



MINUTES

Golden Hills School Division

Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Location: Acme Community Centre

Acme, AB

Tuesday, April 29, 2025 (9:30 AM)

1.0 Attendance

Present:

- a) Chair
 - Laurie Huntley
- b) Vice Chair
 - Rob Pirie
- c) Trustees
 - Justin Bolin
 - Jim Northcott
 - Barry Kletke
- d) Superintendent
 - Jeff Grimsdale
- f) Secretary Treasurer
 - Tahra Sabir
- g) Recording Secretary
 - Kristy Polet

Absent:

- c) Trustee
 - Jen Mertz (due to prior engagement)
- e) Deputy Superintendent
 - Wes Miskiman (due to prior engagement)

2.0 Call to Order

Chair Huntley called the meeting to order at 9:39 AM

Carried

3.0 Acknowledgment

In the spirit of reconciliation, we acknowledge that we live, work and play on the traditional territories of the Blackfoot Confederacy (Siksika, Kainai, Piikani), the Tsuut'ina, the Stoney Nakoda Nations, the Métis Nation (District 3 and 4), and all people who make their homes in the Treaty 7 region of Southern Alberta.

4.0 In Camera

4.1 In Camera

Recommendation: BD#20250429.1001

MOVED by Trustee Kletke that the Board of Trustees go In Camera at 9:40 AM.

Carried

4.2 Out of In Camera

Recommendation: BD#20250429.1002

MOVED by Trustee Northcott that the Board of Trustees rise from In Camera at 11:27 PM.

Carried

5.0 Approval of Agenda

5.1 Approval of Agenda

Recommendation: BD#20250429.1003

MOVED by Trustee Kletke that the Board of Trustees approve the agenda as presented.

Carried

6.0 Welcome Public, Vision and Mission Statements

7.0 Presentation of Minutes

7.1 Regular Minutes of March 25, 2025

Recommendation: BD#20250429.1004

MOVED by Trustee Pirie that the Board of Trustees approve the Regular minutes of March 25, 2025, as presented.

Carried

8.0 REPORTS

A) Chair's Report

Chair Huntley presented information on the following topics:

Meetings and correspondence:

- April 4, 2025 - Alberta school Boards Association (ASBA) Zone 5 Meeting, viewed Budget presentation.
- April 7, 2025 – The new Charter school is not part of Golden Hills School Division. It was approved by Alberta Education and operates independently, receiving its funding directly from Alberta Education.
- April 9, 2025 - Teachers Employer Bargaining Association (TEBA) Category B Trustees Engagement Session - Mediator's Recommendation.
- April 17, 2025 - Professional Development - Funding of Teacher labour settlements, email from EDC Deputy Minister.
- April 23, 2025 - Public School Boards' Association of Alberta (PSBAA) meeting with superintendents regarding Jordan's Principle.
- April 23, 2025 - Discussion with MLA, Chantelle de Jonge regarding Westmount Project.
- April 23, 2025 - Professional Development Session - Protection of Privacy Act and access to Information Act.
- April 25, 2025 - PSBAA Polling Survey Briefing.

- Discussion on PSBAA partnership with The Personal Insurance Group, Desjardins.
- Chair Huntley will draft a letter to the ASBA Advocacy Chair regarding the risk of charter, private and independent schools to public schools (Public, Separate and Francophone).

B) Board Committees

No information to report on at this time.

C) Board Representatives to External Organizations

Trustee Kletke had no new information to present regarding the Public School Boards' Association of Alberta (PSBAA).

- Next Meeting: June 3-5, 2025, in Calgary, AB

Trustee Northcott presented information on the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Zone 5 meeting held April 4, 2025.

- Discussion and presentation of reports were as follows:
 - Received communications from Alberta Education around the School Nutrition Data Request, Additional Literacy and Numeracy Support Funding, the 2025/26 Funding Manual for School Authorities and Real Property Governance Act.
 - Discussed ASBA's Proposed 2025/26 Budget along with a video presentation, proposed 4-year framework to be reviewed annually.
 - Discussed Advocacy, Jordan's Principle and Position Statements.
 - Edwin Parr Event will be on May 30 at the D'Arcy Ranch Golf Club in Okotoks.

Trustees, Bolin and Northcott, presented information on the Public School Boards' Association of Alberta (PSBAA) meeting held on April 9-11, 2025.

- Guest speakers included:
 - Angela Baron, Prairie Rose Public Schools "What is Sharenting and why should it matter to school divisions?"
 - Melanie Reed-Zukowski, Linda Morey and Schott Brandt, Grasslands Public Schools "Governing a Unique Rur-ban School District"
 - Julie Hrdlicka, Calgary School Board "Recentring Democracy: Shifting From Compromise and Winning to Conversation and Possibility"
 - Brian Bittorf and Darlene Reimer presented "Don't Meth with Us" Rural School Board Caucus (RSBC) will host a meeting on June 1, 2025 at 2:00 PM in the Westin Downton Calgary. This meeting will coincide during the ASBA SGM.

Recessed at 12:11 PM

- 1:00 PM the Board of Trustees toured the Acme School site

Reconvened at 2:00 PM

D) Administration Reports

Secretary Treasurer Sabir presented information on the following topics:

Transportation Update:

- Two of our bus drivers have successfully completed and passed their driver's examinations.
- We are currently evaluating Thomas buses as part of our fleet review process.
- With the recent decrease in fuel prices and the removal of the Carbon Tax, fuel costs have become more economical. Golden Hills is also realizing additional savings by purchasing fuel directly through UFA.

- Maintenance costs have decreased as a result of ongoing investments in newer buses over the past several years.

Facilities Update:

- Strathmore High School Modular addition will be installed mid May to June.
- Strathmore Maintenance Shop will need structural repairs.

Superintendent Grimsdale presented information on the following topics:

- April 1, 2025 - Golden Hills hosted a grade 4-6 Math professional development day.
- April 3, 2025 - Golden Hills hosted an Indigenous Lead Teacher professional development day.
- April 3, 2025 - "let's GO Rural" event held in Kneehill County offered an invaluable hand-on experience for 40 students. This collaborative initiative brought together key stakeholders dedicated to rural healthcare, including the Rural healthcare professionals Action Plan, Primary Care Network, Alberta Health Services, Alberta Precision Labs, Prairie College/Red Deer Polytechnic, STARS, Kneehill County, and Golden Hills School Division. A special thank you goes to Cathy Price and Kurt Ratzlaff for their contributions to the event's success.
- April 4, 2025 - Three Hills School hosted our 4th Collaborative Day of the year.
- April 14, 2025 - Two Students from Golden Hills received the Honouring the Spirit Award in Edmonton, as well as five other students received honourable mention, Trustee Pirie was in attendance.
- April 15, 2025 - Golden Hills hosted Administrators Meeting.
- April 16, 2025 - Acme successfully hosted a Hiring Fair and Career Expo that drew students from across our Northern Schools. This valuable event featured the participation of numerous business and post-secondary institutions, offering students insights into potential career paths and further organization and management of the event, as well as to Trustee Northcott for his assistance.
- April 28, 2025 - Superintendent Grimsdale and Director of Learning, Corinna Hampson attended an insightful AI Professional Development event hosted by Connect Charter School. The session featured a keynote presentation by Dr. Thomas Chu, a distinguished Professor from the Department of Curriculum and Instruction at The Chinese University of Hong Kong.
- Plans are in the works for a 3-day leadership series on Harnessing AI Powerful Learning for 2026.
- Administrative Procedure Committee is finalizing the Responsible Use of Technology AP. This will most likely be brought to the next Board Meeting.

Human Resource Update:

- Trinity Christian Academy - Principal, Mike Walsh will be leaving Golden Hills School Division, moving to the Parkland School Division.
- May 29, 2025 - Long Service Awards will be hosted at the Travelodge.
- The Drumheller Valley Secondary School (DVSS) Football Team, Titans, has a new sign located beside their field.

9.0 NEW BUSINESS

A) Action Items

9.1 Substitute Returning Officer - Elections 2025 (T. Sabir)

Recommendation: BD#20250429.1005

MOVED by Trustee Kletke that the Board of Trustees approve to appoint Kristy Polet as the Substitute Returning Officer for the purpose of conducting the School Board of Trustee Elections for the 2025 Election Year.

Carried

9.2 Joint Elections - Trustee Elections 2025 (T. Sabir)

Recommendation: BD#20250429.1006

MOVED by Trustee Northcott that the Board of Trustees approves Golden Hills School Division to enter into Joint Elections Agreements with towns and municipalities that are in our jurisdiction, if a Board of Trustees Election is warranted.

Carried

9.3 Field Trip Studies/Student Excursion - Emerald Isles - Wheatland Crossing (J. Grimsdale)

Recommendation: BD#20250429.1007

MOVED by Trustee Huntley that the Board of Trustees approves the proposed high school field studies/excursion for Wheatland Crossing School to the Emerald Isles from April 2-11, 2026, subject to advisory notices from Foreign Affairs and International Trade Canada website: http://www.voyage.gc.ca/countries_pays/updates_mise-a-jour-eng.asp such that if a travel warning is issued prior to the trip and not rescinded before the departure date, the trip will be cancelled and parents must be advised that this will be the case. Carried

B) Information Items

9.4 Monthly Enrolment Monitoring Report - March 2025 (T. Sabir)

Secretary Treasure Sabir presented information on the monthly Enrolment Monitoring Report for March 2025 to the Board of Trustees as information and for the record.

9.5 Board of Trustees Elections - Update (T. Sabir)

Secretary Treasurer Sabir presented information on the upcoming 2025 Trustee Elections regarding resolutions and bylaws that need to be completed by June 30, 2025.

9.6 Second Quarterly Financial Report (T. Sabir)

Secretary Treasurer Sabir presented the Second Quarter Financial Report for the months of September 2024 to February 2025.

9.7 Budget Reporting (T. Sabir)

Secretary Treasurer Sabir presented updated information on Budget 2025-2026. The finalized Budget will be presented at the May 27, 2025, Board Meeting.

9.8 Education Plan and Budget - DRAFT (J. Grimsdale)

Superintendent Grimsdale reviewed the DRAFT Education Plan 2025/2028 and Annual Budget 2025/2026 for submission to Alberta Education on by May 30, 2025.

9.9 Advocacy Planning (J. Grimsdale)

Superintendent Grimsdale reviewed potential updates of the Advocacy Plan for the 2024/2025 school year.

9.10 Administrative Procedures - 260, 360, 430 and 551 (J. Grimsdale)

Superintendent Grimsdale presented information around the development of the following Administrative Procedures:

- AP 260 Field Trips

- AP 260- 1.1 Community Field Trips
- AP 260-2 International Travel
- AP 360 Student Assessment and Evaluation
- AP 430 Organizational Structure
- AP 551 Transportation of Students in Private Vehicles

10.0 Round Table Discussion

11.0 School Monitoring Report Visit

11.1 Acme School Tour

Superintendent Grimsdale, Chair Huntley, Trustees, Secretary Treasurer Sabir along with Principal Oberle and Vice Principal Walker-Aoki had a guided tour of the new Acme School site lead by Bevan Daverne of Daverne Consulting.

12.0 ADJOURNMENT

12.1 Adjournment

Recommendation: BD#20250429.1008

The Board of trustees adjourned at 3:35 PM.

Carried

Chair

Secretary Treasurer

Chair Initials _____ Secretary Treasurer Initials _____