

Livingstone Range School Division Board of Trustees Key Messages



Following are the Board of Trustees Key Messages from the Board of Trustees Regular Meeting held on Wednesday, November 13, 2019.

- 1) Budget Impact** – Jeff Perry, Associate Superintendent, Business Services presented information on the Provincial budget announcement. The following areas were impacted by the Provincial budget announcement and other information received recently:

The Budget Announcement saw the removal of three grants - Class Size Grant (1,342,890), Funding in place of school fees (129,000), Classroom Improvement Grant (471,000). In its place a onetime transitional grant was introduced which provided \$356 per full time equivalent (FTE) student for \$1,152,906. The net impact was a decrease in funding of \$790,000

The Board had anticipated and prepared in the spring for this type of budget and along with the increase of 83.25 FTE students from projections the net impact was a positive \$200,000.

Unfortunately, we also received the news that our liability and property insurance premiums would be going up significantly (30% and 274% respectively) due to the many fires, floods and other claims over the past few years. This increase would result in a \$540,000 increase to our costs.

The net result is that the Board will increase the planned deficit and use of reserves by \$340,000. The final LRSD budget update will come out at the end of November.

- 2) Advocacy Committee** – The Board of Trustees moved to create an Advocacy Committee. Advocacy is a key role of the trustees, especially with the current political climate in Alberta and Canada as a whole. It is important that the Board is strategic and timely in the advocacy work it engages in. Advocacy is an area of high priority and was highlighted during the October 2019 Board evaluation. The committee will help facilitate this work to gather the information, develop a plan, and present it for approval.
- 3) Accountability Pillar** – Chad Kuzyk, Associate Superintendent, Curriculum and Innovation updated the Board of Trustees regarding the annual Accountability Pillar. The Accountability Pillar uses 16 Separate Measures to evaluate our division as a whole including separate data for our individual schools. The October 2019 summary indicates that; overall our division is rated excellent in two category, good in four categories, acceptable in six categories and issues in four categories.. LRSD is pleased to report that students writing Diploma Exams and Provincial Achievement Tests in the Division are showing year-over-year improvement in exam scores. In five high school diploma exam courses, LRSD students scored higher than the provincial average. LRSD continues to focus on Literacy and Numeracy, Success for all students and Transitions in 2019-20.