



Board Highlights

October 30, 2024

Modular Requests

The Board of Trustees approved to submit the request for one (1) new modular classroom to ease enrolment pressures at École Beau Meadow School (ÉBMS). The estimated utilization rate in 2024-25 is 90%, an increase from 86% in 2023-24. The City of Beaumont is one of the fastest growing communities in Alberta and the enrolment at ÉBMS grew by 5.12% in 2024-25. The attendance area for ÉBMS includes neighborhoods, such as Lakeview, that are developing and growing quickly.

The Division is also requesting four (4) new replacement modular classrooms to evergreen the existing modular classrooms from 1982. These modular classrooms are at the end of their service life. If this request is approved, the Board would need to approve the use of capital reserves to replace the link, as links for modular classrooms are not covered by Alberta Education under the Modular Classroom Program.

Exemption to Maximum Limit on Operating Reserves

The Board of Trustees approved the request to submit a letter to the Minister of Education requesting a one year exemption to the maximum limit on operating reserves as of August 31, 2024 in order to carry forward an additional \$1.3 million to the 2024-25 school year to support the budgeted deficit and supplement an approved capital project.

Locally Developed Courses

The Board of Trustees approved the following list of Locally Developed Courses for Division use:

- Treaties and Sovereignty 15
- Métis History and Stories 15
- Indigenous Art and Ceremony 25
- Pathways to Reconciliation 35
- Painting 15-25
- Beading (Elder Chronicles) 15
- Braided Journeys 15-25-35
- Traditional Land-Based Learning 35

Calmar Secondary School Excursion - South West Italy

The Board of Trustees granted Approval in Principle for students and staff from Calmar Secondary School to travel to South West Italy from November 8-15, 2025 (inclusive). While the trip will not take place during curricular time within the school year, it will have a significant curricular link within the high school Social Studies curriculum.



École Champs Vallée School Excursion - Quebec, Ottawa, Montreal

The Board of Trustees granted Approval in Principle for students and staff from École Champs Vallée School to travel to Quebec, Ottawa and Montreal from June 19-25, 2025 (inclusive). This trip provides the opportunity to learn about Canada's political, cultural and historical fabric, expands student's practical use of French language skills and activities are designed to supplement the grade six Social Studies and Science curriculum.



Poppy Presentation

Calmar Legion President, Bob McKerracher, presented Board Chair Eckert with the first poppy for Black Gold School Division. Chair Eckert presented a cheque to the Calmar Legion.

You can read the full story [here](#) on the Black Gold School Division website.



Calmar Legion President McKerracher & Board Chair Eckert

myBlueprint Presentation

Division Principal, Chris Stiles and School Counselors Laura Newell and Kristi Nelson shared a presentation about myBlueprint, the upcoming Career Fair and Off Campus Education.

myBlueprint is an engaging online education and career/life planning tool that grades 7-12 students need to make the most informed decisions about their future. It includes many beneficial resources to support youth as they progress through their education.

More information about myBlueprint can be found [here](#) on the Black Gold School Division website.



Student Artwork Presentation

Each spring, the Board of Trustees purchases artwork from Black Gold students to add to their collection.

This past spring, the Board purchased artwork from Julie Dakin, Mariah Villa and Sofia Bariak. Board Chair Eckert presented each of the students with a cheque for the purchase and commended them on their talents. Mark Templeton, Fine Arts Teacher, Ohpaho Secondary School, accepted the cheque on behalf of Sofia.

You can read more about the students and their works [here](#) on the Black Gold School Division website.



Mariah Villa & Board Chair Eckert



Julie Dakin & Board Chair Eckert



Mark Templeton on behalf of Sofia Bariak & Board Chair Eckert