

2020

TO LEARN. TO GROW. TO BUILD A BETTER WORLD.

OCTOBER BOARD HIGHLIGHTS

PRESENTATIONS

Connecting with School Communities about Suicide: Hope and Resilience in Southeast Alberta.

On Oct 7, community leaders in education gathered for a live virtual event at the Medicine Hat College to connect with school communities about the mental health crisis that is happening in southeastern Alberta. Many staff and students are burdened by this crisis and not all are communicating openly about their concerns. In collaboration with national specialists the purpose of the event was to create awareness about how the worldwide pandemic can increase risk, educate each other on the best practices for having meaningful discussions about mental health, and discuss immediate and long-term interventions to identify pathways to local supports.

Over 100 questions were submitted for psychology professionals to address during the presentation. If you missed the event you can view it [**here**](#).

Thanks to a high volume of questions, another live event hosted by school psychology professionals has been scheduled to address the remaining concerns on Nov 4, from 7-8 p.m. Click to view the [**live virtual event**](#).



Connecting with School Communities about Suicide: Hope and Resilience in Southeast AB

ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

Enrolment Update: As of Sept 30, 2020 is 7087, a decrease of 4% from 2019-2020.

Provincial and diploma exam update: Alberta Education has decided to make the Nov diploma exams optional. Students and their parents/guardians will have the option to choose whether they will or will not write up until the day of the exam.

Alberta School Board Association (ASBA) Fall AGM: ASBA 2020 Fall Events will be held virtually with the business session on Nov 16, followed by a professional development session on Nov 17.

RECOGNITION & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

The Board would like to extend congratulations to all our teachers that will be inducted to the Alberta Teachers' Association Local No.1 on October 28, 2020.

ITEMS FOR ACTION

Accountability Pillar Results:

MHPSD achieved **"Very High"** results in:

- Safe & caring schools
- Program of studies
- Education quality
- School improvement

MHPSD achieved **"High"** results in:

- High school completion
- Drop out rate
- Work preparation
- Citizenship
- Parental involvement

These results demonstrated an improvement over our prior 3 year average, with a significant improvement demonstrated in safe & caring, education quality and school improvement categories. We attribute our success to the work our schools are doing with collaborative response. This work, connected through a system-wide support network, has **allowed schools to support whole and small group instruction and to improve the delivery of individual programming needs.**

ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING



CATHERINE WILSON, CHAIR

The Board is pleased to announce that **Catherine Wilson** was appointed to the Chair position by acclimation. We are grateful for Catherine's willingness to lead and her commitment to students in our MHPSD family. To complement the Board of Trustees, **Rick Massini** was voted into the position of Vice Chair.

TREATY 7 LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT



We acknowledge that we are on the traditional territory of the Blackfoot Confederacy and the people of Treaty 7 Region in Southern Alberta. We honour and acknowledge the homeland of the Métis people. We are grateful for the traditional

Knowledge Keepers and Elders who are still with us today and those who have gone before us.

FIVE UNIVERSAL GOALS

1. Provide **optimal learning environments** to all learners
2. Approach all people with an **inclusive mindset**
3. Foster a **culture of wellness**
4. Develop **leadership skills** among all members of the school community
5. Determined **focus on First Nation, Métis and Inuit student success**

MHPSD, WHERE KIDS COUNT!

NEXT BOARD MEETING – NOV 24, 2020

5:30 p.m. Board meetings are held in the MHPSD Central Office - Grant Henderson Learning Centre Board Room, 601 1st Ave SW.