

**Horizon School Division No. 67  
Regular Board Meeting – Division Office  
ERIC JOHNSON ROOM  
Tuesday, August 30, 2016 – 1:00 p.m.**

***Regular Board Meeting Agenda***

**A – Action Items**

A.1 Agenda A.2 Minutes of Regular Board Meeting held Tuesday, June 21, 2016 A.3 Minutes of Special Board Meeting held Thursday June 30, 2016 A.4 June/July/August 2016 Payment of Accounts Summary A.5 Locally Developed Courses	<b>ENCLOSURE 1 ENCLOSURE 2 ENCLOSURE 3 ENCLOSURE 4</b>
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**D – Discussion Items**

D.1 Draft 2017-2018 School Year Calendar D.2 Board Meeting Dates (addition)	<b>ENCLOSURE 5</b>
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**I- Information Items**

I.1 Superintendent's Progress Report I.2 Trustee/Committee Reports <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• 1.4.1 Zone 6 ASBA Report – Marie Logan</li><li>• 1.4.2 Facilities Committee Report- Derek Baron</li></ul> I.3 Associate Superintendent of Finance and Operations Report – Phil Johansen I.4 Associate Superintendent of Programs and Human Services Report – Clark Bosch I.5 Associate Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction Report – Amber Darroch	
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**Correspondence**

<ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• June 22, 2016 – Edmonton Journal - Plan to educate all Alberta teachers about indigenous history first of its kind in Canada</li><li>• June 29, 2016 Deputy Minister Email – Release of Alberta Education's annual plan</li><li>• June 30, 2016 Deputy Minister Email - Changes to Alberta Education's senior leadership team</li><li>• July 21, 2016 – MD Nutrition Conversation</li><li>• July 22, 2016 – ASBA Board Chair email #64</li><li>• July 27, 2016 – Taber Times – Concerns about congregated sites a financial one</li><li>• August 16, 2016 – Deputy Minister Email – Policy Review</li><li>• August 16, 2016 – Deputy Minister - An open letter to Alberta's students</li><li>• August 23, 2016 – Deputy Minister Email– Student Learning Assessment Pilot Improvements</li><li>• Off Campus Report</li></ul>	<b>ENCLOSURE 6</b>
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# Horizon School Division No. 67

6302 – 56 Street Taber, Alberta T1G 1Z9  
Phone: (403) 223-3547 1-800-215-2398 FAX: (403) 223-2999  
[www.horizon.ab.ca](http://www.horizon.ab.ca)

The Board of Trustees of Horizon School Division No. 67 held its Regular Board meeting on Tuesday, June 21 2016 beginning at 1:30p.m. in the Eric Johnson Room.

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Marie Logan, Board Chair  
Bruce Francis, Board Vice-Chair  
Blair Lowry, Jennifer Crowson, Rick Anderson, Derek Baron, Terry Michaelis

ALSO PRESENT: Dr. Wilco Tymensen, Superintendent of Schools  
Phil Johansen, Associate Superintendent of Finance & Operations  
Clark Bosch, Associate Superintendent of Programs, Services & Human Resources  
Amber Darroch, Associate Superintendent of Curriculum & Instruction  
Greg Price, Taber Times  
Barb McDonald, Recording Secretary

## ACTION ITEMS

- A.1 Moved by Derek Baron that the Board approve the agenda as presented with the following addition:

### Under Action Items:

- |                                                                                                                                                                                            |                                              |
|--------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------------|----------------------------------------------|
| A.6 – Minutes of the Special Board Meeting held on May 30, 2016                                                                                                                            | AGENDA APPROVED                              |
| Carried Unanimously                                                                                                                                                                        | 84/16                                        |
| A.2 Moved by Jennifer Crowson that the Board approve the <a href="#">Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held Tuesday, May 17, 2016</a> , as provided in Enclosure 1 of the agenda.       | BOARD MEETING<br>MINUTES APPROVED            |
| Carried Unanimously                                                                                                                                                                        | 85/16                                        |
| A.3 Moved by Rick Anderson that the Board approve the <a href="#">Minutes of the Special Board Meeting held Wednesday, June 1 2016</a> , as provided in Enclosure 2 of the agenda.         | SPECIAL BOARD<br>MEETING MINUTES<br>APPROVED |
| Carried Unanimously                                                                                                                                                                        | 86/16                                        |
| A.4 Moved by Terry Michaelis that the Board approve the <a href="#">May/June 2016 Payment of Accounts Report</a> in the amount of \$5,364,428.37 as provided in Enclosure 3 of the agenda. | PAYMENT OF<br>ACCOUNTS REPORT<br>APPROVED    |
| Carried Unanimously                                                                                                                                                                        | 87/16                                        |

- A.5 Phil Johansen, Associate Superintendent of Finance and Operations provided the Board with an overview of the proposed 2016-2017 school year budget. The budget is balanced with the use of \$2.8 million in operating reserves. The \$2.8 million is composed of an operating cash deficit of \$1.2 million, \$480,000 unsupported amortization, \$680,000 infrastructure enhancements from board reserves and \$475,000 from school reserves. The budget includes the loss of revenue from the Board's January 2016 decision to eliminate basic instructional fees.

Mr. Johansen proposed a recommendation to the Board that \$2.8 million from Board Operating reserved be utilized in order to maintain front-line staff in spite of an enrollment drop. The budget allows with the Board's three-year plan and its commitment to supporting small rural schools. ([Click here](#) to read the Board Chairs' Press Release for more detailed information on the new budget.)

Moved by Bruce Francis that the Board approve the 2016-2017 budget with the draw of \$2.8 million from operating reserves as presented, and with the understanding that the Board will work towards creating a balanced budget

Carried Unanimously

2016 – 2017 HORIZON  
SCHOOL DIVISION  
BUDGET APPROVED  
88/16

A.6 Moved by Bruce Francis that the Board approve the [Minutes of the Special Board Meeting held Monday, May 30, 2016](#) as provided in the handout that was distributed.

Carried Unanimously

SPECIAL BOARD  
MEETING MINUTES  
APPROVED  
89/16

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## **INFORMATION ITEMS**

### **I.1 Financial Update**

Jason Miller, Director of Finance, provided the Board with a financial report for the period ended May 31, 2016. [Click here](#) to view the full financial report.

### **I.2 Municipal Government Act Consultations**

Marie Logan provided an overview of the Municipal Government Act Review Consultations that will be taking place throughout Alberta. The modernized MGA was introduced in the legislature on May 31, 2016. Delegates from Municipal Affairs will be travelling to 20 locations across Alberta during the summer months to discuss the proposed changes through public sessions. Board and Senior Administration representatives from Horizon will be attending sessions in Brooks and Lethbridge.

### **I.3 Superintendent's Progress Report**

Wilco Tymensen's June report to the Board was enclosed in the agenda and included the following information:

#### **Educational Leadership and Student Welfare**

- Dialogue between schools and division office are ongoing. Conversation topics have included legal matters, policy, modernizations, process that ensure student safety and well-being, financial management, instructional leadership, staffing issues and off-campus activities
- Hosted Horizon's portion of AB Ed's International Education Familiarization Tour which included a tour of Vauxhall High School
- Met with AB Ed regarding Teacher Quality Standard, School Leadership Quality Standard, System Leader Standard and School Authority Leadership Quality Standard (See Appendix)

#### **Fiscal Responsibility**

- Associate Superintendent Phil Johansen will be bringing the 2016-2017 budget to the Board for approval. Phil has spent an inordinate amount of time restructuring the way the division creates and manages the budget.

#### **Personnel Management**

- Met with Barb Arend, new Principal of Erle Rivers High School regarding jurisdiction and school priorities
- The Human Resources department has been extremely busy this spring. Mr. Bosch will provide a more detailed update in his report.

#### **Policy and Strategic Planning**

- Senior Administrative Leadership Team meeting
- Met with Ab Ed. Regarding the jurisdiction's Three Year Education Plan (See Accountability Pillar Appendix)

#### **Organizational Leadership and Management**

- Met with Alberta Infrastructure, Alberta Education, Sahuri Architecture, Board representative, School Administration and Division Office representatives regarding the DAF/WRM modernization.
- Met with AB Ed regarding TEBA and collective bargaining
- Attended the ASBA SGM

- Reviewed and approved a multitude of year-end off-campus school extra-curricular field trip requests
- Worked with Amber Darroch and Division Office staff to finalize school calendars

### **Communications and Community Relations**

- Attended the ATA FNMI symposium
- Met with Pete Lovering, Southgrow Regional Initiative regarding Green Certificate
- Guest speaker at D.A. Ferguson Middle School (Grade 6) regarding local government
- Attendance at a number of other meetings and celebrations that have taken place over the last month. These include but are not limited to:
  - VAB awards banquet
  - W.R. Myers graduation
  - Arden T. Litt graduation
  - Taber Mennonite School graduation
  - CASSIX
  - School Administrators' meeting

### **I.4 Board Member Pecuniary Interest**

At every annual Board Organizational Meeting in the Fall. Board members are required to file a disclosure statement listing the names of all corporations, partnerships, firms, governments or persons in which they, their spouse/adult interdependent partner or children under 18 years of age have a pecuniary (monetary) interest. In the case of Board member Mr. Terry Michaelis, he excused himself from collective bargaining discussions as his spouse was a substitute teacher for Horizon School Division. Mr. Michaelis communicated that there is no longer a pecuniary interest as his spouse is no longer a substitute teacher.

### **I.5 Trustee Committee Reports**

#### **I.5.1 Zone 6 ASBA Report – Marie Logan**

Marie Logan, Horizon's Zone 6 representative, provided an update of the Zone 6 meeting that took place on June 8, 2016 in Lethbridge. Topics of interest included:

- Information regarding a Zone 6 Governance Excellence Workshop that will be taking place on Wednesday, September 14, 2016 at the Holy Spirit School Division Office. The goal of this workshop is to improve the parliamentary understanding and skills leading to more effective governance at local Board tables, Zone 6 meetings and the ASBA Spring and Fall General meetings

#### **I.5.2 ASBA Spring General Meeting Overview – Marie Logan**

Marie Logan provided a summary of the outcomes of the Alberta School Boards' Association Spring General Meeting that was held in Red Deer the beginning of June as follows;

- The ASBA Board of Directors proposed a budget for 2016-2017 to member school boards that included a zero percent increase in membership fees, per diems and staff wages. Amendments to the proposed budget included a 1% increase to Board of Director per diems and honorariums at a cost of approximately \$1,600 annually. The proposed budget was further amended to include a 1% increase to ASBA staff salaries at a cost of approximately \$30,000 annually.
- 100% of ASBA member school boards supported advocacy to ensure that any amendments to the *Municipal Government Act* are protective of local school board autonomy, including but not limited to the management of existing school facilities, the planning, design, location and construction of new schools.
- 92% of ASBA member school boards supported that school boards be fully rebated the cost of the carbon tax levy.
- 95% of member school boards, representing 83.39% of students, supported an amendment to the current bylaw which removed the financial premium previously charged to Associate Members of the Association (elected First Nations boards of education under the auspices of band councils or Métis boards of education that operate school buildings).
- Member boards representing 84.33% of students, reaffirmed the current Association policy on Optimal Learning Environments which supports all students. The current policy states: "The Alberta School Boards Association believes optimal learning occurs in welcoming, caring, respectful, safe and healthy learning environments that respect diversity, foster a sense of belonging, and promotes

student wellbeing. Each student has the right to learn in inclusive environments where equality of opportunity, dignity, and respect are promoted.”

### **I.5.3 Facilities Committee Report – Derek Baron**

Derek Baron, Facilities Committee Chair, provided a report to the Board on the work undertaken during the past month within the Facilities Department including:

- Maintenance Projects including:
  - Painting projects
  - Grounds at Horizon MAP
  - Chamberlain School Parking Lot
  - IMR
  - Capital Projects Including:
    - Barnwell School Modernization Update
    - Warner, DAF/WRM Modernization Projects

[Click here](#) to review the entire June 2016 Facilities Committee Report.

### **I.5.4 – May Administrators’ Meeting Report – Terry Michaelis**

Terry Michaelis reviewed the highlights of the June 14<sup>th</sup> Administrators’ meeting. [Click Here](#) to review the entire June Administrators’ meeting summary.

### **I.6 Associate Superintendent of Finance and Operations Report**

Phil Johansen provided a June 2016 update to the Board as follows:

- The majority of the Associate Superintendent’s time the past month has been consumed with working on the budget and school modernizations.
- The transition to MyBudgetFile has been a substantial project. It is substantially complete and should provide for more transparency and time efficiencies.
- There are no updates to the enrollment projections

### **I.7 Associate Superintendent of Programs, Services and Human Resources Report**

Clark Bosch’s April report to the Board included the following information

- The Human Resources department has been busy with hiring, changing, altered 63 teaching contracts since May 9<sup>th</sup>.
- Effective August 31, 2016, Daelynn Takasaki has resigned from her position with Horizon School Division as Clinical Team Leader, however, she will still be conducting the Ed. Psych. Assessments for the Division. Angela Miller will be assuming the role as Horizon’s new Clinical Team Leader.
- Due to the resignation of Tanya Harvey, Andra Johnson has been hired as the new Early Learning Supervisor for Horizon
- There are postings in place for Counselling positions that need to be filled
- Principals are working on hiring support staff for their schools
- 31 teaching staff evaluations have been completed.

### **I.8 Associate Superintendent of Curriculum and Instruction Report**

- Assessment & report cards - all elementary schools and 8 of 13 junior high/middle schools
- Student Learning Assessment - Grade 3 SLA has been piloted for the past two years and Horizon has participated fully. For 2016-17, Alberta Education has made further improvements to the SLA, but they are limiting participation to only 20 jurisdictions. All elementary principals were asked about their support and only one school preferred to withdraw, but can live with going along with the rest of the group. We will submit our application and wait to see if we are one of the 20 school authorities selected.
- Technology Summer Work - three schools being evergreened: ACE, Central, Dr. Hamman. Over 100 new projectors will be installed to replace much older models, and wireless infrastructure upgraded (over 100 access points) so all schools meet same standard of coverage in every classroom. This brings Horizon’s schools to an excellent standard of technology as we work towards implementing Alberta Education’s Learning and Technology Policy Framework.

- Curriculum Development - Alberta Education will be requesting a rep from each division (I - IV) for each of the six subject areas. Beginning phase is a needs assessment and there will be three 3-day sessions before Christmas 2016 and one more session in the new year. The goal is to create the front matter and scope and sequence.
  - Arts Education
  - Language Arts (English, French, and Français)
  - Mathematics
  - Social Studies
  - Sciences
  - Wellness
- International Education - Wilco and Marie participated in an agent familiarization tour when a delegation of international agents (China, Japan, Mexico) travelled through Southern Alberta last month. Thank you to Vauxhall High School for hosting the delegation.
- The Director of Learning (Curriculum and Instruction) continued important work with school staff, committees, and individual teachers, in areas of wellness, literacy and numeracy.

**Correspondence**

**No items of discussion** came forward from Correspondence as provided in Enclosure #4 of the agenda.

**COMMITTEE ITEMS**

Moved by Bruce Francis that the Board meet in Committee.

Carried Unanimously

COMMITTEE  
90/16

Moved by Terry Michaelis that the meeting reconvene.

Carried Unanimously

RECONVENE  
91/16

Moved by Rick Anderson that the meeting adjourn

Carried Unanimously

MEETING  
ADJOURNED  
92/16

\_\_\_\_\_  
Marie Logan, Chair

\_\_\_\_\_  
Barb McDonald, Secretary

# HORIZON SCHOOL DIVISION No. 67

6302 – 56 Street Taber, Alberta T1G 1Z9  
Phone: (403) 223-3547 1-800-215-2398 FAX: (403) 223-2999

The Board of Trustees of Horizon School Division No. 67 held a Special Board Meeting on Thursday, June 30, 2016 beginning at 12:00 p.m.

PRESENT: Marie Logan, Board Chair  
Bruce Francis, Board Vice Chair  
Rick Anderson, Jennifer Crowson, Blair Lowry, Derek Baron, Terry Michaelis  
Jake Heide, Facilities Manager  
Wilco Tymensen, Recording Secretary

## Waiver of Notice of Special Meeting and Special Meeting Agenda Attached

Moved by Terry Michaelis that the Board approve the Special Meeting Agenda as contained in the Waiver of Notice of Special meeting.

Carried Unanimously

AGENDA  
APPROVED  
93/16

Moved by Derek Baron that the Board award the Milk River Elementary School Caretaking Services Contract to, Rebecca Toly in the amount of \$92,000.00 + GST. The contract is for a twenty-four month period commencing July 1, 2016 to June 30, 2018.

Carried Unanimously

LOW BIDDER FOR  
ENCHANT SCHOOL  
CARETAKING  
SERVICES  
APPROVED  
94/16

Moved by Jennifer Crowson that the meeting Adjourn.

Carried Unanimously

MEETING  
ADJOURNED  
95/16

Original Signed August 30, 2016  
Chair

Original Signed August 30, 2016  
Secretary

## WAIVER OF NOTICE OF SPECIAL MEETING

In accordance with the provision of Section 67 of the *School Act*, Chapter S-3, 2000 and amendments thereto, we, the undersigned hereby waive notice of a Special Meeting held on Thursday, June 30, 2016 commencing at 12:00 p.m.

### AGENDA

1. Approval to award the contract to for the caretaking services for Milk River Elementary School (Rebecca Toly)

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ June 30, 2016  
Marie Logan, Chair

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ June 30, 2016  
Bruce Francis, Vice-Chair

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ June 30, 2016  
Rick Anderson, Trustee

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ June 30, 2016  
Jennifer Crowson, Trustee

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ June 30, 2016  
Blair Lowry, Trustee

Signed: \_\_\_\_\_ June 30, 2016  
Derek Baron, Trustee



**PAYMENT OF ACCOUNTS REPORT**

**Board Meeting - August 30, 2016**

<b>U.S. Funds</b>	<b>June 14/16</b>		<b>3270</b>
<b>U.S. Funds</b>	<b>June 16/16</b>		<b>192.43</b>
<b>General</b>	<b>June 22/16</b>		<b>335,324.22</b>
<b>General</b>	<b>June 28/16</b>		<b>1,382,021.79</b>
<b>General</b>	<b>July 5/16</b>		<b>137,289.15</b>
<b>General</b>	<b>July 7/16</b>		<b>24,271.63</b>
<b>U.S. Funds</b>	<b>July 8/16</b>		<b>21,458.50</b>
<b>General</b>	<b>July 11/16</b>		<b>425,183.19</b>
<b>General</b>	<b>July 19/16</b>		<b>175,660.66</b>
<b>General</b>	<b>July 25/16</b>		<b>259,863.90</b>
<b>General</b>	<b>July 27/16</b>		<b>952,476.60</b>
<b>General</b>	<b>August 3/16</b>		<b>153,552.73</b>
<b>General</b>	<b>August 10/16</b>		<b>1,366,913.89</b>
<b>U.S. Funds</b>	<b>August 16/16</b>		<b>7,638.10</b>
<b>General</b>	<b>August 23/16</b>		<b>427,697.87</b>
<b>"A" Payroll</b>	<b>June 2016</b>	<b>Teachers</b>	<b>1,983,921.94</b>
	<b>June 2016</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>593,703.76</b>
<b>"B" Payroll</b>	<b>June 2016</b>	<b>Casual</b>	<b>31,009.32</b>
	<b>June 2016</b>	<b>Subs</b>	<b>47,373.43</b>
<b>"A" Payroll</b>	<b>July 2016</b>	<b>Teachers</b>	<b>1,479,399.10</b>
	<b>July 2016</b>	<b>Support</b>	<b>524,850.09</b>
<b>"B" Payroll</b>	<b>July 2016</b>	<b>Casual</b>	<b>253.89</b>
	<b>July 2016</b>	<b>Subs</b>	<b>17,322.88</b>
<b>Total Accounts</b>			<b>10,347,186.64</b>
<b>Board Chair</b>			
<b>PJ:dd</b>			
<b>August 24/2016</b>			

<b>Horizon School Division June 2016 U.S. Accounts</b>
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	<b>U.S. Funds</b>	<b>Canadian Fund</b>
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<b>Transfinder</b>	<b>2500.00</b>	<b>3270.00</b>
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<b>Total U.S. Accounts</b>	<b>2500.00</b>	<b>3270.00</b>
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JM:dd  
June 14, 2016

<b>Horizon School Division June 2016 U.S. Accounts</b>
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	<b>U.S. Funds</b>	<b>Canadian Fund</b>
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<b>Really Good Stuff</b>	<b>40.88</b>	<b>54.01</b>
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<b>Starfall Publication</b>	<b>105.35</b>	<b>138.42</b>
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<b>Total U.S. Accounts</b>	<b>146.23</b>	<b>192.43</b>
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JM:dd

June 16, 2016

<b>Horizon School Division July 2016 U.S. Accounts</b>
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	<b>U.S. Funds</b>	<b>Canadian Fund</b>
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<b>PowerSchool Group</b>	<b>16150.00</b>	<b>21458.50</b>
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<b>Total U.S. Accounts</b>	<b>16150.00</b>	<b>21458.50</b>
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JM:dd

July 8, 2016

<b>Horizon School Division August 2016 U.S. Accounts</b>
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	<b>U.S. Funds</b>	<b>Canadian Fund</b>
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<b>Texthelp</b>	<b>5827.50</b>	<b>7638.10</b>
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<b>Total U.S. Accounts</b>	<b>5827.50</b>	<b>7638.10</b>
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JM:dd  
August 16, 2016

## Locally Developed Courses

The following Locally Developed Courses have been acquired from other Alberta school jurisdictions and are submitted for board approval:

<b>Course:</b>	<b>Credits:</b>	<b>Acquired from:</b>
<b>Chamber Ensemble 15</b>	3	Calgary School District #19
<b>Chamber Ensemble 15</b>	5	Calgary School District #19
<b>Chamber Ensemble 25</b>	3	Calgary School District #19
<b>Chamber Ensemble 25</b>	5	Calgary School District #19
<b>Chamber Ensemble 35</b>	3	Calgary School District #19
<b>Chamber Ensemble 35</b>	5	Calgary School District #19
<b>Film Studies 15</b>	3	Calgary School District #19
<b>Film Studies 15</b>	5	Calgary School District #19
<b>Film Studies 25</b>	3	Calgary School District #19
<b>Film Studies 25</b>	5	Calgary School District #19
<b>Film Studies 35</b>	3	Calgary School District #19
<b>Film Studies 35</b>	5	Calgary School District #19
<b>Instrumental Jazz 15</b>	3	Calgary School District #19
<b>Instrumental Jazz 15</b>	5	Calgary School District #19
<b>Instrumental Jazz 25</b>	3	Calgary School District #19
<b>Instrumental Jazz 25</b>	5	Calgary School District #19
<b>Instrumental Jazz 35</b>	3	Calgary School District #19
<b>Instrumental Jazz 35</b>	5	Calgary School District #19
<b>Reading 15</b>	3	Calgary School District #19
<b>Reading 15</b>	5	Calgary School District #19
<b>Reading 25</b>	3	Calgary School District #19
<b>Reading 25</b>	5	Calgary School District #19
<b>Forensic Science 35</b>	5	Pembina Hills School District #7
<b>Religious Studies New Testament 35</b>	3	Westwinds School Division #74
<b>Religious Studies New Testament 35</b>	5	Westwinds School Division #74

# School name: DRAFT 2017-2018 School Year Calendar



Aug-17				
M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
7	8	9	10	11
14	15	16	17	18
21	22	23	24	25
♥	28	♥	29	♥
		☀	30	☀
			☀	31

Instructional Days 1 M-Th 1 F

Sep-17				
M	T	W	T	F
				1
H	4	5	6	7
	11	12	13	14
	18	19	20	21
	25	26	27	28
				Π
				29

Instructional Days 19 M-Th 15 F 4

Oct-17				
M	T	W	T	F
	2	3	4	5
	6	7	8	9
H	10	11	12	13
	16	17	18	◆
			19	●
	23	24	25	26
	30	31		

Instructional Days 19 M-Th 16 F 3

Nov-17				
M	T	W	T	F
		1	2	■
	6	7	8	9
	13	14	15	16
	20	21	22	23
	27	28	29	30
				H
				10

Instructional Days 20 M-Th 18 F 2

Dec-17				
M	T	W	T	F
				1
	4	5	6	7
	11	12	13	14
	18	19	20	21
	25	26	27	28
H	25	H	26	H
				27
				28
				29

Instructional Days 16 M-Th 12 F 4

Jan-18				
M	T	W	T	F
H	1	H	2	H
	8	9	10	11
	15	16	17	18
	22	23	24	25
	29	30	31	

Instructional Days 17 1st Sem. M-Th 14 F 3  
Days 1 2nd Sem. M-Th 1 F 0

Feb-18				
M	T	W	T	F
			1	●
	5	6	7	8
	12	13	14	15
H	19	H	20	H
	26	27	28	29
				◆
				◆
				◆
				◆

Instructional Days 13 M-Th 11 F 2

Mar-18				
M	T	W	T	F
				1
	5	6	7	8
	12	13	14	15
◆	12	13	14	15
	19	20	21	22
	26	27	28	29
				H
				30

Instructional Days 20 M-Th 16 F 4

Apr-18				
M	T	W	T	F
H	2	H	3	H
	9	10	11	12
	16	17	18	19
	23	24	25	26
	30			
◆	30			

Instructional Days 15 M-Th 12 F 3

May-18				
M	T	W	T	F
	1	2	3	4
	7	8	9	10
	14	15	16	17
H	21	22	23	24
	28	29	30	31
				●
				11

Instructional Days 21 M-Th 18 F 3

Jun-18				
M	T	W	T	F
				1
	4	5	6	7
	11	12	13	14
	18	19	20	21
	25	26	27	28
				☀
				29

Instructional Days 20 M-Th 16 F 4

	Sem. 1	Sem. 2	Total
Instructional Days	92	90	182
Teacher Prep Days	3	0	3
Division Wide PD	2	4	6
Parent Teacher Interviews	1	0	1
School Based T. Prep Days	0	0	0
School Based Holidays	0	0	0
School Based Parent Teacher Interviews	0	0	0
School Based P.D. Days	1	2	3
<b>Staff Days</b>	<b>99</b>	<b>96</b>	<b>195</b>

1st Sem.	M-TH	76	F	16
2nd Sem.	M-TH	74	F	16
<b>Total Instructional Days</b>		<b>150</b>	<b>32</b>	<b>182</b>

Elementary (enter manually):	M-TH		F	
<b>Total Instructional Days</b>				<b>0</b>

**Symbols Legend:**

- First Day of School (1-12)
- Last day of 1st Semester
- First day of 2nd Semester
- Observance (Mennonite, Colonies): Regular School
- Last Day of School (Elem.)
- Last Day of School (Jr. High & Sr. High)
- Proposed PAT (confirmed in Fall 2016)
- PAT Grades 6, 9
- PAT & Diploma Exams
- Proposed PAT & Diploma Exams
- Division Wide Teacher Preparation Day - no students
- Division Wide Holiday - no students, no teachers
- Division Wide Parent/Teacher Interviews - no students
- Division Wide PD Day - no students
- School Based Teacher Preparation Day - no students
- School Based Holiday - no students, no teachers
- School Based Parent/Teacher Interviews - no students
- School Based PD Day (All Schools) - No Students
- Planning for Student Support Day (All Schools) - no students
- Report Card

Gr. 12 Diploma Exams	Nov.	Jan.	Apr.	Jun.	Achievement Exams	Gr. 9	Gr. 6
English LA 30-1 Pt. A				14	English Language Arts Part A		
English LA 30-2 Pt. A				14	English Language Arts Part B		
Social 30-1 Pt. A				15	Science		
Social 30-2 Pt. A				15	Mathematics		
English LA 30-1 Pt. B				20	Social Studies		
English LA 30-2 Pt. B				20			
Social 30-1 Pt.B				22			
Social 30-2 Pt.B				22			
Math 30-1				25			
Math 30-2				25			
Physics 30				28			
Chemistry 30				26			
Biology 30				27			
Science 30				28			

\* used to indicated proposed PAT date; pending AB Ed approval

Approved: DATE ENTERED BY HORIZON

Date	Holidays & Observances
September 4, 2017	Labour Day
October 9, 2017	Thanksgiving Day
November 2016	Daylight Savings Ends
November 11, 2017	Remembrance Day
December 25, 2017	Christmas Day
December 26, 2017	Boxing Day
January 1, 2018	New Year's Day
January 6, 2018	Epiphany
February 19, 2018	Family Day (Alberta)
February 22 & 23, 2018	Teachers Convention
March 2018	Daylight Savings Begins
March 30, 2018	Good Friday
April 2, 2018	Easter Monday
May 21, 2018	Victoria Day
May 10, 2018	Ascension
May 20, 2018	Pentecost
July 1, 2018	Canada Day

# Plan to educate all Alberta teachers about indigenous history first of its kind in Canada



JANET FRENCH

[More from Janet French](http://edmontonjournal.com/author/spjanetfrench1) (HTTP://EDMONTONJOURNAL.COM/AUTHOR/SPJANETFRENCH1)

Published on: June 22, 2016 | Last Updated: June 22, 2016 9:25 PM MDT



Education Minister David Eggen *POSTMEDIA*



## Alberta teachers uneasy with tackling one of the darkest chapters of Canadian history in their classrooms are getting specific training.

Alberta will become the first province to establish a training regime for all of the province's teachers to instruct in First Nations, Métis and Inuit history and perspectives.

"We know from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission that there are some wounds that we need to heal," Education Minister David Eggen said Wednesday. "We all live together with First Nations, Métis and Inuit culture. It's important for all of us to have that education — turning some unfortunate past into a positive future for all."

The provincial government will spend nearly \$5.4 million during the next three years to provide professional development to 42,000 teachers, superintendents and other school staff. The move is to complement [an ambitious reworking of Alberta's school curriculum](http://edmontonjournal.com/news/local-news/alberta-to-spend-64-million-to-overhaul-education-curriculum) (<http://edmontonjournal.com/news/local-news/alberta-to-spend-64-million-to-overhaul-education-curriculum>) during the next six years, which Eggen said will include more First Nations, Métis and Inuit history and perspectives.

Although the training isn't mandatory, it will be offered to all school employees, school board trustees, superintendents and school administrators. Certified teachers who work in private, charter and First Nations schools are also eligible.

The initiative was sparked by [calls to action from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission](http://www.trc.ca/websites/trcinstitution/File/2015/Findings/Calls%20to%20Action%20English2.pdf) ([http://www.trc.ca/websites/trcinstitution/File/2015/Findings/Calls to Action English2.pdf](http://www.trc.ca/websites/trcinstitution/File/2015/Findings/Calls%20to%20Action%20English2.pdf)), which recommended education ministers add indigenous history and the legacy of residential schools to the K-12 curriculum, share best practices on teaching those lessons, and identify what help teachers need to impart the information.

Providing archival material and teams to help teach the teachers will be the [National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation](http://umanitoba.ca/centres/nctr/index.html) (<http://umanitoba.ca/centres/nctr/index.html>) at the University of Manitoba.

Staff from the centre will highlight information and resources from Alberta in particular, said director Ry Moran. It's important students understand what

transpired in their own backyard.

Alberta had 25 residential schools, the highest number of any province, Moran said. Many were concentrated in the Edmonton and Calgary areas.

#### The Truth and Reconciliation Commission

<http://www.trc.ca/websites/trcinstitution/index.php?p=3>) spent six years collecting stories and evidence of systemic assimilation, and physical, sexual and emotional abuse of indigenous people at the schools. The institutions were complicit in governments' attempt to isolate indigenous children from their families and eliminate their culture and languages.

A truth and reconciliation centre survey found 30 per cent of Canadians haven't heard of residential schools, Moran said.

Teachers need professional development and the right resources to empower them to tackle the difficult subject in age-appropriate ways, he said.

"Some teachers are a little reluctant to teach (human rights) issues. They don't want to make mistakes, and they don't want to offend anybody. And they also don't really have a full sense of history themselves," Moran said.

The public also needs to understand the abuse and neglect still affects survivors' children and grandchildren today, Moran said.

"Kids weren't taught how to love in residential schools. They weren't taught how to be parents," he said. "What these kids went through in these schools is so brutal. We need to understand that all humans, no matter your background, if you're exposed to serious trauma when you're a child, be it sexual, physical or spiritual trauma, you have scars, and you have healing to be done."

Eggen expects to share Alberta's experience with other provinces interested in incorporating more indigenous knowledge and perspectives into their curricula.

[jfrench@postmedia.com](mailto:jfrench@postmedia.com) (<mailto:jfrench@postmedia.com>)

[Twitter.com/jantafrench](https://twitter.com/jantafrench) (<http://Twitter.com/jantafrench>)



Wilco Tymensen &lt;wilco.tymensen@horizon.ab.ca&gt;

---

## Release of Ministry of Education 2015-16 Annual Report

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**Education Deputy Minister** <EducationDeputyMinister@gov.ab.ca>  
Cc: Jim Peck <Jim.Peck@gov.ab.ca>

Wed, Jun 29, 2016 at 11:16 AM

To: **Superintendents of Public, Separate, Francophone and Charter School Boards**

**Executive Directors of Stakeholder Associations**

ASBA (Alberta School Boards Association)

ASCA (Alberta School Councils' Association)

ATA (Alberta Teachers' Association)

ASBOA (Association of School Business Officials of Alberta)

CASS (College of Alberta School Superintendents)

PSBAA (Public School Boards' Association of Alberta)

Today the Government of Alberta released ministry annual reports for 2015-16.

Education's annual report contains performance measurement results, achievements in key priority areas and consolidated financial statements for 2015-16. The report is available online at [education.alberta.ca/annual-reports/](http://education.alberta.ca/annual-reports/).

Performance highlights include the following:

- Public and stakeholder satisfaction with the quality of education remains high.
- There is continued high-level agreement among students, parents, teachers and school board trustees that their school provides a safe, caring and healthy learning environment.
- Satisfaction that students are receiving a solid grounding in core subjects has increased to 82 per cent after a drop in 2013-14.
- The five-year high school completion rate is similar to that of last year at 82.1 per cent, while the three-year high school completion rate also has remained stable at 76.5 per cent.
- More work needs to be done to close the achievement gap for First Nations, Métis and Inuit students. The dropout rate for First Nations, Métis and Inuit students sits at 6.1 per cent, which is nearly twice the rate for all students in the province (3.2 per cent).

I would like to acknowledge the contributions of students and parents in making Alberta's education system so successful. I would also like to thank our teachers, school administrators, school boards and Education staff for their continued passion and for their commitment to delivering excellence in education in Alberta.

Sincerely,

Curtis Clarke, PhD

Deputy Minister of Education

cc. Communications contacts school divisions

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Wilco Tymensen <wilco.tymensen@horizon.ab.ca>

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## Changes to Alberta Education's senior leadership team

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Education Deputy Minister <EducationDeputyMinister@gov.ab.ca>

Thu, Jun 30, 2016 at 11:07 AM

**To: All Superintendents of Public, Separate, Francophone and Charter School Boards**

**First Nations Education Directors**

**Executive Directors of the following Stakeholder Associations:**

ACSTA (Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association)

ASBA (Alberta School Boards Association)

AHEA (Alberta Home Education Association)

ASCA (Alberta School Councils' Association)

ATA (Alberta Teachers' Association)

AAPCS (Association of Alberta Public Charter Schools)

ACFA (Association canadienne-française de l'Alberta)

AISCA (Association of Independent Schools & Colleges in Alberta)

ASBOA (Association of School Business Officials of Alberta)

CASS (College of Alberta School Superintendents)

CCSSA (Council of Catholic Superintendents of Alberta)

Fédération des parents francophones de l'Alberta

Fédération des conseils scolaires francophones de l'Alberta

PSBAA (Public School Boards' Association of Alberta)

Dear Colleagues,

I would like to share with you information on upcoming changes to Alberta Education's senior leadership team.

As some of you may know, Dean Lindquist, Assistant Deputy Minister, Program and System Support, will be leaving the Government of Alberta effective July 31, 2016 to take on the role of Superintendent of Schools in Comox Valley, B.C. I thank Dean for his years of service and leadership and wish him great success in this new endeavor.

I am pleased to announce that effective July 1, Michael Walter will be taking over as the Assistant Deputy Minister in Program and System Support. Also effective July 1, I have appointed Brad Smith as Alberta Education's Senior Financial Officer.

I would also like to welcome and introduce Wendy Boje to Alberta Education as the new Assistant Deputy Minister, Strategic Services and Governance. Wendy has 23 years of experience in the public service spanning both program and corporate functions. She most recently worked with Executive Council and Alberta Treasury Board and Finance developing a collective bargaining framework and corresponding strategies for government across the public sector. Wendy is excited to be joining the Ministry of Education and is looking forward to learning from and working with the department teams and stakeholders in this significant portfolio.

I am confident these changes will ensure strong leadership and will support the dynamic innovation and creativity that is a hallmark of Alberta Education.

As schools empty out for this school year, our students will return in the fall to find an education system that continues to be well supported and well led. Since joining Alberta Education in May, I have been privileged to meet with many of you and I look forward to expanding these conversations as we move into the 2016/17 school year.

Thank you for your support and commitment to Alberta's education system. I wish you a safe and happy summer.

Thank you.

Curtis Clarke, PhD

Deputy Minister of Education

cc. School Division Communications Contacts

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17.7°C

LOG IN

JULY 21, 2016

SECTIONS

LOCAL NEWS



# M.D. council looks at nutrition options for school children

POSTED ON JULY 21, 2016 BY VAUXHALL ADVANCE



## We Say Goodbye to McCarthy

**CELEBRITY NEWS** UpstartMagazine.com

By Nikki Jamieson

Vauxhall Advance

[njamieson@tabertimes.com](mailto:njamieson@tabertimes.com)

It's a question of if you ate versus what you ate when it comes to students.

During their regular July 12 meeting, the Municipal District of Taber council met with the new Family & Community Support Services director for Barons-Eureka-Warner, Zak Morrison. Dominating the discussion was something that concerns every school in Canada; what students eat, or rather, what they don't eat.

"A concern of mine is what works in the school division," said Ben Elfring, M.D. councillor. "There's a lot of kids that don't have breakfast and don't have lunch. If there's nothing in the fuel tank, you can't go very far. Is there some way that FCSS can work with Horizon School Division... could there be a program with Horizon School Division, that could cover all the schools, basically the whole area?"

According to a 2006 Statistics Canada report, approximately four out of ten Canadians say they skip breakfast.

Seven out of ten children, ages four to eight, do not eat the minimum of five fruit and vegetable servings each day, and over a third of four to nine year-olds do not

### RECENT NEWS →

- M.D. rider hitting the Pink Trail
- Latest amendment to M.D. land-use bylaw concerns suitability of sites
- Spurs face Cardinals in first round of districts
- M.D. council looks at nutrition options for school children
- Historically speaking, there's lots to learn

### RECENT BLOG POSTS →

- Historically speaking, there's lots to learn
- What is old is new again: the art of remix
- Sometimes, there's hills you need to die on

- Traveling with animals quite the trip
- North America helps perpetuate rape culture

have the recommended two daily servings of milk products.

Additionally, one out of six children will not have enough to eat, and many will go to school hungry, and their school work will suffer for it.

When students face problems of not having enough food to eat or are not eating the right food, these problems are often called food security or food insecurity. Morrison, who had previously worked at Alberta Health Services, says that the NDP government had promised to start a food program in their platform, and are currently discussing how to do it.

“Our role as FCSS could fit with helping figure out what that would look like, and support, to try to bring it together or find grants or money or something in order to support that,” said Morrison. “It’s a sensitive topic, right? And so, for the admin, school admin team and staff, what comes up sometimes, from what I’ve heard is hand up versus hand out, these types of things.

“My personal feeling is you don’t want kids to go hungry, but there is always other things to consider, setting precedence, more or less.”

However, there is a stigma associated with school meal programs. There is also the issue of cost and who will run it.

But Morrison says that food items can be purchased inexpensively, and anyone, from teachers, youth groups, committees to councils, can volunteer to run it.

Additionally, there is an emphasis on running the program without singling the kids out.

“It can be done in a respectful way, and it can be done fairly inexpensively for the school,” said Morrison.

“The main thing is, what is the consistency for nutritional value? The well being of children is that, you know, chips and hot dogs might be cheap and easy, but is that what we really want children to be eating?”

While the example of chips and hot dogs might be a more affordable option for schools, the decision boils down to who you involve in the conversation of running the meal program.

A dietician — who believes that kids would be better off eating nothing over hot dogs — would have a very different opinion of what children should eat versus a teacher — who believes that anything at all would be great.

The example was raised of a organization in Pincher Creek and Fort McCleod, called Kids First Family Centre, which aims to enhance the participation of children and families in education, recreation and the arts, support healthy early childhood development supporting parents and provide food security for families. It serves these communities and the reserve, and works because of the willingness to help out, the success of which Morrison attributed to “good practices all around”.

While in an ideal world, every kid will be going to school with a stomach full from a happy diet, some councillors believe that it is more important than their school work isn’t suffering because they are hungry.

“The thing is the kids are key to our future,” said Dwight Tolton, M.D. councillor. “It’ll be good to have them



fully educated and developed.”

Ultimately, it will be up to the school community who will be running the meal program, once a program is given the go-ahead and is put in place, on what gets put on the menu, but Morrison said that they might change their stance on it.

“How you use to coach certain things, coaching practices have evolved. Someone who played a sport 30 years ago, and is coaching the way they were coached, they might need a little bit of updating,” said Morrison as an example.

“Hot dogs and chips might be good right now to fill the gap, but if that’s a behaviour that they learn and that’s what they get used to, will that continue or will we want to establish some good habits? It’s trying to play all the angles, what’s best.

“You never get what’s best, you just get what’s close to it, hopefully.”



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Wilco Tymensen <wilco.tymensen@horizon.ab.ca>

**ASBA President's Board Chairs Email #64 - Northland S. Div. Official Trustee**

**Marian Johnson** <mjohnson@asba.ab.ca>  
To: "Helen Clease (ASBA)" <hclearse@asba.ab.ca>

Fri, Jul 22, 2016 at 10:56 AM

The following Board Chairs Email is being sent to you on behalf of Helen Clease, ASBA President.

*Distribution List:*

*Board Chairs*

*Superintendents*

*Secretary-Treasurers*

Marian Johnson

Administrative Assistant

Alberta School Boards Association

Suite 1200, 9925 – 109 Street

Edmonton, AB T5K 2J8

Phone: 780.451.7101

Email: [mjohnson@asba.ab.ca](mailto:mjohnson@asba.ab.ca)

\*\*\*\*\*

Dear Colleagues,

The Alberta School Boards Association would like to extend congratulations to Lois Byers on her appointment as official trustee for Northland School Division.

We look forward to working with and supporting Lois in her work leading up to Trustee elections in October 2017.

We are pleased with the recent announcement by the Minister as Lois brings her experience as trustee, board chair, and President of ASBA to lead the process of Northland School Division returning to elected trustees, something that trustees in Alberta have been in support of.

We appreciate the collaborative work of Colin Kelly, the commitment from Alberta Education, and all Education

Stakeholders in moving this important initiative in the right direction.

ASBA, through our commitment to our First Nation, Métis and Inuit students will continue to support this exciting development to the future of Northland School Division.



Helen Clease

President

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## NEWS

# Concerns about congregated sites a financial one say some

By J.W. Schnarr  
Southern Alberta Newspapers — Lethbridge

Criticism of Mennonite congregated sites by school districts equate to little more than a money grab, say those involved in providing resources for some of those sites in southern Alberta.

John Ross is a home school coordinator for Hope Christian School in Champion. His son, Jeff Ross, is an assistant coordinator. Following a June story published in the Lethbridge Herald and Taber Times, featuring a number of school superintendents criticizing congregated sites used by some Mennonite groups, including Horizon School Division in the Taber area, John and Jeff said there is another side to the story.

Jeff said the real reason behind why school districts are concerned with congregated sites is not the level of education provided, but because absorbing the students from congregated sites into the districts would mean more education funding.

"They want the money from these kids," he said. "They are not really concerned with the quality of education because every other home schooler; the majority in Alberta, are not at congregated sites."

"It is a money grab," said John. "There's no other reason for it. Why aren't they going after home schoolers who they envision are just playing outside every day?"

"They don't even try to live up to the truancy responsibilities they have. Legally, they are bound to charge kids or parents with truancy. Instead, they simply turn a blind eye and blame it on home schoolers. Blame it on 'obscure little schools,' as they put it."

John has been with Hope Christian School for 12

years. He said the congregated sites cropped up out of a desire for Mennonite families to educate their children outside of the public system.

Instructors are often chosen from members of the church who are educated or who are interested in teaching. Jeff said congregated sites are simply the result of parent-directed education.

"That's something that sort of gets forgotten when public schools get involved in the conversation," he said. "The mosaic of education involves parent-directed education. It's been around in Alberta for a long time."

John said there are roughly 1,100 students in Alberta who take part in home schooling programming. The ratio of home school and congregated site learners is about 50 per cent each.

There may also be a diversity issue involved, as Mennonite families coming from places like Mexico or Paraguay have different experiences that need to be considered.

"As for a supporting diversity as a concept, we need to give these people a path to gaining a good, strong education in Canada," Jeff said. "We need to give something that respects their religious views, as we do for many other groups."

Jeff takes issue with the language used when talking about Mennonite education, citing words such as "lazy" or "undisciplined" when it comes to education for their children.

"That's the language that gets used," he said. "But comparatively to the general population, these people are much more steadfast about those kinds of things."

"These kids, in these families, sometimes get portrayed as lazy and undisciplined," he added. "But this population group is one of the hardest working,

least lazy, and most disciplined groups you could possibly imagine."

Statements about the qualifications of home school instructors miss the mark, according to John, because home schooling does not have the same teaching standard that is present in public school.

"A typical home school mother in Calgary or Edmonton, having her kids at home, is not a teacher," he said.

"And they are not qualified. So what you have, really, in these congregated sites, are the best educated church members who have a heart to teach, in there teaching those Mennonite kids. There's nothing illegal about it. There's nothing wrong about it."

Jeff added it is not the place of school district administrators to judge the teaching quality provided by home educators.

"They don't go around to home schooling moms and ask if they are qualified to teach their kids," he said.

John said with a new government in power, school districts have been pushing the province to do more to regulate congregated sites.

"It's based on inaccuracies," he said. "I don't know if they are lies. I've brought it to their attention many times, but they still sing that same old tune."

Jeff said it is overlooked at the taxpayer savings that are available when children are home schooled.

"For every one child in the public school system, you can home school five to six kids from a funding perspective," he said. "So if you want to discuss how to address some of the provincial budget issues in a struggling economy, it is a great thing for the economy when kids are home schooled. And it's a great thing for these communities."



Wilco Tymensen &lt;wilco.tymensen@horizon.ab.ca&gt;

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## Policy Review

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EDC Minister &lt;Education.Minister@gov.ab.ca&gt;

Tue, Aug 16, 2016 at 4:17 PM

### To: Board Chairs of Public, Separate and Francophone School Boards

I would like to thank you for submitting policies related to your responsibilities under sections 45.1 and 16.1 of the *School Act*.

Our government's goal has always been - and will continue to be - that every student and school staff member in Alberta, regardless of sexual orientation, gender identity or gender expression, feels welcome, safe and supported in their school.

As we move toward the start of the new school year, the important work of implementing these policies and respecting students' human rights lies ahead. Our Field Services liaisons continue to assess aspects of certain policies and may have further questions in the days and weeks ahead. I look forward to continuing to work co-operatively with you to make any necessary revisions to ensure our students are properly supported.

Looking ahead, I will also be announcing resources to support our students and staff, as well as avenues to reach out directly to Alberta Education representatives for assistance if they feel these sections of the *School Act* are not being respected in their school. One of these resources will be through direct contact with Alberta Education at [studentsupport@gov.ab.ca](mailto:studentsupport@gov.ab.ca)

It's imperative that we co-operate in order to make our schools inclusive for all.

I would like to take this opportunity to remind you that, as per the School Act, all school boards also have the responsibility to ensure each student enrolled in a school, and each staff member employed by the board, is provided with a welcoming, caring, and safe learning environment that respects diversity and fosters a sense of belonging.

Students must also be provided with support to establish voluntary student organizations, or to lead activities intended to promote welcoming, caring, respectful and safe schools. It is legally required that schools permit the establishment of these organizations and designate a liaison to assist in these efforts. Through consultation with the school principal, students will also have the right to select a respectful and inclusive name for their organization, including "gay-straight alliance" or "queer-straight alliance."

The Act is clear and it will be universally applied in our schools.

I had the opportunity to tour the province this past spring and meet with student members of existing gay-straight alliances. Their message was clear: The work we are all doing has the potential to save lives.

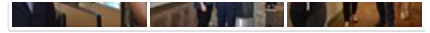
Sincerely,

David Eggen


Minister

cc: Superintendents of Public, Separate and Francophone School Boards

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## An open letter to Alberta's students

 DAVID EGGEN · TUESDAY, AUGUST 16, 2016

A few weeks from now, you and thousands of other Alberta students will head back to class. And when you do, you have rights that your schools will respect.

You have the right to feel safe and welcome at school.

You have the right to create a Gay-Straight Alliance or a Queer-Straight Alliance, and you have the right to name your clubs this way.

You have the right to use the washroom that is consistent with your gender identity. I want you to know that I will support each and every one of you. Together, we will make sure that the rights you have, and the policies your school boards have worked on, are being lived out in your schools.

As Minister of Education, I have been working with your school boards to make sure that our schools are welcoming and caring. All boards have created new policies to support LGBTQ students and they will now come to life in your schools.

In the coming weeks, Alberta Education will be promoting new resources to make sure that schools are safe and welcoming. You can also reach out directly to my staff, who can help you ensure your rights are being respected, at [studentsupport@gov.ab.ca](mailto:studentsupport@gov.ab.ca).

As we stand together, let's embrace the differences in one another.

We will all be better for it in the long run.

And remember: I'm with you one hundred per cent.

**David Eggen, Minister of Education**

----- Forwarded message -----

From: EDC Minister <[Education.Minister@gov.ab.ca](mailto:Education.Minister@gov.ab.ca)>  
Date: Tuesday, 23 August 2016  
Subject: Student Learning Assessment Pilot Improvements  
To:  
Cc: Nicole Lamarre <[Nicole.Lamarre@gov.ab.ca](mailto:Nicole.Lamarre@gov.ab.ca)>

**To: Board Chairs of Public, Separate and Francophone School Boards**

I wanted to share with you some information about the efforts we will be making this fall to improve the third year of the Student Learning Assessment (SLA) program pilot.

As you likely already know, Alberta Education will be working closely with a smaller sample of 20 school authorities for this year's SLA pilot. I am also pleased to inform you that we will also be conducting an independent research study to assess the value of the program and inform potential changes as we move forward.

We know there have been some concerns raised about the SLAs and we are committed to continuing to work collaboratively with all of our stakeholders to develop a proper assessment model for all students. Results of this independent research study will be shared when available.

As well, we have made a number of enhancements to the SLA program for the 2016/17 school year. These enhancements include the availability of:

- student results **within 24 hours** of a class completing the digital questions;
- the SLAs to participating teachers to re-administer – at their discretion – throughout the school year to further support learning and instruction;
- parent-friendly reports and a superintendent's report; and
- funding for the 2016/2017 pilot to support local marking of performance tasks by teachers. This funding was provided in August 2016 as part of the grant payment to school authorities.

As I have said in the past, the SLA will continue to focus on the first two purposes of assessment, namely improving student learning and enhancing instruction for students. While the SLA is helpful in providing assurance at the local level, it will not be used for assurance at the provincial level in the Accountability Pillar. In 2016/2017, Alberta Education will, in collaboration with stakeholders, determine the best approach to providing assurance at the provincial level.

If your school authority would like to stay involved in this work but was not selected to be part of the smaller sample, there are opportunities for SLA development in the coming school year.

If you have any questions, please contact Nicole Lamarre, Director of Student Learning Assessments and Provincial Achievement Testing, at [nicole.lamarre@gov.ab.ca](mailto:nicole.lamarre@gov.ab.ca) or by phone at [780-427-6204](tel:780-427-6204) (toll-free in Alberta by first dialing 310-0000).

Thank you for your continued commitment to our students.

Sincerely,

David Eggen

Minister



## Horizon School Division No. 67

## Off-Campus Annual Evaluation Report for 2015-2016 School Year

*Submitted to Board as per policy HGADA, August 30, 2016*

*This report is based on school reports provided to this office by the following schools: ACE Place, Arden T. Litt, Erle Rivers High School, Horizon MAP, Taber Mennonite School and W.R Myers High School.*

## 1. Student Enrollment Figures

1.1 High School Credit Programs:

	10/11 Stud/CEU	11/12 Stud/CEU	12/13 Stud/CEU	13/14 Stud/CEU	14/15 Stud/CEU	15/16 Stud/CEU
<b>Work Experience</b>	190/1821	218/2064	235/2187	272/2427	186/1903	207/1897
ACE	14	11	28/249	16/270	26/355	15/135
ATL	4	2	17/146	15/120	14/105	13/120
Colonies	23	18	22/240	20/205	24/248	24/249
ERHS	22	28	20/108	49/284	33/272	15/93
HMAP/TMS	6	11	15/240	15/175	18/151	19/223
Lomond	1	8	3/8	0/0	1/1	5/25
VHS	42	35	47/400	39/266	4/38	38/248
Warner	12	10	13/78	10/89	1/2	5/55
W.R Myers	66	123	70/718	93/980	65/731	73/749
<b>RAP</b> (Registered Apprenticeship Program)	11/135	25/415	19/345	18/430	20/510	19/340
<b>Green Certificate</b>	12/167	25/128	23/178	26/310	6/65	11/137
<b>Special Projects</b>	0/0	0/0	0/0	0/0	5/25	0/0
<b>Total</b>	214/2123	268/2607	277/2710	316/3167	217/2503	237/2374

## Number of Off-Campus Sites:

10/11	11/12	12/13	13/14	14/15	15/16
97	122	147	170	108	125

## **2. Program Innovations and Celebrations**

There were no celebrations submitted by specific sites this past year. In terms of innovations, Taber Mennonite School is looking to modify their off-campus program in the 2016-2017 school year and all program coordinators shared the documents that they are using for their individual sites. As a group there is a plan to get together and come up with a standard general form for coordinators to use.

## **3. Assessment Practices**

Many schools used the work experience assessment. Supervisors at the site provide two 'evaluations' of the students during the program (middle and end), focusing on the students' ability to complete tasks, their personal work habits, and attendance. This is the evaluation that is provided in the Alberta Education 'Off-Campus Education Handbook'. In Colony settings a communication log with the German teacher or supervisor is kept indicating how the program for students is proceeding. The school's teacher and the German teacher/supervisor communicate regularly with respect to the progress of students and the overall running of the program.

Students were assessed on paperwork handed in (contracts and monthly reports), supervisor visits/comments were taken into consideration, and employers were asked to provide a grade out of 10 for several aspects related to student work (skills, knowledge and attitudes). Employer Evaluation, Meeting Attendance, Time Sheet Completion, and Work Book Completion and/or Self Evaluations are used in many incidences to grade the students during their Off-Campus Education.

Students were asked to fill out a learning plan and self-evaluation with a final evaluation submitted by the employer at some sites.

For students taking the HCS3000 preliminary course (1 CEU), they do the readings and questions that come with each topic (e.g. modules on 'Health and Safety Management Systems', etc.) then must pass the related summative assessment at the end of the unit. If they are not successful, they redo segments of the material and are reassessed. The course takes approximately 20-25 hours for most students to complete.

## **4. Business Feedback**

Schools primarily obtain feedback from off-campus sites through students, employer feedback, visitations and phone calls. School supervisors work to ensure that ongoing communication and feedback is successful for students and work sites. Comments shared with division office from school supervisors were the following:

"Students in general were punctual and eager to learn new skills and carry out their workplace tasks."

More than one employer sang the praises of our students. "All employers felt that students had shown growth and maturity as workers throughout the process."

School Coordinator comments were all very positive with the mention that student use of cell phones continue to be an issue for employers. Our coordinators have decided to add a cell phone item to their assessment and course overview to help students in this area.

## **5. Integration of Work and School Program**

Off Campus Coordinators have suggested that bringing community members in to discuss their employment and career opportunities would help students understand what courses or career they may see for their future. Allowing students to job shadow would help them explore a number of different job placements. However, there are some challenges in our rural school communities in this area. Coordinators also see the opportunity for integration to happen through the health curriculum, literacy projects and language arts classes.

## **6. Challenges**

Schools identified the following challenges:

Limited placements in rural areas: Students are not always able to access the job placement that they would normally be interested in as a future career prospect.

Time intensive nature of agriculture related jobs (i.e. harvest) made it incredibly difficult for off campus coordinators to meet with students and employers. Off campus coordinators are changing their approach this upcoming school year to meet with employers over the summer instead of the fall to alleviate the difficulty. Students are also completing a majority of their work experience during harvest which results in intensive hours (can be up to 60 hours a week).

Getting out to sites regularly continues to be a challenge for off-campus coordinators and this year one of our colony schools had a temporary teacher which added some additional training time, filling of forms, site inspections and input from our colony principal.

Job placements were a bit more difficult this year due to the economy and some student placements in rural areas were over an hour one way to drive when doing the safety inspections.

## **7. Supports Requested from Division Office**

Coordinators request further direction on what is expected with respect to a "student plan" including the format that is easily adjustable for our colony-based staff. Another suggestion was getting off-campus coordinators together in the early fall to develop Horizon's own assessment and evaluation to better accommodate students who are working in agriculture. These students may work 60 hours a week where another student may work 10.