

Livingstone Range School Division #68
Board of Trustees Key Messages
May 12, 2015



Following are the Board of Trustees Key Messages from the Board Meeting held on Tuesday, May 12th.

1. **The Board of Trustees ratified a two year agreement between the Livingstone Range School Division No. 68 and Willow Creek School Bus Drivers' Association.**
2. **The Livingstone Range School Division is currently into the ninth year of a 20 year Wind Power Project Agreement for the division's electricity. The benefits of entering into a long term arrangement for electricity are to provide cost certainty in a volatile energy market. The current arrangement has proven very beneficial to the LRSD.**

Due to the success of this project other divisions within AB have moved forward with a similar 25 year wind power project that will commence in January 2016. LRSD initially provided a "Letter of Commitment" in June of 2012 to purchase electricity under this new project once the current arrangement ends December 31, 2026. On Tuesday the Board gave their final approval to complete the required documentation and agreements.

3. **Budgets to proceed as per the directive from Alberta Education prior to the current election!!**

The school act requires school divisions to submit their budgets for the following school year to AB Education by the 31st of May. Initially in the absence of new information we needed to go with what we know. Since this time the Deputy Minister of Education has extended the due date until June 30 providing the new NDP government with time to examine the budget.

LRSD however will continue to aim at completing their budget by May 28, 2015 in order to present it to the board for their review and approval.

It is difficult to anticipate what changes the new Gov't will make other than what has been communicated leading up to and shortly after the election. The NDP leadership stated they will fund enrollment growth. This doesn't affect LRSD and so it is anticipated that the changes to the budget and the impact on LRSD will be minimal and therefore there is no need to defer passing the budget to a later date.