



Board Highlights

October-November, 2023

Wild Rose/Black Gold Collaboration

In a move to responsibly manage resources and to ensure uninterrupted and high-quality education for students, the Black Gold School Division (BGSD) and the Wild Rose School Division (WRSD) are collaborating to facilitate the temporary relocation of Breton High School's grade 7-12 students to Warburg School during the anticipated Breton High School modernization project.

Remembrance Day Presentation

Matthew White from the Devon Legion presented the first poppy for BGSD to Board Chair Eckert. Board Chair Eckert presented a cheque to the Devon Legion on behalf of the Black Gold School Division Board of Trustees. Black Gold School Division Board of Trustees makes the same monetary donation to all of the Legions within our Division boundaries.

2024-25 Modular Classrooms Request

After reviewing school utilization rates and modular classroom conditions, BGSD identified that the Division's modular classroom priority for the 2023-2024 school year is four new modular classrooms at École Beau Meadow School to evergreen the existing modular classrooms from 1982.

Leduc Schools Boundary & Grade Reconfiguration

At the Special Board Meeting on November 3, 2023, the Board of Trustees voted to approve the Administration's recommendations for boundary and grade reconfigurations.

For detailed information about the approved changes, please refer to the [2023 Leduc Schools Boundary & Grade Reconfiguration Review Recommendation Report](#).

New Superintendent Named

The Black Gold School Division's Board of Trustees is pleased to announce that Michael Borgfjord has been appointed as the Superintendent of Schools/CEO for the Black Gold School Division effective June 1, 2024.

"Our Canada-wide advertising resulted in a significant number of applications," said Board Chair Esther Eckert. "Mr. Borgfjord was selected from a strong group of candidates because his experience ties solidly into our strategic goals.

His skill set complements the already great work being done within Black Gold, and the new and diverse perspectives he brings will move the Division forward and enhance the great culture we enjoy."

Michael Borgfjord has 18 years experience as Chief Superintendent in both Manitoba and Alberta. He was most recently the Superintendent of Pembina Hills School Division.

BGSD Annual Audit

On November 23, 2023, the Audit Committee met with management and Black Gold School Division's auditors, MNP LLP, to review the Audited Financial Statements, the Audit Findings Report and the Auditor's Management Letter for the year ended August 31, 2023. Black Gold School Division's Finance department prepared the financial statements, including all schedules and notes, in the standard format required by Alberta Education. MNP LLP audited these statements and has issued an unqualified opinion.

MNP LLP has found that in all material respects, the financial position of the School Division as at August 31, 2023, and the results of its operations, its remeasurement gains and losses, changes in its net financial assets and its cash flows for the year then ended in accordance with Canadian public sector accounting standards.

Transportation Fee Schedule

Under the new transportation funding model, the funding formula for students attending a school of choice has changed. Students attending a school of choice are now funded based on the distance to the school they are attending, rather than the distance to their designated school. This increases the funding the Division receives for students attending a school of choice.

AERR Approval

At the November 29, 2023 Regular Board Meeting, the Board of Trustees approved the [2022-2023 Annual Education Results Report](#) (AERR) as presented.

Highlights of this report include the following:

- Our current results have increased over the last year in most measures
- Our number of students achieving the standard of Acceptable for PAT and Diploma results continues to be an area of strength
- Our high assessment participation rates
- Our low drop-out rates
- Continued improvement in all measures related to Indigenous Students
- Our successful Curriculum implementation strategies
- Success in all local measures results

École Champs Vallée School (ÉCVS) Excursion

The Board of Trustees granted Approval in Principle students and staff from École Champs Vallée School to travel to Quebec, Ottawa and Montreal from June 20-26, 2024 (inclusive).

This excursion provides students first, the opportunity to further learn about Canada's political, cultural and historical fabric. Second, travel to Québec and the national capital expands the students' practical use of French language skills learned in the classroom. Third, activities are designed to supplement the grade six curriculum – mostly Social Studies and Science courses.