

MINUTES OF THE **REGULAR MEETING** OF THE MEDICINE HAT PUBLIC BOARD OF TRUSTEES
HELD IN THE **BOARD ROOM** IN THE **SCHOOL DIVISION ADMINISTRATION OFFICE** ON **TUESDAY
OCTOBER 24, 2023** AT 3:16 P.M.

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Catherine Wilson, Pat Grisonich, Deborah Forbes, Rick Massini,
Yvonne Sissons

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mark Davidson, Superintendent of Schools
Jerry Labossiere, Secretary Treasurer
Tracy Hensel, Associate Superintendent: Student Services
Jason Peters, Associate Superintendent: Human Resources
Corey Sadlemyer, Associate Superintendent: Learning

OTHERS PRESENT: Alexis Unreiner, Student Delegate, Medicine Hat High School

CHAIR: Catherine Wilson

RECORDING SECRETARY: Marley Steinwandt

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 3:15 p.m.

II. MOVE TO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

21. R. Massini

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

CARRIED

The Board moved to Committee of the Whole at 3:16 p.m.

III. RECONVENE TO OPEN BOARD MEETING

The Board reconvened to the open board meeting at 5:45
p.m.

IV. 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.

V. INTRODUCTION OF STUDENT DELEGATES

The Board of Trustees welcomes Medicine Hat High School student
delegate: Alexis Unreiner.

VI. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

22. Y. Sissons

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED

VII. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Presentation and adoption of the Minutes of the Regular Board meetings held on, **Thursday, September 21, 2023, Tuesday, September 26, 2023, Tuesday, October 10, 2023, and Monday, October 16, 2023**, the Committee of the Whole meetings held on **Thursday, September 21, 2023, Tuesday, September 26, 2023, Tuesday, October 10, 2023, and Monday, October 16, 2023**.

23. D. Forbes

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board meetings held on Thursday, September 21, 2023, Tuesday, September 26, 2023, Tuesday, October 10, 2023, and Monday, October 16, 2023, the Committee of the Whole meetings held on Thursday, September 21, 2023, Tuesday, September 26, 2023, Tuesday, October 10, 2023, and Monday, October 16, 2023 be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

VIII. RECOGNITION/ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. World Teacher Day, Orange Shirt Day, The National Day for Truth and Reconciliation Day and Mental Health Awareness Day

Medicine Hat Public School Division (MHPSD) celebrated the important work of teachers on World Teacher Day, delivering fruit baskets to schools. MHPSD recognized Orange Shirt Day and the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation on September 29 with teachings and heartfelt messages from our First Nations Metis and Inuit (FNMI) Team. It is essential that we stop the stigma surrounding mental health, so we can connect with and support one another. We proudly showed our support on Mental Health Awareness Day by wearing bright colored clothing to help start new conversations about how we can care for one another.

Alexis, student delegate from MHHS, shared her appreciation for the teachings on September 29 and that it was not something that they learned about when she was in elementary school.

The board noted the positive changes that have been made in the last 5 years. It has created a complete change in the way we learn about and respect those who have come before us. Trustee Grisonich expressed his appreciation to students for their hard work in making these changes.

Superintendent Davidson shared his appreciation for the way young people are having real, meaningful conversations around mental health. Mental Health Awareness Day is about schools making space for people and letting them know they can ask for help. Alexis shared that there is a space at MHHS for students needing a break and presentations were provided to classes about the intention for the space.

2. Community Resources Fair

Medicine Hat Public School Division hosted community organizations and partners for a trade show style event, where attendees were able to learn about local organizations supporting our schools and families.

Associate Superintendent Hensel shared further information about the event. Mary Tulip, Family School Liaison Worker took the lead on organizing with help from Claire Peterson's team. Community partners were gathered in the Grant Henderson Learning Centre to provide information on available programs and supports to classroom support teachers, administration and families. There was a lot of energy in the room and participants were excited to see what other organizations were doing and how they fit together. The hope is to host this event every year.

IX. ITEMS FOR ACTION

1. Policy 506 – Suspension and Dismissal of Professional Staff

This policy has been revised and shared for feedback. It is recommended that the Board approve the update to the Policy as presented.

Associate Superintendent Peters shared that the policy has been updated to include protection for staff or multiple students.

24. P. Grisonich

THAT the Board approve Policy 506 – Suspension and Dismissal of Professional Staff, as presented.

CARRIED

X. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

1. Coordinating Committee

The Coordinating Committee held their meeting on Monday, October 2, 2023. The meeting minutes were enclosed for information.

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

No action arising.

XII. ADJOURNMENT

25. P. Grisonich

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 6:10 p.m.

CHAIR

SECRETARY TREASURER