



BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

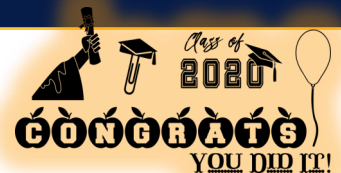
June 17, 2020



GRAD ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Trustees presented a PowerPoint video that will be shared with all grads as Trustees are not able to congratulate graduates in person.

Congratulations Graduates!



TRANSFORMING CLASSROOMS: BUILDING EMOTIONAL RESILIENCE

Kelly Maxwell, a Grade 5 Teacher at Thorsby Elementary School, gave a presentation on staff wellness entitled "Transforming Classrooms: Building Emotional Resilience" which is a course through the Skills in Life for All (SILA) Group. This course is aimed at building mental health resilience in youth by fostering supportive, validating, and respectful environments in the education system. To this end, a one to two day workshop for teachers and leaders of youth was created using the principles of Dialectic Behaviour Therapy focusing on providing additional skills, such as Emotion Regulation Skills for Self-Care and Mental Wellness and Validation Skills, to teachers. Mrs. Maxwell stated that adults and students are under a great deal of stress which creates challenging environments.



Mrs. Maxwell's presentation at the Teachers' Convention in February was very well received. Trustees enthusiastically thanked Mrs. Maxwell for her presentation.

NEW HUMBLE CENTRE SCHOOL UPDATE

Based upon the Board's request for more information on the Charter School application process at the last meeting, Superintendent Romanchuk outlined briefly the three steps necessary for a Charter School Application, as well as other information about Charter Schools.

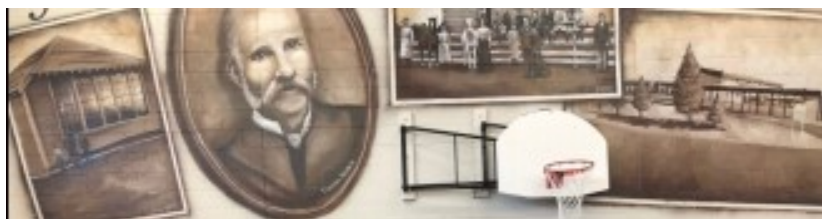


According to a member of the Alberta Education Field Services Branch, the New Humble Community School Group is currently waiting for approval from the Minister on the second step of their application. There is a sense from the Ministry personnel that the application is a strong one and that it may be possible for the Group to be approved in time for the 2020-2021 school year.

The Group has reached out to BGSD Transportation Department to begin a dialogue on the possibility of a joint busing agreement.

The disposition of the New Humble Centre School (NHCS) property is still with the Assistant Deputy Minister awaiting a decision.

The supplies and equipment from NHCS is being shared with other Division schools according to Administrative Procedure 518, Disposal of Division Property.



BOARD APPROVED INTERNATIONAL TRAVEL & STUDENT EXCURSIONS



Associate Superintendent Dargis recommended that all international and domestic student excursions that require Board approval be cancelled for the 2020-2021 school year, including July and August 2021. These student excursions are valuable but as we are still dealing with the pandemic, non-essential travel is not recommended. There are currently two international student excursions booked, and some domestic student excursions booked as well. For the safety, physical and mental well-being of our students and staff, Administration recommends we cancel all international and domestic student excursions.

Trustees stated these student excursions are a valuable experience, but there must be consideration given to the safety of students and staff so this decision must be made early on so they can halt their fundraising and planning.

The Board of Trustees gave approval to cancel all international and domestic student excursions that require Board approval until September 2021.

STUDENT EXCURSIONS: CO/EXTRA CURRICULAR

Administration is recommending to all principals to postpone all student excursions, both co-curricular and extracurricular until November 2020. This includes any overnight student excursions or those requiring busing.

Associate Superintendent Monty commented on school re-entry information from the Alberta Government. BGSD will focus on getting students and teachers back to school, but there will be challenges.

Administration has compiled the information from Alberta Education and Alberta Health Services and will be presenting the Guiding Principles for BGSD Re-Entry Plan to Principals on June 18th, and be communicating with parents about the plans.

Alberta Education will be updating their guidelines by August 1st after which time our plans will be shared with everyone.



STAFF SURVEY

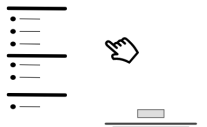


Superintendent Romanchuk distributed the report of the staff survey. There were 770 responses.

The survey was distributed to teachers, principals, education assistants, school secretaries, bus contractors, custodians, counsellors, and Division Office staff. The questions dealt with online - remote learning, and student and staff returning to work, and concerns about returning to work in the fall.

Teachers are feeling extremely stressed not knowing what will happen in September, and parents are feeling the same. Teachers would rather be in the classroom teaching than teaching online.

SURVEY



POLICY DEVELOPMENT

The Board gave approval to the following policies:

1. Policy 8—Board Committees
2. Policy 8 Appendix A —Board Committees Terms of Reference
3. Policy 8 Appendix B—Audit Committee Public Members
4. Policy 19—Welcoming, Caring, Respectful, Safe and Healthy Learning and Working Environments
5. The Policy 19 Appendix—Student Code of Conduct will be moved to an Administrative Procedure.



ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT - BUSINESS & FINANCE

Administration and Trustees expressed heartfelt thanks to Ruth Andres, Associate Superintendent—Business & Finance as she is retiring, and this was her last Board meeting. Ms. Andres was characterized as having high qualifications in strategic planning, contracts, and agreements, and her heart was in education for students.

Ms. Andres has served the Division well, and Administration and Trustees wish her well in her retirement!



WARD REVIEW

TRUSTEE



Superintendent Romanchuk shared the results of the Ward Review public feedback with the Board at the recent Committee of the Whole meeting. To review, the selected choices were:

- ◆ Option A – following the County ward structure
- ◆ Option B – by high school attendance area (Warburg/Thorsby, Calmar/Devon, Leduc, Beaumont/New Sarepta)

Trustees were provided with all the raw comments. Administration is recommending Option B. Superintendent Romanchuk has been in contact with the returning officers in all the areas, and the municipalities will be able to work with this option. Trustees commented that voters will need to be very aware of the new changes, so they know where to vote for school trustees.

Superintendent Romanchuk stated that the Board will need to establish a new Bylaw with the changes to the ward structure by December 2020.

The Board gave approval to change the ward boundaries to Option B as follows for the new ward structure for Black Gold School Division effective October 2021:

- ◆ Warburg/Thorsby – One Trustee
- ◆ Devon/Calmar – One Trustee
- ◆ Leduc – Three Trustees
- ◆ Beaumont/New Sarepta – Two Trustees

Recorded vote: In favour—Klaassen, O’Gorman, Martinson, Eckert, Ofstie, Steed / Opposed—Eilander

BOARD ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Trustee Devonna Klaassen was declared Chair of the Board of Trustees of Black Gold School Division for the 2020-2021 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 2020-2021 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 2020-2021.

The Chair or Vice-Chair and the Superintendent or Associate Superintendent – Business & Finance will be the signing authority for Black Gold School Division for 2020-2021.

