

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF MEDICINE HAT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 76 HELD IN THE TEMPORARY BOARD ROOM IN MEDICINE HAT HIGH SCHOOL ON TUESDAY, DECEMBER 15, 2015 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: Mr. Lyle Cunningham, Acting Superintendent of Schools  
Mrs. Sherri Fedor, Associate Superintendent  
Mr. Boris Grisonich, Acting Associate Superintendent  
Mr. Jerry Labossiere, Secretary Treasurer

OTHERS PRESENT: Ms. Heather McCaig, Teacher, Crescent Heights High School  
Miss Kinley Brown, Student, Crescent Heights High School  
Miss Emily Patey, Student, Crescent Heights High School  
Mrs. Carla Carrier, Director of Student Services  
Ms. Nadia Delanoy, Director of Programs and Instruction  
Mr. Terry Freeman, Director of Programs and Instruction  
Mr. Darren Hirsch, Parent, Crescent Heights High School

CHAIR: Mr. Terry Riley

RECORDING SECRETARY: Mrs. Angie Lesko

**I. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

Addition under *Items for Action*:

3. Alternative Board Meeting Dates

37. Ms. Forbes

**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, November 24, 2015 and Committee of the Whole meetings held on Tuesday, November 24, 2015 and December 1, 2015.

38. Mrs. Freeman

**THAT** the Minutes of the Regular Board meeting held on Tuesday, November 24, 2015 and Committee of the Whole meetings held on Tuesday, November 24, 2015 and December 1, 2015 be adopted as presented.

**CARRIED**

**II a. DELEGATION**

Mr. Darren Hirsch, Parent, Crescent Heights High School, was in attendance to make a presentation regarding student travel and specifically the drama trip to London and Ireland. It was noted that the group will lose a large portion of their deposit if the trip is cancelled. The Board was asked to reinstate the trip to Europe or to approve an alternative destination in the United States. Mr. Hirsch acknowledged that the group is aware that the District travel insurance does not cover acts of terrorism.

The Chair indicated that this issue will be discussed in the closed session and the Superintendent will advise the trip coordinators of their decision within 24 hours.

### **III. CORRESPONDENCE**

1. Thank you card from Kate Olechowski re: Lillian Wright Memorial Scholarship
2. Copy of letter from Mr. Terry Riley to Hon. David Eggen, Minister of Education re: installation of solar panels in new Ranchlands school

### **IV. RECOGNITIONS/ACCOMPLISHMENTS**

#### **1. Holiday Performances**

The Board wishes to recognize all the schools for their holiday performances, including Christmas concerts, band concerts, celebrations, extravaganzas and activity evenings. The staff and students generously host their communities, families and friends to share in the celebration of the season. These activities support the goal of "Putting the Public Back into Public Education".

#### **2. Renee Dowling**

Congratulations to Mrs. Renee Dowling, teacher at River Heights School, who is the Editor of *FACTA*, a news journal of the Fine Arts Council of the Alberta Teachers' Association. The District is proud to support Mrs. Dowling in this position with the ATA.

### **V. PRESENTATIONS**

#### **1. Heather McCaig**

Ms. McCaig and her students presented their work with a humanitarian project in Ethiopia. The students received a \$1,000 donation in support of a greenhouse project for the community of Gindo. This project will provide food and clean water for a number of families.

#### **2. Capacity Building**

An overview of the District capacity building initiatives was provided by the Directors of Programs and Instruction and the Student Services Team.

The Meaningful Alignment Pilot, which supports meaningful alignment of the Program of Studies, instructional toolkits and assessment practices, was started in 2014 with 75 teachers across K-12 taking part in this initiative.

The District is also focusing on initiatives such as Critical Friends Protocol, Student Learning Assessment and new technologies are being piloted across the District with many opportunities for professional development and collaboration.

The Student Services team continues to build capacity by creating inclusive learning environments in our schools, and strengthening coaching practices for inclusion to meet the needs of all learners.

The team shared a number of initiatives and professional development opportunities that are taking place across the District. One of the priorities identified by the Student Services team for 2015-2016 is to build capacity in school-linked and school-based teams to support the diverse learners in the classrooms.

SIVA training continues to provide the proactive tools and practical knowledge to create a safe, healthy and respectful environment.

## **VI. ITEMS FOR ACTION**

### **1. Policies**

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

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

- a) Policy 530: Police Information Check (PIC) – Children’s Services Intervention Record Check (CSIRC) and 530 P 001
- b) Policy 667: Student Interviews by Police and Child Protection Services

39. Mrs. Wilson Fraser

**THAT** the Board approve Policy 530: Police Information Check (PIC) – Children’s Services Intervention Record Check (CSIRC) and 530 P 001 and Policy 667: Student Interviews by Police and Child Protection Services, as presented.

**CARRIED**

It was recommended that the Board of Trustees receive the following revised Procedures:

- a) Procedure 530 P 001: Police Information Check (PIC) – Children’s Services Intervention Record Check (CSIRC)
- b) Procedure 667 P 001: Student Interviews by Police and Child Protection Services

40. Mr. Massini

**THAT** the Board receive Procedure 530 P 001: Police Information Check (PIC) – Children’s Services Intervention Record Check (CSIRC) and Procedure 667 P 001: Student Interviews by Police and Child Protection Services, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**2. 2016-2017 School Year Calendar**

The 2016-2017 draft school year calendar was circulated to staff and parents for input. The Board was asked to approve the 2016-2017 calendar.

41. Mrs. Wilson Fraser

**THAT** the October 21<sup>st</sup> PD Day be moved to October 7<sup>th</sup>.

**CARRIED**

42. Mrs. Wilson Fraser

**THAT** the Board approve the 2016-2017 school year calendar as amended.

**CARRIED**

**3. Alternative Board Meeting Dates**

The Board was asked to consider alternate Board meeting dates and times to accommodate the conflicting schedule of one of the Board members.

It was recommended that the Regular meetings for the remainder of the school year be rescheduled to begin at 7:15 p.m.

43. Mr. Massini

**THAT** the Regular Board meetings be rescheduled to begin at 7:15 p.m. for the remainder of the school year.

**CARRIED**

**VII. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES**

**1. Coordinating Committee**

Minutes of the December 7, 2015 Coordinating Committee meeting were attached.

44. Mrs Wilson Fraser

**THAT** the minutes of the December 7, 2015 Coordinating Committee meeting be received for information.

**CARRIED**

**2. Medicine Hat Public Schools’ Education Foundation**

Minutes of the November 25, 2015 Public Schools’ Education Foundation meeting were attached.

It was noted that there will not be a telethon this year and an alternate program is being considered for the following year.

45. Mr. Massini

**THAT** the minutes of the November 25, 2015 Public Schools' Education Foundation meeting be received for information.

**CARRIED**

**3. District Council of School Councils**

Minutes of the December 3, 2015 District Council of School Councils meeting were attached.

46. Mrs. Freeman

**THAT** the minutes of the December 3, 2015 District Council of School Councils meeting be received for information.

**CARRIED**

**VIII. 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. Freeman attended Crestwood School Christmas Concert, Southview School Challenge Day and staff luncheon, CHHS Junior Band Concert, Riverside School staff meeting and Christmas Concert, George Davison School luncheon and Christmas Concert, and also presented employee service recognition awards at Alexandra Middle School, the Alternate High School and Riverside School.

Mr. Massini attended Crestwood School and MHHS Christmas Concerts.

Mrs. Wilson Fraser attended Vincent Massey School Christmas Concert and presented employee service recognition awards at Vincent Massey School.

Ms. Forbes attended Southview School and River Heights School Christmas Concerts.

Mr. Riley completed the presentation of employee service recognition awards and also attended the Christmas Concert at Medicine Hat Christian School.

**IX. MOVE TO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

47. Ms. 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 6:42 p.m.

**X. RECONVENE TO OPEN BOARD MEETING**

The Board reconvened to the open board meeting at 8:41 p.m.

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

48. Ms. Forbes

**THAT** international student travel will be reinstated with the following conditions:

- Trips will be evaluated on a case-by-case basis, taking into consideration the Canadian travel advisories as well as other advisories such as the US Government advisory and the UK (MI5) advisory. The assessment will be based on both travel advisories and terrorism assessments.
- Trips may be cancelled on short notice in emergent circumstances.
- The Board strongly encourages Canadian travel as an alternative to international locations.
- Based on current information, travel to the United States will be permitted.
- Parents will be required to sign new waiver forms and an informed consent form, which will clearly identify terrorism as an inherent risk of these trips and will acknowledge that they accept that responsibility.

**CARRIED**

49. Mr. Massini

**THAT** property item 2015-03 be approved, as presented.

**CARRIED**

50. Mrs. Wilson Fraser

**THAT** revised Policy 211: Trustee Remuneration and Expenses be approved, as presented.

**CARRIED**

**XII. ADJOURNMENT**

51. Mr. Massini

**THAT** the meeting adjourn.

**CARRIED**

The meeting adjourned at 8:46 p.m.

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**CHAIR**

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**SECRETARY TREASURER**