and all students got to listen to music and actively participate in the event. This was a wonderful tie-in to the school's Three Year Education Plan.



Willow Park School



Students from two Leduc schools represented Black Gold School Division at the City of Leduc Remembrance Day Ceremony held at the LRC on November 11th.

Griffin and Stewart Cox - Grade 5 students at Willow Park and Kacie and Isabella Rose - Grade 1 students at West Haven Public School marched the wreath to the cenotaph for the wreath laying.

Thank you to these four students for proudly representing our Division. You were distinguished ambassadors of Black Gold School Division!

Cargill Cereal Drive Generously Supports School Breakfast Programs

In November, Black Gold School Division received a generous donation to six of its school's breakfast programs. The donation was provided by [Cargill](#), a food and agricultural company, with a location in the Calmar area. The company had conducted a "Cereals Drive" of breakfast cereals and collected more than 200 boxes, ranging from individual to family sized packages.

Representatives from Cargill visited every school in order to deliver the donations personally. At several of the schools, students eagerly greeted and thanked the representatives and helped to carry in the boxes.



Thank you to Cargill for its giving spirit and support of the following schools: Calmar Elementary, Covenant Christian, Thorsby Elementary, Riverview Middle, Robina Baker Elementary and Willow Park breakfast programs.

AltaGas Computer Donation Supports Student Learning



Black Gold School Division has graciously accepted 30 computers recently donated by [AltaGas](#), a North American energy infrastructure company, with a location in the City of Leduc. The donation will help to encourage creative and innovative learning, through the use of technology in education, helping to prepare students for the world beyond the classroom.

The refurbished computers will be used specifically to help support Career and Technology Foundations (CTF) and Career and Technology Studies (CTS) in the Division's schools. The Black Gold Technology Department also anticipates that some of the computers donated will be dedicated to students who have special learning needs and a small portion may also be provided for staff use.

Thank you to AltaGas for supporting the Division's mission to "Inspire Success".

REVISED FALL 2019-2020 BUDGET



Associate Superintendent Andres presented the Fall 2019 Update to the 2019-2020 Budget which projects a deficit of \$2,472,842 for 2019-2020. Items that were addressed as a result of the October provincial budget were:

- An increase in enrolment of 292 students from spring budget projections.
- The elimination of three key grants: Class-Size Initiatives (\$5.49 M), Classroom Improvement Fund (\$1.36 M) and the School Fee Reduction Grant (\$.71 M)
- Receipt of a one-time Transition Grant of \$2.36 M
- A 274% increase in property insurance rates amounting to an additional cost of \$1.1 M

Trustees are committed to maintaining school staffing and not increasing student fees mid-year. Trustees thanked the Administration and Principals, as everyone worked together as a great team in making some difficult decisions.

The Board accepted the Fall 2019 Update to the 2019-2020 Budget for Black Gold School Division.

THREE YEAR EDUCATION PLAN & AERR

Associate Superintendent Dargis presented the draft of the 2019-2020 to 2022-2023 Combined Three Year Education Plan and Annual Education Results Report (AERR) for Black Gold School Division. Associate Superintendent Dargis highlighted some of the following sections to the Plan:

- Trends and Issues
- Summary of Accomplishments
- Goals – Human Resources, Learning Services, Communications
- Accountability Pillar
- Outcomes and Strategies



An executive summary of the report will be posted on the BGSD website, along with the entire report.

Superintendent Romanchuk thanked Associate Superintendent Dargis for his diligent work in working through the entire report.

The Board approved the Combined Three Year Education Plan and Annual Education Results Report for Black Gold School Division.

STATEMENT OF ACKNOWLEDGEMENT - FNMI

Associate Superintendent Dargis presented the draft of the Statement of Acknowledgement for First Nations, Métis and Inuit (FNMI). The following Statement will be posted in the Board Room and read at major Board events. Additionally, every school will receive a copy to frame and post in a conspicuous place in the building.

Statement of Acknowledgement:

Black Gold School Division would like to acknowledge that we are located within the boundaries of Treaty 6.

This land is the ancestral and traditional territory of many Indigenous peoples of this area, including the Cree, Saulteaux, Blackfoot, Dene, Nakota Sioux and Métis.

We would also like to acknowledge the traditional knowledge holders and Elders who are still with us today and those who have gone before us.

The Board approved the Statement of Acknowledgement, with the indicated format changes.

MODULAR UPDATES

Superintendent Romanchuk provided an update on the modular allocations:

- Modularity allocated to BGSD for Caledonia Park School are in storage until the spring
- East Elementary School – currently occupied
- West Haven Public School - inspections occurring, occupancy next week
- École Leduc Estates School – inspections occurring, occupancy next week. Students move in after Christmas.



SCHOOL VISITS

Trustees and Superintendent Romanchuk attended school visits on November 28th to the following schools: Warburg Hutterite Colony, Warburg, Thorsby Elementary and Thorsby Junior/Senior High.

Trustees and Superintendent Romanchuk attended school visits on December 5th to the following schools: École Leduc Estates, Linsford Park and Leduc Composite High.



Trustees commented on the great tours by the students, and enjoyed seeing the students practicing for their Christmas concerts.

CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

Thank you to all students and staff as they have been practicing a long time for their Christmas performances. Thank you to staff for taking extra time for these productions.



Thank you to the custodians and maintenance staff for their extra work that occurs during the Christmas season.

My kids laugh at me because of my memory.

But they won't be laughing when there are no eggs under the Christmas tree this year!

Merry Christmas & Happy New Year!

Students, Staff, Parents & Community Members

Warmest thoughts and best wishes for a Christmas filled with happiness. May 2020 fill your home with joy, your heart with love and your life with laughter.

Division Office will be **CLOSED** at noon on December 24, 2019 and will reopen on Thursday, January 2, 2020.

Board of Trustees & Division Office Staff

