

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, JUNE 20, 2017 AT 6:00 P.M.

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

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mr. Mark Davidson, Superintendent
Mrs. Tracy Hensel, Associate Superintendent
Mr. Jerry Labossiere, Secretary Treasurer

OFFICIALS ABSENT: Mr. Lyle Cunningham, Deputy Superintendent

OTHERS PRESENT: Mrs. Laura Gale, Teacher, River Heights School
Ms. Michelle Schneider, Teacher, Crescent Heights High School
Miss Keriann Szemethy, Student, Medicine Hat High School
Ms. Jennifer Davies, Teacher, Crescent Heights High School
Ms. Heather McCaig, Teacher, Crescent Heights High School
Mr. Pat Grisonich, Principal, Crescent Heights High School

CHAIR: Mr. Rick Massini

RECORDING SECRETARY: Mrs. Angie Lesko

I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Addition under:

Items for Action

3. Policy 515 and Policy 535

147. Mrs. Freeman **THAT** the agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED

II. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Presentation and adoption of the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, May 16, 2017, and the Committee of the Whole meeting held on Tuesday, May 16, 2017.

148. Ms. Forbes **THAT** the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on Tuesday, May 16, 2017, and the Committee of the Whole meeting held on Tuesday, May 16, 2017, be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

III. **CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Thank you card from Tristan Milne Re: Thelma Berkeley Robinson Scholarship

IV. **RECOGNITIONS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

1. **2016-2017 Prime Minister's Award for Teaching Excellence**

Two of Medicine Hat School District's teachers were in attendance to be recognized by the Board of Trustees for being awarded the 2016-2017 Prime Minister's Award for Teaching Excellence.

The District recognized and congratulated:

- Donna Armstrong, teacher at Crescent Heights High School
- Laura Gale, teacher at River Heights School

2. **Public School Board Association Student Voice Program**

On June 2, 2017 two high school students from Crescent Heights High School: Zachary Stewart and Nicole Skaggs, and one high school student from Medicine Hat High School: Keriann Szemethy travelled to Red Deer for the Student Voice Conference that was held on Saturday, June 3, 2017.

The students worked with 27 other students from around the province in preparation for an afternoon of dialogue with the Minister of Education, Honourable David Eggen.

Keriann Szemethy was in attendance to share her experience.

3. **Medicine Hat Kiwanis Club**

Medicine Hat School District would like to recognize the Medicine Hat Kiwanis Club for their sponsorship of the *Run, Jump and Throw* event held in Medicine Hat on June 6, 2017. Approximately 250 to 300 young people ages 7-14 participated as well as volunteers from all over, including Crescent Heights High School staff and students.

Kiwanis believes in helping all our children in the community "one child at a time".

149. Mr. Riley

THAT a letter be sent on behalf of the Board, thanking the Medicine Hat Kiwanis Club for the work they do with young people in the community.

CARRIED

V. PRESENTATIONS

1. Crescent Heights High School Presentation: Trip to Chicago

Ms. Jennifer Davies and Crescent Heights High School students travelled to Chicago from May 17 to May 22, 2017. Ms. Davies and Mr. Grisonich were in attendance to share the educational highlights of their trip.

Ms. Davies also shared a number of accomplishments her students have achieved at the Alberta Provincial Music Festival. In addition, Ms. Davies has received two letters from the Legislative Assembly, from Drew Barnes and Bob Wanner, congratulating them on the success of their *Bonnie and Clyde* production.

VI. ITEMS FOR ACTION

1. Crescent Heights High School Field Trip Request for Approval in Principle

It was recommended that the Board approve, in principle, a field trip for Michelle Schneider, teacher from Crescent Heights High School to travel to New York for the period Saturday, March 3, 2018 to Thursday, March 8, 2018 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.

150. Ms. Forbes

THAT the Board approve, in principle, a field trip for Michelle Schneider, teacher from Crescent Heights High School to travel to New York for the period Saturday, March 3, 2018 to Thursday, March 8, 2018 subject to the conditions specified.

CARRIED

2. Crescent Heights High School Field Trip Request for Approval in Principle

It was recommended that the Board approve, in principle, a field trip for Heather McCaig, teacher from Crescent Heights High School to travel to Washington and Boston for the period Wednesday, March 28, 2018 to Tuesday, April 3, 2018 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.

151. Mrs. Wilson Fraser

THAT the Board approve, in principle, a field trip for Heather McCaig, teacher from Crescent Heights High School to travel to Washington and Boston for the period Wednesday, March 28, 2018 to Tuesday, April 3, 2018 subject to the conditions specified.

CARRIED

3. Policy 515 and Policy 535

In light of changes in the provincial Memorandum of Agreement, it was felt that Policy 515 - Assigned Time for School-Based Professional Staff has become redundant.

It was noted that Policy 535 - Recognition for Major Secondary Extra-Curricular Activities makes reference to Policy 515 and should be reviewed.

152. Mr. Riley

THAT Policy 515 (Assigned Time for School-Based Professional Staff) be rescinded and Policy 535 (Recognition for Major Secondary Extra-Curricular Activities) be referred to the Executive Officers for review, with proposed amendments to be brought back to the Board in September.

CARRIED

VII. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

1. Alberta School Board Association - Zone 6 Meeting

The ASBA Zone 6 General Meeting was held on May 10, 2017. An overview of this meeting was provided.

Some concern was expressed regarding the fee schedule put forward by the provincial government. The ASBA has requested that each school board send a letter to the Ministry indicating their concerns with the fee schedule.

153. Mr. Riley

THAT the Chair write a letter on behalf of the Board, in consultation with the Secretary Treasurer, indicating the Board's concerns regarding the fee schedule, in particular the fees related to extracurricular activities.

CARRIED

2. Public School Board Spring General Assembly

The PSBA General Meeting was held on June 2 to 4, 2017. An overview of the meeting was shared.

3. Alberta School Boards Spring General Meeting

The ASBA Spring General Meeting was held on June 5 to 6, 2017. An overview of the discussions was shared.

4. Canadian School Board Association

The CSBA Congress will be held on July 5 to 8, 2017 in Whistler, British Columbia.

Details on the conference and registration is available at: <http://csba2017.ca/>

Accommodations have been made at the Conference Hotel; Fairmont Chateau Whistler. Trustees were asked to let Joni Treen know by June 23rd if they would like a room booked.

VIII. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

1. Trustee Reports

As part of the Board's goal of "Putting the Public Back into Public Education" Trustees reported on their activities since the previous meeting.

Mrs. Freeman attended George Davison School Council meeting, Dr. Henderson Tribute and Mural Presentation, *Peter and the Star Catcher* at MHHS, the golf tournament banquet, the District Appreciation Dinner, the retirement tea for Sherri Fedor, as well as the ASBA Zone 6 meeting.

Ms. Forbes attended *Peter and the Star Catcher* at MHHS and the River Heights School Council meeting.

Mr. Riley attended a number of conferences regarding the provincial ATA Agreement.

Mrs. Wilson Fraser attended the District Appreciation Dinner, ATA Retirement evening, MHC Pathway Gala- Student Life Enhancement, as well as *Peter and the Star Catcher* at MHHS, and the Dr. Henderson Tribute and Mural Presentation at Southview Community School. In addition, she attended the Gloria Schirok Retirement Tea, PSBAA Spring General Meeting and the Run Jump and Throw Track Meet.

Mr. Massini attended the CHHS grad ceremony and banquet, Dr. Henderson Tribute and Mural Presentation at Southview Community School, *Peter and the Star Catcher* at MHHS, School Council meetings at Webster Niblock School and MHHS, the District Appreciation Dinner, the Education Foundation meeting and the retirement tea for Sherri Fedor, as well as met with representatives from the *Concerned Parents of SD76* group.

2. **Classroom Improvement Fund (CIF)**

A proposal was submitted and approved for the distribution of the \$913,000 allocated to our District. Staff is to be in place and model development and collaboration is to have begun for September 2017.

Supported Embedded Collaboration: \$837,500

(All to be used to hire teachers or add FTE to current, part-time teaching staff)

This FTE will go to schools to support “job embedded” collaboration time intended to support two initiatives; the development of site based collaborative response models and the creation of opportunities for professional staff to work with their peers and Optimal Learning Consultants on self-identified and collaboratively determined professional learning goals and support of individual students.

Special Behaviour Support Team: \$60,250

- **Specialized Educational Assistant (Cost \$35,000)**

A highly skilled and specially trained EA who will work with EAs and Teachers to share their experience and strategies for success. Again, this individual will work in a way that the current classroom team sees as most supportive.

- **Family School Liaison Worker (Cost \$25,250)**

Our District applied for a grant through the City of Medicine Hat FCSS for a Family School Liaison Worker. We were successful and have been awarded a grant that provides funding for 18 months of service beginning January 1, 2018. This amount covers the cost of the FSLW from August 15, 2017 to December 31, 2017.

This person will work with the team to provide non-threatening, client services to families. She/he will work to connect families with services and supports ranging from respite care to parenting skills and so on. The goal is to help stabilize families where said instability is a source of, or a contributing factor to, a student's behavioral challenges.

It was noted that this is one-time funding with no guarantee of extension.

IX. MOVE TO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

154. Mrs. Freeman

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

CARRIED

X. RECONVENE TO OPEN BOARD MEETING

The Board moved to Committee of the Whole at 7:26 p.m.

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

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

155. Ms. Forbes

THAT the Board approve Property Matter #2017-03, as discussed.

CARRIED

XII. ADJOURNMENT

156. Mrs. Wilson Fraser

THAT the meeting adjourn.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 8:38 p.m.

CHAIR

SECRETARY TREASURER