



GOLDEN HILLS SCHOOL DIVISION

AGENDA

TYPE: Regular Board Meeting

DATE: 3/25/2025 **TIME:** 9:30 AM

LOCATION: Boardroom of the Golden Hills School Division

DETAILS:

"Powering Hope and Possibilities" Vision: Inspiring confident, connected, caring citizens of the world

Mission: Intentionally maximizing learning for all

1.0 Attendance

2.0 Call to Order

3.0 Acknowledgment

4.0 In Camera

4.1 In Camera Action

4.2 Out of In Camera Action

5.0 Approval of Agenda

5.1 Approval of Agenda Action

6.0 Welcome Public, Vision and Mission Statements

7.0 Presentation of Minutes

7.1 Regular Minutes of February 25, 2025 Action

8.0 REPORTS

A) Chair's Report

B) Board Committees

C) Board Representatives to External Organizations

D) Administration Reports

9.0 NEW BUSINESS

A) Action Items

9.1 Capital Planning (T. Sabir) Action

B) Information Items

9.2 Monthly Enrolment Monitoring Report - February 2025 (T. Sabir) Info

9.3 Budget Announcement Reporting (T. Sabir) Info

9.4 Advocacy Planning (J. Grimsdale) Info

10.0 Round Table Discussion

11.0 School Monitoring Report Visit

11.1	Wheatland Elementary School	Info
11.2	Trinity Christian Academy	Info
11.3	Wheatland Crossing School	Info

12.0 ADJOURNMENT



MINUTES

Golden Hills School Division

Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees

Location: Boardroom of the Golden Hills School Division

Start Time: 9:30 AM

Tuesday, February 25, 2025 (9:30 AM)

1.0 Attendance

Present:

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

Absent:

- e) Deputy Superintendent
 - Wes Miskiman

2.0 Call to Order

Chair Huntley called the meeting to order at 9:27 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.

Chair Initials _____ Secretary Treasurer Initials _____

4.0 In Camera

4.1 In Camera

Recommendation: BD#202580225.1001

MOVED by Trustee Northcott that the Board of Trustees go In Camera at 9:27 AM.

Carried

4.2 Out of In Camera

Recommendation: BD#20250225.1002

MOVED by Trustee Mertz that the Board of Trustees rise from In Camera at 10:36 AM.

Carried

Recessed at 10:36 AM

Reconvened at 10:52 AM

5.0 Approval of Agenda

5.1 Approval of Agenda

Recommendation: BD# 20250225.1003

MOVED by Trustee Pirie 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 January 21, 2025

Recommendation: BD# 20250225.1004

MOVED by Trustee Mertz that the Board of Trustees approve the Regular Minutes of January 21, 2025, as presented.

Carried

8.0 REPORTS

A) Chair's Report

Chair Huntley presented information on the following topics:

- Discussed Alberta Medical Association request letter for support - reinstate funding for PUF.
- May 27, 2025, Public School Boards of Alberta (PSBAA) President Dennis MacNeil and Executive Director, Troy Tait will be meeting with the Board of Trustees May 27, 2025.
- Invitation from MLA Chantelle de Jonge to attend International Women's Celebration on March 15, 2025.
- Discussed Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) summary of Ministers meeting.
- Note: need to select a date for Council of Councils meeting.
- Discussed potential partnerships with the Town of Strathmore.
- March 18, 2025, Alberta Teachers Association (ATA) Zoom meeting for Trustees.

B) Board Committees

No information to report on at this time.

Chair Initials _____ Secretary Treasurer Initials _____

C) Board Representatives to External Organizations

Chair Huntley presented information on the Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Zone 5 meeting held February 7, 2025.

- Trustee Northcott wasn't able to attend the meeting due to a prior engagement.
- Discussion and presentation of reports were based around the following information items:
 - Bylaws Discussions, Voting Regulations, Real Property Governance, Antisemitism Limitations, Trustee Code of Conduct.
- Invitation to the Canadian School Boards Association (CSBA) Congress and National Trustee Gathering on Indigenous Education Conference in Winnipeg, MB being held July 2-5, 2025.
- Discussion on ASBA, what role should they play in bargaining?
- May 30, 2025 - Edwin Parr Awards Ceremony.

Trustee Kletke presented information on the Public School Boards' Association of Alberta meeting held February 5-7, 2025.

- Learning sessions
- Guest Speaker, Ryan Jespersen, host of Real Talk - daily talk show, longtime radio and TV host.
- Discussed Bill 13 - Real Property Governance Act, how this effects school boards?

Trustee Northcott presented information on the Rural School Board Caucus (RSBC) meeting that took place at the Alberta Rural Education Symposium (ARES) held March 2-4, 2025.

- Edwin Parr Awards will be held May 30, 2025, location is still to be determined. Candidate interviews will take place April 8, 2025.

D) Administration Reports

Secretary Treasurer Sabir presented information on the following topics:

- Facilities Update:
 - Westmount Elementary Water Main Break - Golden Hills will be replacing sewer and waterlines this summer.
 - Trinity Christian Academy Flooring will be installed over the February 17-21, 2025, school break.
 - Dr. Elliott and Carbon Schools Partial Roof Replacement Tender will be posted to the Alberta Purchasing Site (APC) on March 3, 2025.
- Finance Update:
 - Charity Returns, T4 and T4A's will be going out by the end of February.
 - Government Reporting Entity (GRE) Report is currently underway, will be filed by March 15, 2025.
 - Internal Audit has expanded to testing of capital assets, goal is to streamline our external audit at year end and reduce organizational risk.
 - March 6, 2025, Golden Hills will be hosting the Secretaries In Service.
- Transportation Update:
 - Two drivers passed their road tests in January, another three road tests will be happening early March.
 - Currently three routes are being driven by relief drivers.

Superintendent Grimsdale presented information on the following topics:

- Working on a draft Strategic Artificial Intelligence (AI) Plan, consulting with Dr. Charmaine Brooks, completed a gap analysis review of our policies and administrative procedure. Next step, working on updating and revising some administrative procedures on AI.

Chair Initials _____ Secretary Treasurer Initials _____

- Long Service Awards (LSA), will be held on May 29th at the Travelodge in Strathmore, AB.
- Human Resources Update:
 - Five (5) administrative appointments and five (5) new administrative postings in February.
 - Director of Learning - Linda Tucker (effective August 15, 2025)
 - Director of Human Resources - Jody Lammler (effective August 15, 2025)
 - Principal Appointment - Michelle Hilton - Crowther Memorial Jr High (effective 2025/2026 school year)
 - Principal Appointment - Chantelle Van Otterloo - Trochu Valley School (effective 2025/2026 school year)
 - Acting Vice Principal - Michael Bradford - Strathmore High School (effective January 31, 2025)
 - Over 60 teaching position postings in February.

Recessed at noon
Reconvened at 12:58 PM

9.0 NEW BUSINESS

A) Action Items

9.1 Budget Development Process (T. Sabir)

Recommendation: BD#20250225.1005

MOVED by Trustee Kletke that the Board of Trustees adopts the Budgeting Principles and a timeline for the 2025/2026 fiscal year subject to a potential review following a provincial budget announcement.

Carried

9.2 School Name (T. Sabir)

Recommendation: BD#20250225.1006

MOVED by Trustee Northcott that the Board of Trustees approves the name change of Dr. Elliott Community School to Dr. Elliott School.

Carried

B) Information Items

9.3 Monthly Enrolment Monitoring Report - January 2025 (T. Sabir)

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

9.4 Transportation Monitoring Report 2023-2024 (T. Sabir)

Secretary Treasurer Sabir presented information on the Transportation Monitoring Report for the year ending 2023/2024 and Budget information for 2023/2024. This report provides an opportunity to consider the impact of Transportation Policy on the education of students in the jurisdiction.

9.5 Advocacy Planning (J. Grimsdale)

Superintendent Grimsdale and the Board of Trustees will continue discussing advocacy planning.

Chair Initials _____ Secretary Treasurer Initials _____

10.0 Round Table Discussion

11.0 School Monitoring Report Visit

11.1 George Freeman School

Superintendent Grimsdale welcomed Principal, S. Dykema and Vice Principal, M. Laslo to the Board of Trustees meeting to present their schools Education Plan, Goals and Strategies within Literacy and Math and the promotion of Healthy Digital Citizenship. They also discussed partnerships with different affiliations and within the community. Superintendent Grimsdale and Chair Huntley thanked them for their informative presentation.

11.2 Carbon School

Superintendent Grimsdale welcomed Principal, R. Hatch to the Board of Trustees meeting to present his schools current education plan and results, community engagement and Powerful Learning strategies - focusing on the authentic engagement. In conclusion - Achieve, Believe and Connect. Superintendent Grimsdale and Chair Huntley thanked him for his informative presentation.

12.0 ADJOURNMENT

The Board of Trustees adjourn at 2:41 PM

Carried

Chair

Secretary Treasurer

Chair Initials _____ Secretary Treasurer Initials _____



CAPITAL PLANNING

"Inspiring confident, connected, caring citizens of the world"

March 25, 2025

Background:

In accordance with the guidelines set forth by Alberta Education and Alberta Infrastructure, it is mandated that Boards submit their annual capital planning priorities by the deadline of April 1, 2025. This planning process encompasses several considerations, such as leases, modular classrooms, modernizations, new schools, and replacement (new) schools.

Capital planning considers the following needs: leases, modular classrooms, modernizations, new schools, and replacement (new) schools. Alberta Education evaluates all requests according to factors such as utilization rates, facility condition, and enrollment patterns in order to establish the Provincial priorities that are eligible for funding approval.

It is pertinent to mention that the aging schools in South Kneehill County, with Greentree School in Drumheller and Dr. Elliott in Linden present ongoing challenges.

These schools will require modernization/replacement to facilitate 21st Century learning opportunities.

With Strathmore High School being the only public high school in Strathmore and the potential for population growth in Strathmore and the surrounding area, we should start planning to modernize and add to this facility to accommodate not only population growth but also evolving programming needs.

On March 1st, as part of the 2023 budget announcement, Westmount School in Strathmore was approved for planning dollars. We are now seeking funding for the design and construction of this new facility.

Recommendation:

That the Board of Trustees approves the request replacement schools for the following:

1. Greentree School - Replacement
2. Dr. Elliott School - Replacement
3. Strathmore High School - Modernization and Addition

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Jeff Grimsdale
Superintendent

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Tahra Sabir", written over a horizontal line.

Tahra Sabir
Secretary Treasurer



ENROLMENT BACKGROUNDER

"Inspiring confident, connected, caring citizens of the world"

March 25, 2025

Background:

The Board of Trustees regularly monitors enrolment and notes trends over time. Funding is primarily enrolment-driven, and monitoring and projecting enrolment trends informs the board's budgeting processes.

As per the attached monitoring report, information is provided on the September 30, 2024, enrolment of provincially funded students, Siksika funded students and International funded students.

Recommendation:

That the Board of Trustees receives the Enrolment Monitoring Report for information and for the record.

Jeff Grimsdale
Superintendent

Tahra Sabir
Secretary Treasurer

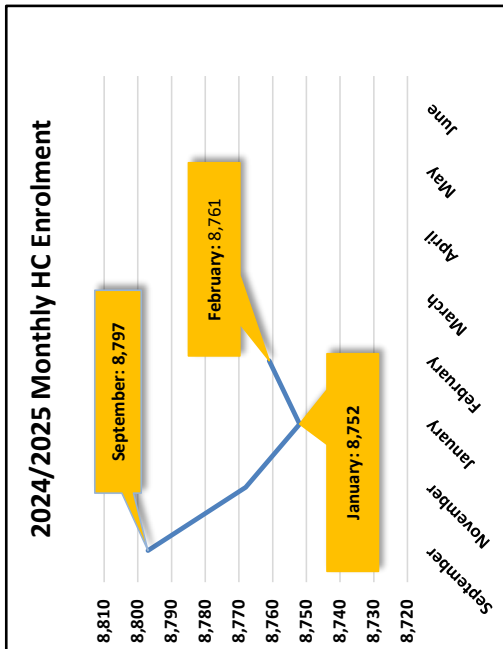
Golden Hills School Division Enrolment

Schools - Month to Month Comparison

Jan 31 to Feb 28, 2025

*Please note kindergarten adjusted to 1.0

* Enrolment information has been adjusted for the New Funding Model



Configuration	School	September 30, 2024*	February 28, 2025	January 31, 2025	Difference
K-6, 10-12	Acme School	225.00	226.00	221.00	5.00
K-9	Carbon School	60.00	57.00	58.00	-1.00
K-6	Carsland School	77.00	76.00	76.00	0.00
7-9	Crowther Memorial Jr. High School	466.00	469.00	469.00	0.00
K-9	Dr. Elliott Community School	191.00	193.00	193.00	0.00
7-12	Drumheller Valley Secondary School	364.00	367.00	363.00	4.00
K-6	École Brentwood Elementary School	186.00	187.00	186.00	1.00
K-9	George Freeman	476.00	476.00	473.00	3.00
K-6	Greentree School	361.00	369.00	370.00	-1.00
K-12	Prairie Christian Academy School	316.00	315.00	314.00	1.00
10-12	Strathmore High School	694.00	695.00	692.00	3.00
K-12	Three Hills School	449.00	449.00	448.00	1.00
K-9	Trinity Christian Academy	247.00	239.00	240.00	-1.00
K-12	Trochu Valley School	270.00	264.00	269.00	-5.00
K-6	Westmount School	372.00	370.00	368.00	2.00
K-12	Wheatland Crossing	326.00	325.00	326.00	-1.00
K-6	Wheatland Elementary School	310.00	318.00	318.00	0.00
	Sub Total	5,390.00	5,395.00	5,384.00	11.00
7-9	Colonies	405.00	396.00	396.00	0.00
7-12	Drumheller Outreach	12.00	17.00	17.00	0.00
1-12	Golden Hills Learning Academy	926.00	918.00	917.00	1.00
1-12	NorthStar Academy	394.00	394.00	394.00	0.00
7-12	Strathmore StoreFront	144.00	140.00	141.00	-1.00
	Sub Total	1,881.00	1,865.00	1,865.00	-
	Homeschool	882.00	877.00	879.00	-2.00
	Shared Responsibility	199.00	194.00	194.00	0.00
	Sub Total	1,081.00	1,071.00	1,073.00	-2.00
	Provincial Total	8,352.00	8,331.00	8,322.00	9.00
	Siksika	148.00	148.00	148.00	0.00
	International (Incl. Online)	297.00	282.00	282.00	0.00
	Sub Total	445.00	430.00	430.00	0.00
	Total HEADCOUNT	8,797.00	8,761.00	8,752.00	9.00



BUDGET ANNOUNCEMENT REPORTING

"Inspiring confident, caring citizens of the world"

March 25, 2025

Background:

On Thursday, February 28th, 2025, the Honorable Demetrios Nicolaidis, Minister of Education, provided an overview of the budget for the 2025/2026 fiscal year.

Once we receive the Funding Manual and our school divisions profile, we will have a better understanding, the specifics of the funding are essential for our budgeting strategies.

Below is a summary of the key points from the Alberta Education Budget 2025:

1. Enrolment Funding Method

- Switching from a 3-year weighted moving average model to a two-year average adjustment method:
 - 30% based on the current year
 - 70% based on upcoming year projections
- No supplemental growth grant
- No increase to the base funding grant
- No increase in home school funding grant

2. Diverse Needs

- Overall increase of 5%
- Grants increased by 2.32% for:
 - Specialized Learning Support
 - Moderate Language Delay
 - PUF, ESL, FNMI, and refugee student programs
- Introduction of new grants for Mental Health, Literacy, and Numeracy supports
- 20% increase in the Classroom Complexity Grant

3. Operations and Maintenance

- 3% grant increase
- Addition of a new supplemental rural allocation component

4. School Technology Grant

- Increased SuperNet funding
- Enhanced technology support, including IT security

5. Transportation & Socio Economic/Geographic Grants

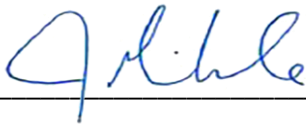
- Transportation funding increased by 2.32%
- Socio Economic & Geographic grants increased by 2.32%

6. Career Education

- Initiatives on dual credit and collegiate programs
 - Exploring further enhancements in career education with an increase of \$102M over three years
- Funding profiles will be available in mid-March, with the Funding Manual expected to be released in April. The key focus will be on understanding the detailed impact of the funding allocations.

Recommendation:

That the Board of Trustees receives the 2025/2026 Budget overview as information.



Jeff Grimsdale
Superintendent



Tahra Sabir
Secretary Treasurer



ADVOCACY PLANNING

"Inspiring confident, caring citizens of the world"

March 25, 2025

Background:

The Board's main priority is to advocate for quality education and equal programming opportunities for students at Golden Hills. To this end, the Board of Trustees maintains an Advocacy Committee with the purpose of developing advocacy priorities and a plan to share these concerns with the Golden Hills stakeholders and community, provincial authorities and other municipal officials.

Recommendation:

That the Board of Trustees consider potential updates of the Advocacy Plan for the 2024/2025 school year.

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Jeff Grimsdale
Superintendent