



# BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

October 27, 2021



## BOARD ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING

Associate Superintendent Volkman began with the Swearing-In Ceremony of the trustees where each trustee swore their Oath of Office by Ward:

Ward 1 – Michelle Martin

Ward 2 – Devonna Klaassen

Ward 3 – Angie Charpentier, Gary Hansen, Barb Martinson

Ward 4 – Esther Eckert, Robyn Steed



Associate Superintendent Volkman offered congratulations to the trustees on behalf of administration.



Trustee Klaassen was declared as Chair of the Board of Trustees of Black Gold School Division for the 2021-2022 term. Trustee Klaassen took the Oath of Office as Chair of the Board of Trustees.

Chair Klaassen declared Trustee Eckert as Vice-Chair of the Board of Trustees of Black Gold School Division for the 2021-2022 term. Trustee Eckert 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 the 2021-2022 term. The Board approved the publication of the Board of Trustees Committee Membership List.

The Chair or Vice-Chair and the Superintendent or Associate Superintendent – Business & Finance will be the signing authority for Black Gold School Division for the 2021-2022 term.

## REGULAR BOARD MEETING—CHAIR REMARKS

Chair Klaassen welcomed everyone to the first meeting of the elected Board of Trustees for the 2021-2025 term who were meeting in person today to participate in the swearing-in ceremony.

Chair Klaassen acknowledged the recent tragedy that resulted in the death and injury of Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools (WRPS) grade 12 students and extended strength to those impacted. Thank you to Superintendent Romanchuk and our Student Services Department for offering assistance to WRPS staff and students in the aftermath of the tragic event.

The Board is looking forward to serving our Black Gold family.



## COVID-19 UPDATE

Associate Superintendent Monty presented an update on COVID-19 in BGSD schools. Since September 1, 2021 there have been 274 total positive COVID-19 cases reported in the Division. As of October 12, 2021 Alberta Health Services (AHS) has resumed contact tracing and has been informing the Division if a student has been in school while infected. If a classroom has three positive cases within a five day period, BGSD reports to AHS who will then provide the school with letters of exclusion which sees the affected class sent home to do online learning until the cases have resolved. BGSD has not seen this scenario occur as of today.



BGSD's COVID-19 Vaccination procedure has been put in place and by November 15, 2021 all employees, as well as on-site partners, contractors and volunteers who are not fully vaccinated, or will not disclose their vaccination status, will be required to take a rapid test within 72 hours of every scheduled workday or shift, outside of work hours, to confirm they are COVID-19 negative. COVID-19 Rapid Antigen Screening tests must be administered by an AHS approved provider and will be at the Division's expense until December 23, 2021.

Superintendent/CEO Romanchuk confirmed that BGSD has done thorough research and has consulted extensively with experts and union representatives to ensure that this procedure will provide all staff and students with the safest and healthiest learning and working environment possible while respecting people's personal choice.

## COLLABORATIVE ADVOCACY STANCE

Chair Klaassen provided an update on collaborative advocacy. The Committee determined that a message can carry more weight when sent in collaboration with partners and this year's Committee will be looking to work closely with neighbouring school boards and municipalities on topics of concern.



## CURRICULUM UPDATE



Chair Klaassen provided an update relating to curriculum development. The Board is actively engaged in curriculum review processes with the Government of Alberta and ASBA.

Chair Klaassen affirmed that the BGSD stance has not changed on the proposed curriculum; that being it is not ready for implementation and the timeline laid out by the Government is not acceptable and does not set students or staff up for success.

## CONSTRUCTION UPDATE

Associate Superintendent Volkman provided an update on the construction projects currently underway in BGSD:



- ◆ Four ongoing capital projects.
- ◆ Two Capital Maintenance Renewal (CMR) Projects that did not get completed as planned by the end of the summer.
- ◆ Due to material delays related to COVID-19 BGSD, three Infrastructure Maintenance & Renewal (IMR) projects planned for the 2020-2021 school year deferred to the 2021-2022 school year.

## 2020-2021 SCHOOL COUNCIL ANNUAL REPORTS



Superintendent/CEO Romanchuk explained to Trustees that all School Council Chairs are required to submit a year-end report on their schools.

Access to the reports will be provided to Trustees as these reports are enlightening as to how the schools are doing from a parent perspective.

## CELEBRATING SUCCESS

Superintendent/CEO Romanchuk showed a PowerPoint presentation that included various activities during October by schools, students and or staff.

