

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 ADMINISTRATION OFFICE ON TUESDAY, NOVEMBER 25, 2014 AT 6:00 P.M.

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

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Dr. Grant Henderson, Superintendent of Schools
Mrs. Sherri Fedor, Associate Superintendent
Mr. Lyle Cunningham, Associate Superintendent
Mr. Jerry Labossiere, Secretary Treasurer

OTHERS PRESENT: Mr. Glen Mori, Teacher, Medicine Hat High School
Ms. Judy Hillier, Director of Primary Services
Mrs. Joanne Stockman, Early Learning Coordinator
Mr. Terry Freeman, Director of Programs and Instruction
Mrs. Leanne Dulle, Assistant Secretary Treasurer

CHAIR: Mr. Terry Riley

RECORDING SECRETARY: Mrs. Angie Lesko

I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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

CARRIED

II. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Presentation and adoption of the Minutes of the Organizational Meeting held on Tuesday, October 21, 2014, Regular Board meeting held on Tuesday, October 21, 2014, Committee of the Whole meetings held on Tuesday, October 21, 2014 and Tuesday, November 4, 2014, and Special Meeting held on Tuesday, November 4, 2014.

36. Mrs. Freeman **THAT** the Minutes of the Organizational Meeting held on Tuesday, October 21, 2014, Regular Board meeting held on Tuesday, October 21, 2014, Committee of the Whole meetings held on Tuesday, October 21, 2014 and Tuesday, November 4, 2014, and Special Meeting held on Tuesday, November 4, 2014 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

III. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Thank you cards from District students re: Thelma Berkeley Robinson Scholarship

Jessica Schmitt
Melanie Fischer
Bretonnie Gillis
John Berger
Sally Zhou
Alyssa Fu

2. Thank you card from District students re: Woollven Family Scholarship

Kate Olechowski
Jayden Smith
3. Thank you card from Jordan Flaig re: Harry Fefferman Scholarship
4. Copy of letter dated October 20, 2014, from Gordon Dirks, Minister of Education, to Mr. Terry Riley, Board Chair, re: faith-based alternative programs
5. Copy of letter dated October 23, 2014, to Mayor Ted Clugston from Terry Riley, Chair, re: meeting

Discussion ensued regarding this letter and it was decided that the Board Chair should reach out to the City to discuss their position on this matter.
6. Copy of letter dated October 22, 2014, to Premier Prentice from Terry Riley, Chair, re: thank you for school in Ranchlands
7. Copy of letters dated October 22, 2014, to Minister of Education and Minister of Infrastructure from Terry Riley, Chair, re: thank you for attending the Grand Opening of the Dr. Roy Wilson Learning Centre
8. Copy of letter dated October 24, 2014 to Mr. Terry Riley, Chair, from Minister Bhullar, Infrastructure, re: thank you
9. Copy of letter dated November 6, 2014 from City of Medicine Hat Council, re: meeting

IV. RECOGNITIONS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. McMan REAL Program

Blue Sky Music made a donation to McMan REAL Program with which they purchased 4 keyboards. A piano/keyboard teacher will be going into the school each week to give the students a lesson. The students are very excited about this new program and opportunity.

37. Ms. Forbes

THAT the Chair write a letter to Blue Sky Music to thank them for their generous donation.

CARRIED

2. Young Moms' Program

Students in the Young Moms' Program have been volunteering their time reading to students at Webster Niblock School.

Additionally, Connaught School has donated boxes of books to the Young Moms' Program for their children. Students each picked 10 books to take home to read to their own children and to create a library in their home.

38. Ms. Forbes

THAT the Chair write letters to the Teen Moms' Program and Connaught School to thank them for the partnerships they have created.

CARRIED

3. ATA Inductees

Congratulations to all teachers inducted into the Alberta Teachers' Association Local No. 1 on November 3, 2014. We are very pleased to have these teachers in our District.

4. Remembrance Day Ceremonies

Many of the schools held Remembrance Day ceremonies. We would like to extend our appreciation to the staff for helping the students recognize the importance of this day.

5. WE Day

A special thank you is extended to our staff for their commitment and support of WE Day on November 3rd. The students had an incredible experience due to this commitment.

The Board indicated that they would like to see a presentation from attendees regarding the November 3rd WE Day event.

6. United Way Donation to Elm Street School

The District expresses its appreciation to the United Way for the donation of \$20,000 for the greenhouse repair at Elm Street School.

39. Mr. Massini

THAT the Chair write a letter to United Way thanking them for the tremendous support of the Elm Street greenhouse project.

CARRIED

7. Rangeland Football

Congratulations to Medicine Hat High School and Crescent Heights High School for competing in the Rangeland Football league finals this year. Medicine Hat High School ended up winning a very good game. It is a celebration of the commitment of staff and students.

8. Sports Involvement

Congratulations are extended to the many students and staff who were involved in the sports programs this fall. These activities help students set goals, gain an understanding of teamwork and gain confidence. Thanks to all those involved!

9. 7 Habits

Congratulations to one staff member, Maria Thompson, 5 students from Crestwood School and one student from Medicine Hat High School who recently attended a book tour for the release of the 2nd Edition of the "Leader in Me". The staff and students were highlighted at the event and clearly their depth of understanding and capacity to live the 7 Habits was very evident. Thank you for representing our District so well.

40. Ms. Forbes

THAT letters be written to Crestwood School and MHHS, congratulating them on their success.

CARRIED

V. PRESENTATIONS

1. Japanese Exchange

Mr. Glen Mori, teacher at Medicine Hat High School, made a presentation to the Board on the highlights of the Japanese Exchange trip in July.

2. Early Learning Update

Medicine Hat School District No. 76 has increased the number of Early Learning Programs being offered and currently provides 11 Early Learning programs in 9 elementary schools. The District is moving toward the goal of having one in each of our elementary schools.

Critical periods of brain development occur in the early years and early learning is a foundational piece in achieving the vision of an educated Albertan in 2030 as engaged thinkers and ethical citizens with an entrepreneurial spirit.

3. Achievement Test/Diploma Exams 2013-2014 Results

Dr. Henderson provided an overview of the Achievement Test and Diploma Exam results and stated that overall the report reflects success in many areas.

4. Curriculum Redesign Update

The District continues its participation in the curriculum prototyping project with the Calgary Board of Education Consortium. The focus of this group is Grades 4 to 12 in

the subject areas of Arts Education, English Language Arts, Mathematics, Science, Social Studies and Wellness.

Curriculum redesign benefits will include an increased focus on literacy and numeracy, with a greater emphasis on cross-curricular competencies. The next steps in the process will be to gather and apply lessons learned from the SLA 3 Pilot and to continue work on the development of provincial resource strategies.

Alberta Education will still be responsible for the final draft of curriculum and there will continue to be some form of provincial assessment. The proposed timeline for the completion of the curriculum development prototype is January 2015.

The Board indicated an interest in seeing examples of deliverables at a future meeting.

VI. ITEMS FOR ACTION

1. Annual Education Results Report and Education Plan

An overview of the Annual Education Results Report and Three-Year Education Plan was provided. It was noted that District enrolment has increased by 465 students over a period of four years and class size data indicates that 8 of 13 elementary schools are below the targeted ratios.

The District continues to build upon its understanding and use of cooperative learning with continued work around Tribes and Kagan. In addition, 4 schools are participating in a 5 day Kagan training course, which will take place over two years.

It was noted that the Audited Financial Statement will be inserted into the booklet once the statement has been approved.

41. Mrs. Freeman

THAT the Board approve the Annual Education Results Report and Three-Year Education Plan, subject to the Board approval and addition of the Audited Financial Statement.

CARRIED

2. Audited Financial Statement

An external audit is required on an annual basis. The Board's appointed auditors, JMH & Co., have completed their audit of the financial results for the year ending August 31, 2014.

The Audited Financial Statements were presented to the Board for their review and adoption as the official

financial results for the year ending August 31, 2014. The yearend financial results for 2013-2014 reflect a surplus of \$1,767,243.

42. Ms. Forbes

THAT the Board approve the Audited Financial Statements for the year ending August 31, 2014, as presented.

CARRIED

3. Budget 2014-2015 – Fall Update

As is required by Alberta Education, a fall update to the budget was presented to the Board. Mr. Labossiere reviewed the changes from the spring budget which included changes to student enrolments, staffing and grant increases.

With the addition of 100 students and six certificated teachers, as well as some budget adjustments, there is an anticipated operating surplus of \$748,200.

43. Mr. Massini

THAT the Board approve the Fall Budget Update 2014-2015, as presented.

CARRIED

4. Committee Appointments

Mr. Terry Riley, Board Chair, presented recommended appointments to the Board Standing Committees, as follows:

Coordinating Committee	Catherine Wilson Fraser
ATA Negotiating	Deborah Forbes (Chair) Mr. Rick Massini
Teacher Board Advisory	Catherine Wilson Fraser Deborah Forbes
CUPE/CUPE Board Advisory	Terry Riley (Chair) Catherine Wilson Fraser
Non-organized	Rick Massini - Chair Carolyn Freeman
District Council of School Councils	Carolyn Freeman Grant Henderson
Public School Boards Association	Catherine Wilson Fraser Terry Riley (Alternate)
ASBA Zone 6	Catherine Wilson Fraser Terry Riley (Alternate)

44. Mrs. Wilson Fraser

THAT the Board approve Committee appointments as per the Chair's recommendation.

CARRIED

5. Letter of Appreciation

Dr. Ken Sauer and Dr. Larry Henderson were founding members of the Medicine Hat Public Schools Education Foundation and have contributed countless hours while serving on many committees for the District Foundation.

45. Mr. Massini

THAT the Board approve letters of appreciation, along with a token of appreciation, to be sent from the Board Chair to Dr. Sauer and Dr. Henderson expressing our appreciation for their contribution to the Medicine Hat Public Schools Education Foundation.

46. Mrs. Freeman

THAT an amendment be made to the motion to indicate that the token gift will be chosen at the discretion of the Board Chair.

CARRIED

47. Mr. Massini

THAT the Board approve letters of appreciation, along with a token of appreciation chosen at the discretion of the Board Chair, to be sent from the Board Chair to Dr. Sauer and Dr. Henderson expressing appreciation for their contribution to the Medicine Hat Public Schools Education Foundation.

CARRIED

VII. 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. This is a chance to share the governance perceptions from trustees in this goal.

Mrs. Forbes visited Elm Street School a number of times and has been very impressed with the music program at the school.

Mr. Massini attended parent council meetings at MHHS and Crestwood School, and delivered service awards to his designated schools. He was also interviewed by Connaught School for their CNN Connaught News Network.

Mrs. Freeman attended 5 Halloween parties and was a celebrity reader at Crestwood School.

Mrs. Wilson Fraser was a celebrity reader at Crestwood School and attended the parent council meeting at Vincent Massey School.

2. **Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Zone 6 Meeting**

The ASBA Zone 6 General Meeting was held on November 12, 2014. An overview of the meeting was shared.

3. **Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) Conference**

The ASBA Conference and FGM was held on November 16-18, 2014. An overview of the meeting was shared.

4. **National School Boards Association (NSBA) Conference**

The annual NSBA conference will be held on March 21-23, 2015 in Nashville, Tennessee. The Conference Schedule is available on the website - <http://www.nsba.org/conference>. Registration is now open and accommodations can be arranged only after registration is completed.

5. **Canadian School Boards Association (CSBA) Congress**

The annual CSBA Congress will be held in Saskatoon, Saskatchewan on July 2 to 4, 2015. The CSBA Congress is a chance to meet and share with other trustees from across the country. As further information becomes available, conference details will be posted on the CSBA website www.cdnsba.org.

6. **Drama/Musical Presentations**

a) **Crescent Heights High School**

Crescent Heights High School has planned two musical/drama productions this school year.

Get Smart - a Comedy Play Theatre Arts Class Production will run from November 25-28, 2014.

All Shook Up - a Musical School Wide Production will run from February 4-13, 2015.

b) **Medicine Hat High School**

Medicine Hat High School has planned four musical/drama productions this school year.

Big Fish (Musical) - December 11-14 & 16-19

SKETCHlock - February 27

Pilot Lights Theatre Festival - April 21-23, 2015

William Shakespeare's Land of the Dead - June 4-6, 2015

VIII. MOVE TO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

48. Mrs. Wilson Fraser

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

CARRIED

The Board moved to Committee of the Whole at 8:42 p.m.

IX. RECONVENE TO OPEN BOARD MEETING

The Board reconvened to the open board meeting at 8:50 p.m.

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

1. Central Office Modernization

49. Mr. Massini

THAT the Board approve the recommendation for the central office modernization.

CARRIED

9:51 p.m. Mrs. Freeman recused herself
stating a conflict of interest

2. Memorandum of Agreement with ATA

50. Mrs. Wilson Fraser

THAT the Board approve the Memorandum of Agreement, as presented.

CARRIED

XI. ADJOURNMENT

51. Mrs. Freeman

THAT the meeting adjourn.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 9:52 p.m.

CHAIR

SECRETARY TREASURER