



BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

August 25, 2021



— WELCOME —

BACK TO SCHOOL

OPENING STATEMENT — BOARD CHAIR

Chair Klaassen welcomed everyone to the August 25, 2021 Board meeting and provided opening comments:

“I hope everyone was able to take time over the summer months to rest and recharge. I had the pleasure of seeing a few principals in person this morning with smiles on their faces, ready to start the new school year! Along with the excitement and enthusiasm are some veins of anxiety and trepidation. We don’t know what the next few months will bring. What we do know, is that we settled into a lot of routines last year that we will continue. We know that our students and staff are resilient and we will adapt as needed to keep everyone safe and supported. We love hearing the back to school excitement and examples of resilience. Thank you all for doing your part to make this new school year a success.”

BACK TO SCHOOL BGSD COVID-19 2021-2022 SCHOOL ENTRY PLAN

Superintendent/CEO Romanchuk presented some highlights of the [BGSD COVID-19 2021-2022 School Entry Plan](#) (the plan is posted on the BGSD website):

BGSD is following the advice of Alberta Health Services (AHS) and the Chief Medical Officer of Health (CMOH) for Alberta.

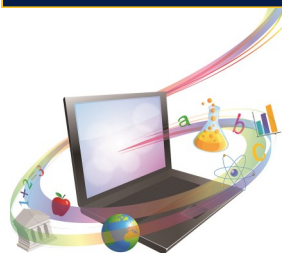
- ◆ The plan focuses on the physical, mental and emotional well-being of both students and staff.
- ◆ Best practices will be carried over from the previous year including social distancing, enhanced cleaning, hand sanitizing and cohorting.
- ◆ Large gatherings, such as ceremonies and celebrations, will be minimized.
- ◆ Masks will not be mandatory in schools, however, students and staff may choose to wear masks. Students will be supported regardless of their choice of masking.
- ◆ Masking will be mandatory on buses.
- ◆ Cafeterias remain closed for now and any hot lunches will be individually packaged.
- ◆ Air circulation will be set to the highest level possible.



Trustees thanked Administration for the hard work and dedication put into developing an entry plan that focuses on student and staff safety. Superintendent/CEO Romanchuk stated that this plan incorporated feedback from Principals to determine what will work best from an operational standpoint.

The Board accepted the BGSD COVID-19 2021-2022 School Entry Plan as presented by Administration.

DISTANCE LEARNING (DL) & DECLARATION UPDATE



Associate Superintendent Dargis provided a recap of Distance Learning (DL) in the 2020-2021 school year. Last year, there were approximately 1500 students registered for semester one and approximately 1700 students registered for semester two in DL.

In March 2021, parents were asked to declare their choice of learning for the 2021-2022 school year. At that time, 522 students declared DL. In August 2021, verification forms for choice of learning were sent out to all parents and 316 students were confirmed for DL. The deadline for verifying choice of learning was extended to August 21 and the final count for grades 1-12 is 310 students registered in DL.



FACILITIES UPDATE

Associate Superintendent Volkman provided an update on the following Facilities Department projects:

- ◆ **Modular Classrooms – Caledonia Park School (CPS) and École Leduc Junior High School (ELJHS)**
 - ◇ Hoping to have occupancy of the modular classrooms at CPS by the end of October 2021. Occupancy of the modular classrooms at ELJHS is not expected to be possible until after Christmas due to additional site work.
- ◆ **École Secondaire Beaumont Composite High School Modernization**
 - ◇ Construction is scheduled to be completed by the end of December 2021.
- ◆ **Infrastructure Maintenance and Renewal (IMR) Projects**
 - ◇ IMR projects completed during the summer months included concrete, flooring and millwork replacements at various schools throughout the Division.
 - ◇ Feasibility studies were completed at Robina Baker Elementary School, East Elementary School and École Leduc Junior High School. These studies assist the Division in prioritizing future capital requests.
 - ◇ The roofing projects at John Maland High School and Willow Park School have been postponed until next summer due to issues contractors experienced in procuring required materials. The contracts have been extended for these two projects at the current cost and they have a planned start date of July 1, 2022.
- ◆ **Capital Maintenance and Renewal (CMR) Projects**
 - ◇ CMR projects completed during the summer months included upgrading heating pumps, window replacements and school building exterior envelope repairs at various schools throughout the Division.
 - ◇ The boiler replacement project at New Sarepta Elementary School and the backup generator replacement project at Leduc Composite High School are currently underway. Both of these projects experienced material delivery delays due to COVID-19.
 - ◇ The roofing projects at Warburg School and École Bellevue School also experienced delays due to procurement issues. However, as they are smaller, less intrusive projects they will be completed during the Fall.
- ◆ **Solar Project**
 - ◇ Over the summer, Administration engaged a consultant to review the feasibility of adding solar panels onto West Haven Public School.
 - ◇ The recommendation is to proceed with rooftop-mounted installation only, which would equate to a photovoltaic system (PV system) of 200,000 watts. This system is projected to have an annual production of approximately 230,000 kWh.
 - ◇ This system would not achieve net zero but would offset 65% of the school's energy consumption.
 - ◇ In order to produce enough solar energy to achieve net zero, ground mounted solar panels would have to be added, which is more costly and not recommended for this project.
 - ◇ Funding through the Municipal Climate Change Action Centre's (MCCAC) Solar for Schools Program is available until April 30, 2022. The funding is based on a rebate per watt of total installed capacity, up to 50% of eligible expenses. The maximum rebate for a 200,000 watt system would be \$220,000.
 - ◇ The estimated cost of installing solar panels on the roof at West Haven Public School is \$500,000. With the rebate from the Solar for School Program, the cost to the Board will be \$280,000. This is slightly higher than the \$262,700 that was earmarked out of capital reserves by the Board in the Spring.
 - ◇ The consultant has projected the payback or return on investment for the Board's contribution to this project to be between 13 – 15 years.
 - ◇ With the Board's approval to move forward, this Fall the Facilities Department will submit an application for the grant funding through the Solar for Schools Program. Upon approval of the grant funding, the project will be tendered with a plan for the installation of the solar panels in the spring/summer of 2022.



The Board approved pursuing the Solar Project for West Haven Public School at a cost to the Board of \$280,000 contingent on BGSD receiving grant funding.





TRIAL SCHOOL RESOURCE OFFICER (SRO) UPDATE

Superintendent/CEO Romanchuk provided an update on the trial period for the RCMP SRO and asked Division Principal Jon Ganton to provide his experience with the trial at Thorsby Junior-Senior High School.

Division Principal Ganton indicated that it was a valuable resource to have an officer available in the event of a crisis such as VTRA and to help promote positive relationships between the students and the officers.



The Board provided direction to Administration to continue with the rural SRO program for the upcoming 2021-2022 school year for the budgeted amount of \$70,000.

OFF-CAMPUS EDUCATION PROGRAM



Associate Superintendent Dargis requested that the Board approve the Off-Campus Education Programs (Work Study, Work Experience, Registered Apprenticeship Program, Green Certificate). Trustees commented that they are supportive of the Off-Campus Programs for our students and the communities.

The Board approved the involvement of students in the Off-Campus Education Program (Work Study, Work Experience, Registered Apprenticeship Program, Green Certificate) for the 2021-2022 school year.

The Board designated Off-Campus Coordinators as the authority to sign that work sites/work stations have been visited and approved, and the Associate Superintendent, Learning Services, to cosign the approvals as the designee.

Associate Superintendent Dargis offered his thanks to Dan Lake for his work in running Summer School. He also thanked all the staff involved in the Off-campus Programs for their help ensuring student and site safety.



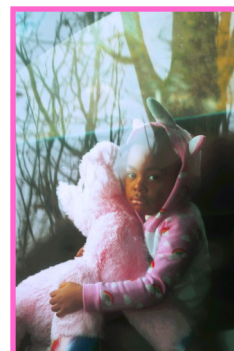
STUDENT ART SHOWCASE WINNERS

Superintendent/CEO Romanchuk acknowledged the four winners of the Student Art Showcase:

- ◆ Cole Pedersen: Goblet with Captive Ring
- ◆ Shayla Cymbaluk: Still Standing
- ◆ Natasha Charley: Untitled
- ◆ Emilia Swartz: Irregular



Additionally, Superintendent/CEO Romanchuk presented to the Trustees, as part of the 25th Anniversary Project, a final draft of the Black Gold Schools Collage that will be provided to all schools and previewed a short clip of the drone video featuring all schools.



We're Going Back To School

