



BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

January 8, 2020



CELEBRATING SUCCESS



École Bellevue School

As part of their learning in their community of practice, a few elementary Assistant Principals visited École Bellevue School to observe classrooms. They participated in a praise walk, observing classrooms and identifying positive teaching practices.

The Assistant Principals then provided the teachers with positive feedback afterwards.



École Dansereau Meadows School

EDMS families donated over 650 books during their November Book Drive. Each student at EDMS was able to choose a "new" book to take home for the holidays. Students from Grades 3 and 6 sorted the books into age appropriate categories.



West Haven Public School



Ian is a wonderful boy with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) and has a smile that can melt your heart. Every year we learn more about students with ASD and we've learned that deep pressure can help regulate some students.

Thanks to the generous donations from the Lions Club and the Kinsmen Club, and the significant rebate that Flamans provided, the school was able to pay the balance to put a state of the art massage chair into our sensory room for these students. WHPS students are benefitting throughout the day and it's already making a difference!

APPROVED 2020-2021 SCHOOL YEAR CALENDARS



Superintendent Romanchuk presented the recommended 2020-2021 Black Gold School Division (BGSD) School Year Calendar based on the feedback from School Staff and School Councils. Trustees reviewed the consolidated feedback, and the changes from the draft calendar. Trustees discussed the feedback for time off at Christmas Break, and Spring Break in March. Trustees thanked the staff and School Councils for their input into the 2020-2021 BGSD school calendar, and thanked Administration as the feedback was exceptional. Trustees also considered requests from ATA Representatives at the Teacher-Board Advisory Committee in December.

The Board approved the recommended [2020-2021 Black Gold School Division School Year Calendar](#) as presented.

Superintendent Romanchuk presented the draft 2020-2021 School Year Calendar for Covenant Christian School. The Board approved the recommended [2020-2021 Covenant Christian School Year Calendar](#) as presented.

COUNCIL OF SCHOOL COUNCILS MEETING



Superintendent Romanchuk announced that the date for the Council of School Councils meeting will be February 26, 2020. The location will be determined, but West Haven Public School has been requested for the location. School Council members, Administrators, students from high schools, and municipal councillors will be in attendance. Some topics that may be discussed are:

- ◆ School fees
- ◆ Schools Municipality Cooperation of Services

The event this year will be invitational only.

WEST END SCHOOLS PROGRAMMING REVIEW

Superintendent Romanchuk presented the timeline for the West End Schools Programming Review (WESPR).

- ◆ April 2019: Funds allocated to West End Schools Programming Review process
- ◆ September 2019: BGSD Senior Administration directed to commence the Review
- ◆ October – November 2019: Scope of Project Defined
- ◆ November – December: Data Collection
- ◆ December 2019: Board of Trustees review Data: West-End-Schools-Programming-Review-Update-V4
- ◆ January 2020: Initial Recommendations (if any) brought to the Board of Trustees
- ◆ January – February 2020: Stakeholder (school community) feedback solicited by BGSD Senior Administration
- ◆ March 2020: Final recommendations brought to the Board of Trustees



Superintendent Romanchuk stated that the WESPR focused on the elementary grades this year, and next year the junior and senior high grades will be reviewed. The presentation on the WESPR update was viewed. Superintendent Romanchuk stated that an email has been sent to all parents in the West End area informing them about the Programming Review.

Trustee Eilander provided comments and posed questions about the review information in regards to New Humble Centre School.

Superintendent Romanchuk also commented that New Humble Centre school is a 'jewel', and provided some updated clarification on the data that Administration presented.

The Board, based on the data provided to date from the West End Schools Programming Review, direct Black Gold Administration to begin gathering the data as outlined in Policy 15 - School Closure, relating to the closure of New Humble Centre School, and for Administration to provide a comprehensive report with recommendations to the Board of Trustees at the Board Meeting on April 8, 2020.

Superintendent Romanchuk addressed Policy 15 – School Closure. This policy takes into consideration many factors including how a school closure may affect other schools, transportation for students, factors related to the school building and programming needs.

Chair Klaassen thanked Administration and all members of the West End Schools Programming Review Committee for all the work done so far. The intention is to ensure that BGSD is offering the very best programming and education for all of our students, and bringing forward a recommendation to consider closing one of our schools is not easy, nor is it easy for the Board to even consider. Chair Klaassen also stated that while the Board has directed Administration to move forward with the process, to date, no decision about a closure has been made.

Chair Klaassen asked that a comprehensive report be provided to Trustees at the April 8, 2020 Board meeting, and the Board will schedule an additional Board meeting on April 22, 2020 prior to the Committee of the Whole meeting, in order to vote on the closure of New Humble Centre School.

The Board will schedule an additional Regular Board meeting on April 22, 2020 before the Committee of the Whole meeting.

Chair Klaassen provided official notice of motion that the Board consider the closure of New Humble Centre School (K-6), effective June 30, 2020, and, if approved, that the Board will make a motion to this effect at the Board Meeting on April 22, 2020, following review of the report provided at the April 8, 2020 Regular Board Meeting.

Administration will follow the process laid out by Board Policy 15 - School Closure, and Section 62 of the Education Act. Consultation will be conducted with the New Humble Centre School Council, staff members, parents and community members, and the local municipalities. Dates and times of community consultation meetings will be posted on the BGSD website as well as at the related schools.

Public delegations may also be heard by the Board during upcoming Public Board Meetings (February 5, March 4, April 8 or 22), provided they are in accordance with the procedures outlined in Board Policy 7 - Board Operations, Section 9.

The Board recognizes that public consultation with our staff, students, families, and community members is the path forward that will help us to understand the full picture, and prepare us to make a fully informed decision. This is a big decision and it will not be taken lightly.

Trustee Eckert directed that Administration engage the New Humble Centre School community to respond to the recommendation, and provide qualitative information such as the unique culture of this school, including things that can't be measured with hard facts and numbers. Also, factors such as bus ride times, special needs programs, class sizes and any other factors that will impact the students as they move to a new school, and the impact to the students already attending the receiving school.

PROFESSIONAL SUPPORT & DIVISION OFFICE STAFF HANDBOOKS

Associate Superintendent Andres provided an update to the handbook and agreement for the Professional Support Staff at Division Office. The previous handbook expired on August 31, 2018.

The Board approved the updated changes to the Professional Staff Handbook and Agreement for September 1, 2018 to August 31, 2020 with the following:

- ◆ Handbook is effective September 1, 2018 to August 31, 2020
- ◆ 0% wage increase
- ◆ Two Personal Days effective September 1, 2018. The additional day from 2018-2019 may be carried over, on a one-time basis only to 2019-2020.
- ◆ Establishment of a combined Health Spending Account/Wellness Spending Account effective January 1, 2020. The combined annual contribution remains at \$500 per FTE.



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KINDERGARTEN / PRE-KINDERGARTEN REGISTRATION

Superintendent Romanchuk stated that Kindergarten registration will be scheduled to begin on January 22, 2020. However, as we don't know what the funding formula will be for PUF students, Pre-kindergarten will open on March 25, 2020.



Superintendent Romanchuk asked the Board of Trustees for direction on the upcoming Kindergarten registration and listing of available programs. In light of the notice of motion regarding New Humble Centre School, the Board decided to have NHCS Kindergarten students remain designated to Calmar Elementary School during the registration process. This would ensure that, in the event that the Board votes to close New Humble Centre School, parents will not be disadvantaged (by registering late) and avoid disappointment by being able to select their alternating class preference (M/W or T/TH). In the event the Board votes to leave the school open, the placement of the NHCS Kindergarten program will be reviewed based on space, resources and enrolment.

THANK YOU - CHRISTMAS CONCERTS

Trustees commented that the Christmas concerts are their favourite events of the year. The concerts confirm the amazing talent from the students which show the community spirit. Each concert is unique, and the staff are exceptional in selecting the programs.



Thank you also to the custodians and maintenance staff for their help.

Miscellaneous Thoughts:

*Kids today don't know how easy they have it. When I was young, I had to walk 9 feet through shag carpet to change the TV channel.
I just did a week's worth of cardio after walking into a spider web.
I don't mean to brag but...I finished my 14-day diet in 3 hours and 20 minutes.
Remember back when we were kids and every time it was below zero, they closed the school? Me neither.
A recent study found that women who carry a little extra weight live longer than the men who mention it.
When the kids text me "plz" which is shorter than please, I text back "no" which is shorter than "yes".*

