
Directions Newsletter
Regular Meeting of the Board – November 2015

Organizational Meeting

Chinook School Division held their annual Organizational Meeting and Elections on November 12, 2015. It was announced that Larry Caswell was newly elected as Chair and Randy Beler will be Vice Chair for the 2015-2016 term. Congratulations to Mr. Caswell and Mr. Beler. Trustee information can be found at <http://chinooksd.ca/Board/Pages/default.aspx>.

Stark & Marsh Accountants were approved as Auditors for period Ending August 31, 2016. Board members also agreed to continue to have the Regular Meetings on the second Monday of the month at 3:00pm; when the Monday is a statutory holiday the meeting will be on the following Tuesday. The Chinook School Division Annual Meeting will be held on March 14, 2016 at 7:00pm.

External Committees Appointments:

Public Board Section and SSBA (Saskatchewan School Boards Association)

Members Council: Elaine Anderson

South West Municipal Government: Larry Caswell (Chair), Tim Weinbender

SWAC (South West Athletics Council): Tim Ramage

SAMA (Saskatchewan Assessment Management Agency): Rod Fairbrother

Standing Committees Appointments:

Finance: Shane Andrus, Tim Ramage, Tim Weinbender

Technology: Elaine Anderson, Shauna Wright

Facilities: Cassandra Appelgren, Bernie Ford, Tim Weinbender

Transportation: Shane Andrus, Bernie Ford, Tim Ramage

Recognition of Teaching Experience: Shauna Wright

Remuneration & Expense Committee (Ad-Hoc): Cassandra Appelgren, Rod Fairbrother, Shauna Wright

Chair: Larry Caswell

Vice-Chair: Randy Beler

**** Larry Caswell, Randy Beler and Director Liam Choo-Foo will be de facto members of all Standing Committees**

Delegation: Ponteix School “Saskatchewan Reads”

Students from Ponteix School, accompanied by principal Chad Striker, vice principal Trisha Carleton, and superintendent Jan Pogorzelec, made a presentation on their Saskatchewan Reads initiative. Suzie Klassen (grade 7), Rhys O’Neill (grade 7), Shaye Legros (grade 5) and Chloe Kendall (grade 4). The students talked about the reading areas they have created in our school, including a cafe, fun themed reading centres and adventure area, as well as special guest visits from Charlie Horse, Ali Caters Alligator and a local Princess. Using a PowerPoint slide show, they discussed the reading areas, how the areas came to be, what they like about the them, their first impressions, and ideas for other areas. The students said they are now reading more at school and at home, due to the new learning environments!

*Photos available for sharing on Chinook Facebook and Twitter accounts.

Auditor’s Report

Presented by Terri Olfert and Brian Tutland from Stark & Marsh, and Shari Sloman, Controller for Chinook School Division

As per Stark and Marsh’s auditor’s report, the financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of Chinook School Division NO. 211 as at August 31, 2015. The auditor’s report was accepted by the Board and will be included in the 2014-15 Annual Report.

Home Based Education Status Report

Presented by JP Claire, Superintendent of Schools

As outlined by provincial legislation, Home-Based Education students (between the ages of 6 and 15) are to register with their local school division or directly with the Ministry.

Parents/Guardians are to provide school divisions with an educational plan in the areas of English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, and Social Studies that fit with the Ministries Goals of Education prior to the commencement of the Home-Based program/school year.

Parents/Guardians are also required to submit an Assessment or Progress Report to the School Division at the end of the school year and prior to registration approval for the following year.

The Board has approved funds of up to \$300 per child per annum to support the costs of educational materials and resources.

The total enrollment of students in Home-Based Education has decreased slightly from 136 in 2014-2015 to 123 in the current school year of 2015-2016. Currently, the bulk of the students are in grades 2-11.

Data is collected at the point of registration for the parent/guardian to indicate their reasons for home schooling. Three categories were identified: Faith, Programming/Choice, and Safety/Security, with Programming/Choice being the most popular reason overall (61), followed very closely by Faith (60). Very few families have indicated that Safety/Security was the reason they chose Home-Based Education.