

## **MINUTES DIVISION COUNCIL OF SCHOOL COUNCILS**

**DATE & TIME: Thursday, January 14th, 2021 7:00pm**

**LOCATION: Broadcast Virtual via Zoom due to COVID Restrictions**

**1. CALL TO ORDER: Rebeca Rothfus**

-Rebeca called the meeting to order at 7:00pm.

-In attendance: Gina Miller (Alexandra Middle School), Jennifer Stang (Connaught School), Karen Saffran + Tonielle Pavlovic (Crescent Heights High School), Shannon Welsh (Crestwood School), Joni Hunter (Elm Screen School), Karen Johnson (George Davison School), Tracy Wemyss (Herald School), Karen Allen (Medicine Hat Christian School), Rebeca Rothfus (Medicine Hat High School and co-chair of DCOSC), Jessie Ruckaber (Ross Glen School), Ammy Blenner-Hassett + Laine Nash (Vincent Massey School), Taneill Selinger (River Height School and secretary of DCOSC), Chelsey Cowan (co-chair of DCOSC), Val Browne (ATA Representative), Mike Flieger (Principal Representative), Catherine Wilson (school board chair and representative), Deborah Forbes (school board trustee) Mark Davidson (superintendent), Rick Massini (school board vice-chair), Jerry Labossiere (Secretary/Treasurer of school division), Corey Sadlemyer (Assistant Superintendent Inclusive Mindset), Lyle Cunningham (Deputy Superintendent), Tracy Hensel (Associate Superintendent), Claire Petersen (District Psychologist), Lee Krasilowez (Communications Coordinator)

**2. ROLL CALL FOR ATTENDANCE: Chelsey**

- Chelsey asked each in attendance to introduce self, school/position, and how many children

**3. ADOPTION OF MINUTES: Rebeca**

- Motion made by Gina Miller to adopt minutes from DCOSC meeting on November 19, 2020. Jennifer Stang seconded. Motion passed

**4. TREATY LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: Rebeca**

**5. DIVISION CALENDAR 2021-22: Lyle Cunningham**

- Document on School Board website. Chairs/cochairs bring to council meetings for feedback this month and report back to Lyle via email. A lot of work was put in to line up with sister schools, exam times, the municipal election, etc. Taneill Selinger asked about

the start of the 3rd quarter as to why it starts prior to the Easter Holidays and not afterward. They believed it had to do with diploma exam times.

6. UPDATES TO ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE: Jerry Labossiere

- Document 804 P 001 - Transportation of Students is on the website under DCOSC Jan. 14th meeting.
- A slideshow was presented of the document. It is to update the transportation policy. These policies were already in operation since COVID, just needed an updated document.
- Laine Nash asked if the updated rules are staying in place after COVID, Mark answered yes saying they should've had buss passes, attendance, assigned seats, and online registration a long time ago.
- Jennifer Stang asked if Connaught and River Heights will always plan to share busses. The answer was yes. There are 6 busses. Each route costs \$45,000 per year. To separate these routes would cost more and buss routes would become longer. There was further questions about River Heights and what makes it unique. Why it is not a community school. Deborah shared that it is a necessary program. It began in 1994/1995 with a group of teachers wanting to develop a school based on critical and creative thinking. It was controversial at the time but has led the district to formulate other schools based on the philosophy of River Heights. River Heights also does not draw enough students from it's demographical area and would cause other schools to be overcrowded if those students were not going there.

7. DIVISION SUPPORTS FOR COMMUNITY MENTAL HEALTH: Tracy Hensel and Claire Petersen

- Shared information on what our Division has been doing to help support our students, families, and community.
  - Division Psychologist (Claire), Division Counselling supports, Behaviour Emotional Support Team, Family School Liaison Workers (FSLW's), Mental Health Services Facilitator, School Counsellors, Child + Youth Care Worker, First Nations, Metis + Inuit Supports (FNMI), Success Coaches, and Community Workers
  - Virtual conversations with high school, middle school and elementary families about suicide, mental health supports, and connecting with school supports. Hundreds in attendance for all the sessions. Part one was October 7th, part two was November 4th, and part three split between December 1,2,3, and 10th.
  - FSLW's - 12 in team. Service used to be provided by AHS, but our division now hires their own. They are a connection between the schools and families. They also connect families to resources, provide one on one support for students and are a valuable resource for staff, students, and families. FSLW's went online in the spring. Really kept in communication with our kids in a difficult time.
  - Next steps will be virtual classroom and in person presentations.
  - Ammy Blenner-Hassett shared a thank you to Claire and Tracy as her family was affected this past summer.

- Chelsea Cowan commented that she wished there was a HUG program for parents. Tracy said she will talk to April Welshman about it.
- Claire shared that there are also parent evenings - "Circle of Security" by Joanne Stockman. They are offered virtually twice per year. Lee will check and send an email out when it will be offered again.
- Catherine Wilson shared that she is so glad this was brought to councils. It should be passed to the parent community. Especially with who to contact if need help during this time.
- Slideshow will be available on the website under DCOSC January 14th meeting.

#### 8. ANNUAL EDUCATION RESULTS REPORT AND 3 YEAR PLAN: Corey Sadlemyer

- Presented the Annual Education Results Report together with the 3 year plan. Both documents are on the division website under publications. [AERR 2020 3YR ED PLAN + AERR 2020 SUMMARY](#)
- Division is constantly in a planning cycle. In communication with administrators, teachers, staff, councils + parents, and students. Proud of survey results and number of parent responses (5700). New Ed plan is due May 31 to AB ED.
- Discussed Assurance - clarity, confidence, transparency. It is now provincial policy. Looking ahead to post pandemic planning. Our division has shown dramatic improvement in the report. Looking at strategies and evidence and COVID implications on education.
- Chelsey asked how parental involvement is measured. It is through the Accountability Pillar survey. There are questions on how involved parents are.

#### 9. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION: Mark Davidson

- Save the Date: ASCA Conference and AGM April 23-25, 2021. Will be held virtually.
- Agendas and Minutes are on Division Website under Publications and Division Council of School Councils. Agendas, minutes and other documents will be posted here along with newly approved Operating Procedures once they are signed. Joni will populate as needed.

#### 10. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION: Mark Davidson

- Revised Organizational Chart to include French Immersion (Jason Peter's role) now on the website. Under Central Office.
- Chelsey noted that sd76 emails for all chairs were sent out. Can forward to your personal account.
- Rebeca asked if there can be a distribution list for email populated with chairs/cochairs/ and vice chairs.

#### 11. TRUSTEE COMMENTS: Catherine Wilson

- Welcome back. Shared that the board is very excited to see middle school and high school students back in school after December in virtual school.

- Rick shared that he would like to see on the agenda at the March DCOSC meeting an opportunity to review the agenda for the ASCA AGM/conference.
- Catherine asked if it would work to provide the boardroom at the school district head office to watch the ASCA conference and AGM. Mark agreed and will look into it.

#### 12. MOTION TO ADJOURN: Chelsey

- For those that want to adjourn you are welcome to leave. Following the official part of the meeting is "Parking Lot Conversations". A place to discuss how things are going in each school council right now.
- Chelsey motioned to adjourn the official part of meeting at 8:29pm
- Future meeting dates: Thursday, March 25th, 2021 at 7pm, Thursday, May 13th, 2021 at 7pm

#### 13. PARKING LOT CONVERSATIONS

- Conversations went on for over 30 minutes. Discussed what platforms are used for meetings (google meet and zoom), social media (Facebook accounts), fundraising (bacon, plants, bingo... as well as giving ourselves grace in this time), lower meeting attendance and how to get in those new parents, community building when we can't do the big events, and more.

ADJOURNMENT 9:05PM