



Board Highlights

February 22, 2023

Curriculum Update

Curriculum Manager Terri Reid provided an update on curriculum implementation in BGSD schools. K-3 English Language Arts and Literature (ELAL), K-3 Math and K-6 Physical Education and Wellness have been implemented for this school year. Approximately 45 teachers are participating in optional implementation of 4-6 ELAL and 4-6 Math.

Several BGSD schools are piloting K-6 Science and K-6 French Language Arts and Literature (FLAL) and will provide their feedback to Alberta Education. Professional Development (PD) opportunities have and will continue to be offered to staff as new portions of the Curriculum become mandatory.

Tom's Walk

Kelly Maxwell, founder of Tom's Walk, presented on Tom's Walk - a memorial walk held in the Town of Devon every May since 2018 to honor the memory of Thomas Maxwell, who died by suicide in March 2018. Tom's Walk is a safe space for people to talk about mental health and the impact of suicide and is a place for people to learn about mental health resources. This year it is becoming Tom's Walk for the Mental Health Society.

Kelly Maxwell requested that the Board support and promote Tom's Walk during the month of May by providing funding for Tom's Walk swag and giving schools the opportunity to participate in and fundraise for Tom's walk.

International Students

eLearning and Dual Credit Lead Teachers Yolanda Chang and Danielle Manchak provided a report on the international students who attended BGSD schools for four weeks in November-December 2022. Seven Columbian students and their chaperone were billeted with host families in the communities of New Sarepta, Thorsby and Calmar. The students attended school full time and enjoyed activities with their host families. They also participated in group activities such as the Luminaria in Devon, curling and a trip to Banff. BGSD students had positive feedback regarding the experience of having international students attending their schools and host families also expressed enjoyment of the experience and a desire to host students for longer periods of time in future.

BGSD would like to expand the international student program in the future by bringing in students from other cultures and hosting them for longer periods of time, as well as looking into exchanges to send our students abroad as international students. BGSD will be looking for host families in the future.

Leduc Accommodation Study

The Leduc Accommodation Study presents several options and scenarios for grade configuration for Ohpaho Secondary School and Leduc Composite High School, each of which examines how enrolment pressures will be effected at other Leduc schools.

The Board thanked the consultants for their detailed report and analysis. Public consultations will begin in May.

Approval of Calendar

After the feedback from parents and staff, the Board approved three School Year Calendars for 2023-2026, inclusive.

Council of School Communities / Annual Community Engagement (ACE) Feedback

Superintendent/CEO Romanchuk explained that immediately following the ACE event on February 6, 2023, a survey was sent out to attendees to gather feedback on the format of the event.

Results indicate that the format was conducive to information sharing and that the two topic format worked well. A virtual format was preferred. Feedback from the groups on each topic discussed will be available in April.

Leduc Composite High School (LCHS) – 2024 France and Spain Excursion

Associate Superintendent Dargis explained that Leduc Composite High School has submitted a request for approval in principle for students in grades 10-12, and 3 Black Gold employee supervisors, to travel to France and Spain during spring break of the 2023-2024 school year.

The educational value of this trip lies in the opportunity to immerse students in French and Spanish culture, language, arts and traditions and to give students the opportunity to develop their global citizenship through travel.