

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF MEDICINE HAT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 76 HELD IN THE BOARD ROOM IN THE SCHOOL DISTRICT ADMINISTRATION OFFICE ON TUESDAY, OCTOBER 11, 2016 AT 6:11 P.M.

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Mr. Rick Massini, Mrs. Catherine Wilson Fraser, Mr. Terry Riley, Ms. Deborah Forbes, Mrs. Carolyn Freeman

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mr. Mark Davidson, Superintendent of Schools
Mrs. Sherri Fedor, Associate Superintendent
Mr. Jerry Labossiere, Secretary Treasurer
Mr. Lyle Cunningham, Deputy Superintendent

OTHERS PRESENT: Ms. Jennifer Davies, Teacher, Crescent Heights High School
Mrs. Donna Balas, Regional Manager, RCSD
Azeez Badrudeen, Grade 10 Student, Crescent Heights High School
Ms. Afusat Badrudeen, Parent, Crescent Heights High School
Mr. Terry Freeman, Director of Programs and Instruction
Ms. Nadia Delanoy, Director of Programs and Instruction

CHAIR: Mr. Rick Massini

RECORDING SECRETARY: Mrs. Joni Treen

I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

55. Mrs. Wilson Fraser **THAT** the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED

II. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Presentation and adoption of the Minutes of the Regular Board meeting held on Tuesday, September 20, 2016, the Committee of the Whole meeting held on Tuesday, September 20, 2016.

56. Mrs. Freeman **THAT** the Minutes of the Regular Board meeting held on Tuesday, September 20, 2016 and Committee of the Whole meeting held on September 20, 2016 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

III. FIELD TRIPS

1. Crescent Heights High School Field Trip Request to Chicago, USA

Ms. Jennifer Davies, teacher at Crescent Heights High School requested permission for students from Crescent Heights High School to travel to Chicago, USA on May 17, 2016 through May 22, 2017.

It was recommended that the Board approve, in principle, a field trip for students from Crescent Heights High School to travel to Chicago, USA on May 17 through May 22, 2017, subject to the following conditions:

- a) that the Secretary Treasurer's Department give initial approval to the destination and that the submitted itinerary be approved;
- b) that the District's Student Waiver Forms be signed by all parents;
- c) that there be no cost to the Board, other than the cost of substitute teachers for approved supervising teachers traveling on the Field Trip;
- d) that any adults participating in the trip who are not designated supervisors be informed and sign a release that the Board does not accept any responsibility (liability or otherwise) as a result of their participation;
- e) that all students and designated chaperones are required to obtain the School District Travel Insurance (medical, trip cancellation/interruption and baggage).
- f) that criminal record checks be obtained for parent supervisors (non-district personnel);
- g) that the Principal/Teacher responsible continue to monitor and keep track of the travel advisories and ensure that students and parents are aware that the trip could be cancelled;
- h) that the Principal/Teacher comply with all criteria set out in Policy 770 and the International Travel Guidelines;
- i) that a letter be signed by each parent granting permission for their child to travel out-of-the-country with another specifically named adult;
- j) that each student be in possession of a passport, valid for at least six months beyond the expected return date;
- k) that each parent be given a copy of the letter from the Superintendent, re: measles immunization.

57. Ms. Forbes

THAT the Board approve, in principle, a field trip for students from Crescent Heights High School to travel to Chicago, USA on Wednesday, May 17, 2017 through Monday, May 22, 2017 subject to the conditions specified.

CARRIED

2. Azeez Badrudeen

Azeez Badrudeen, Grade 10 student at Crescent Heights High School, attended the United States US Space and Rocket Centre in Huntsville, Alabama from September 24 – 29, 2016 for the second time. Azeez was the recipient of the St. Louis Lighthouse Visions Scholarship which supported his trip. The focus of this scholarship is to pull together students from around the

world with culturally diverse backgrounds and who have a visual impairment. Scholarship winners were from Israel, Belgium, South Africa, Greece, Ireland and the United States and each recipient made a presentation at the opening ceremonies. Azeez was the only scholarship recipient representing Alberta. Elaine Todd, the Teacher of the Visually Impaired with Southeast Alberta RCSD nominated Azeez and he was accompanied by Donna Balas, Manager of Southeast Alberta RCSD. This educational adventure involved curriculum in space science, aviation, teamwork and simulated space and aviation missions.

Azeez made a presentation of his trip alongside chaperone Donna Balas and his mother.

IV. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Letter from Drew Barnes to Myplace Mental Health Capacity Building Projects

A letter of congratulations was sent from the office of Mr. Drew Barnes on behalf of the Constituents of Cypress-Medicine Hat to the Myplace Mental Health Capacity Building Projects for being awarded the Community Networking Award.

2. Letter from Minister of Education

A reply letter from Minister Eggen was shared following a letter sent from our Board of Trustees.

3. Thank you cards Re:Thelma Berkeley Robinson Scholarship

Brooklin Bellavance Katie Caparni
Esha Kaushish

4. Thank you cards Re: Grant Henderson Scholarship

Katie Caparni

V. RECOGNITIONS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. River Run

Congratulations and thank you to Elm Street School for hosting the annual River Flats Run on September 23, 2016. There were approximately 1,750 participants.

2. World Teachers' Day – October 5th

In recognition of World Teachers' Day on October 5, 2016, we would like to thank and recognize our teachers for their tremendous commitment, caring approach and

expertise that they foster in our schools. The work that they do with students, families and colleagues is outstanding.

3. Welcome Back BBQ

The Board sends its appreciation to the staff of Webster Niblock School for organizing the Hawaiian themed Welcome Back BBQ and to all staff and family members who attended the event. The evening provided excellent food, great entertainment and a time to spend with fellow employees, families and friends. It was great to feel the positive energy and to see the tremendous number of people out for this event.

VI. PRESENTATIONS

1. Assessment Initiative Update

The District continues to focus on the District goal of enhancing instruction to improve learning for all students. The focus of this work has shifted to assessment practice.

A presentation on the Assessment Initiative Update was provided by Ms. Delanoy and Mr. Freeman.

2. Student Services Team Plan

Annually, the District Student Services team identifies priorities for the next school year to align with the vision of the District and to support success for all learners. A plan is then developed to action these priorities to build capacity in the Student Services team and in schools. These plans are developed based on best practices and research.

Mrs. Fedor provided an update on the 2016-17 Student Services Team Plan.

VII. ITEMS FOR ACTION

1. Modular Classroom Program

The submission deadline to Alberta Education for requesting new modulators or relocating existing units for the 2016-2017 school year is November 1, 2016.

The District would like to request two new modulators for Dr. Ken Sauer School, and to move three modulators from Webster Niblock School; one to River Heights School and two to Connaught School.

58. Mr. Riley

THAT the Board of Trustees approve the request for two new modulars for Dr. Ken Sauer School, and to move three modulars from Webster Niblock School; one to River Heights School and two to Connaught School.

CARRIED

2. Policy Recommendations: October 3, 2016 Coordinating Committee Meeting

The Coordinating Committee reviewed, revised and recommended that the following Policies be forwarded to the Board of Trustees.

It was recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the following revised policies:

- a) Policy 212 – Policy on Policy Development and Review
- b) Policy 520 – Teacher Professional Growth, Supervision and Evaluation

59. Mrs. Wilson Fraser

THAT the Board of Trustees approve Policy 212 and Policy 520 as presented.

CARRIED

3. Accountability Pillar Results

Mr. Cunningham provided an overview of the District Accountability Pillar results.

November three year plan will include accountability pillars as well as feedback from the Thought Exchange Survey.

60. Mrs. Freeman

THAT the Board of Trustees receive the Accountability Pillar Results Report for information.

CARRIED

4. Nominations for Zone/Provincial Office of ASBA

The Alberta School Board Association Zone 6 will hold elections for a number of positions at its November meeting including Chair, Vice-Chair, Economic Representative and Edwin Parr Committee Chair.

Mr. Riley expressed interest in the position of Economic Representative.

61. Ms. Forbes

THAT the Board of Trustees nominate Terry Riley to act as the Economic Representative for the ASBA.

CARRIED

5. Student Leadership

Mr. Massini requested that the Board consider a \$1,000 budget to support sending two students to attend the PSBA Student Voice Conference in Edmonton in October, 2016. The PSBA is covering the registration costs for the students.

Mr. Riley suggested that the amount be increased to \$1,500.

62. Mr. Riley

THAT the Board of Trustees approve a \$1,500 budget to support sending two students to attend the PSBA Student Voice Conference in Edmonton in the event that they need separate accommodations.

CARRIED

VIII. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

1. Coordinating Committee

Minutes of the October 3, 2016 Coordinating Committee meeting were attached.

63. Mrs. Wilson Fraser

THAT the Board of Trustees approve the Minutes of the October 3, 2016 Coordinating Committee Meeting.

CARRIED

2. Medicine Hat Public Schools' Education Foundation

Mr. Massini advised that the Medicine Hat Public Schools' Education Foundation will be holding a retreat to determine the future of the Foundation.

IX. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

1. School Visit Reports

As part of the Board's goal of "Putting the Public Back into Public Education" trustees are visiting schools.

Ms. Forbes attended the Parent and Community Convention at River Heights School. This was an opportunity for parents to attend and see first hand how their children learn. She also visited Elm Street School.

Mrs. Freeman attended the River Run, was a presenter at the River Heights Parent evening and attended the District BBQ.

Mr. Riley visited the Medicine Hat Christian School.

Mrs. Wilson Fraser attended the parent council meeting at the Medicine Hat Christian School.

2. Petitions

Discussion took place regarding the two petitions that were received and deemed as insufficient by the Secretary Treasurer. Legal advice was sought by the District prior to the determination of insufficiency.

It was noted that when signing a petition one must reside in the jurisdiction and be a public school supporter.

The next options for the petitioners include:

- 1) Accept the decision
- 2) Appeal to the Court of Queen's Bench
- 3) Start a new petition

The Board's responsibility under the Act is to proceed as if the petition had not been presented.

3. Enrollment Update

The student enrollment numbers for the District as of September 30, 2016 were reviewed.

The total student enrollment as of September 30, 2016 is 7,418. This is an increase of 37 students over this time last year.

4. National School Boards Association Conference

The annual NSBA conference will be held on March 25 to 27, 2017 in Denver. The conference schedule is on the website – <http://www.nsba.org/conference>.

Registration opens on October 12, 2016 and accommodations can be arranged only after registration is complete.

5. PSBA Fall Event

The PSBA Fall Event will be held in Edmonton on October 19 to 21, 2016. Registration and a general overview are online at <http://www.public-schools.ab.ca>.

6. ASBA Fall General Meeting

The ASBA Fall Event and General Meeting will be held in Edmonton on November 21 to 22, 2016. Online registration is not available at this time.

X. MOVE TO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

64. Mrs. Forbes

THAT the Board move to Committee of the Whole to discuss certain confidential matters.

CARRIED

The Board moved to Committee of the Whole at 8:03 p.m.

XI. RECONVENE TO OPEN BOARD MEETING

The Board reconvened to the open board meeting at 8:37 p.m.

XII. ACTION ARISING OUT OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MEETING

No action arising.

XIII. ADJOURNMENT

65. Mrs. Freeman

THAT the meeting adjourn.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:37 p.m.

CHAIR

SECRETARY TREASURER