



# Board Highlights

August 28, 2024

## Off Campus Education

Alberta Education permits school authorities to develop off-campus education programming in accordance with prescribed guidelines and procedures.

The Off-Campus Education Program allows programming such as Work Study, Work Experience, Registered Apprenticeship Program, Green Certificate, Knowledge and Employability Workplace Readiness and Workplace Practicum to be offered.

Such programming encourages students to investigate a variety of occupation-based opportunities in contexts that assist them in making informed decisions concerning education, training, and employment upon completion of high school.

The Board of Trustees approved the involvement of Black Gold School Division in the Off-Campus Education Program for the 2024-25 school year.

## Division Rates & Trustee Compensation

Trustees discussed the importance of professional development (PD) and a need to increase the Trustee Development fund to be able to take advantage of the various PD opportunities.

The Board of Trustees approved a motion that the Board of Trustees Professional Development fund be increased to \$2,500 per year per Trustee.

## Updated Financial Report

Associate Superintendent Volkman presented the updated financial report highlighting that there was an increase of 1.61 million dollars in operational funding, the mental health grant was extended from December 2024 to June 2025 and the Board received an additional \$454 thousand in stabilization funding to offset the decrease in the Geographic Grant. Overall there was a 2.23 million dollar increase in funding over what was included in the spring approved budget.

Administration is reviewing how this additional operational funding will be used to support the 2024-25 budget. It is expected that the funding will be used in the 2024-25 school year to balance the budget and reduce the planned use of operating reserves, address any significant changes in enrolments from spring projections and provide the Division with flexibility to respond to urgent needs from schools.

## Flag Raising Ceremony

The Black Gold School Division's Board of Trustees acknowledged their commitment to fostering a deeper understanding and respect for Indigenous cultures by proudly raising the Treaty 6 and Métis Nation flags at the Division Office, and in all its schools.

The Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC) of Canada identified the need for all levels of government and education institutions to acknowledge the unique and important role Indigenous peoples have played, and continue to play, in shaping our great nation. Raising these flags marks the Board's tangible commitment to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission's Calls to Action, particularly those related to education.



Trustee Klaassen and Elder Terry Lusty raise the Métis Nation flag