

Medicine Hat Public School Division

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MINUTES: DIVISION COUNCIL OF SCHOOL COUNCILS

DATE & TIME: Thursday, March 25, 2021 7:00 p.m.

LOCATION: Broadcast Virtual via Zoom due to COVID Restrictions

1. CALL TO ORDER: Rebeca Rothfus

-Rebeca called the meeting to order at 7:01 p.m.

-In attendance: Gina Miller (Alexandra Middle School), Karen Saffran Tonielle Pavlovic (Crescent Heights High School), Shannon Welsh (Crestwood School), Stephanie Williams (Dr. Roy Wilson Learning Centre), Joni Hunter (Elm Street School), Karen Allen (Medicine Hat Christian School), Rebeca Rothfus (Medicine Hat High School and co-chair of DCSC), Karla Tweten + Taneill Selinger (River Heights School + secretary of DCSC), Ammy Blenner-Hassett (Vincent Massey School), Chelsey Cowan (co-chair of DCSC), Val Browne (ATA Representative), Mike Flieger (Principal Representative), Catherine Wilson (school board chair and representative), Deborah Forbes (school board trustee) Mark Davidson (Superintendent), Lee Krasilowez (Communications Coordinator), Mike Kukurudza (Principal Dr. Roy Wilson, Laurie Grafton (Hub parent representative), Nicole Liboiron

2. TREATY LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT: Rebeca Rothfus

3. ROLL CALL FOR ATTENDANCE: Rebeca Rothfus

Note: Chelsey had a beautiful baby boy since the last meeting. Rebeca is leading this meeting.

4. ADOPTION OF MINUTES: Rebeca Rothfus

- Motion made by Joni Hunter to adopt minutes from DCOSC meeting on January 14, 2021. Shannon Welsh seconded. None opposed. Motion passed

5. REVIEW OF AGENDA & RESOLUTIONS FOR ASCA CONFERENCE AND AGM: Rebeca Rothfus

- It was requested that the Division Council review the agenda for the ASCA Conference and AGM.
- The conference will be held virtually on April 23, 24 & 25. [Online Registration](#) opened at noon on February 15, 2021, registration deadline in April 16, 2021.
- Board announced that they will be covering 2 people from every school to attend. Trustees will have a virtual meeting with all those attending prior. Find out who is interested. Catherine Wilson set meeting? Karen, Ammy, Tonielle, and Joni are for sure interested. Waiting on other schools.
 - Pre-conference: Friday at 9:30am session workshops

- Conference: Friday noon - 5pm, Saturday 8:45 a.m. - 5:15 p.m. and Sunday (AGM) 8:00 – 4:00 p.m.
- Three post conference sessions: Saturday 6:30-8:00 p.m.
- Rebeca, Deborah, and Mark mentioned a few items of interest. Our Division is particularly interested in resolution P21-03 Restore PUF Funding to Alberta Schools and how important this is for Medicine Hat schools and children, she discussed how charter schools should be based on innovation as that was their initial idea and how they have particular pedagogical lens and that they shouldn't be funded with tax payer money. This is discussed in numerous resolutions. What does public mean vs. charter and private. If it is public education, they should accept all students.
- Review of Advocacy Resolutions Review Package for the 2021 AGM
Meeting Documents AGM 2021 To prepare for the AGM efficiently, ASCA is asking school council members to review and discuss, determining their support or disapproval of the resolutions proposed. Please review and discuss with your school council members and determine support (yes) or disapproval (no) for the following 11 proposed resolutions, to provide voting direction to your parent voting delegate attending the AGM.

6. UPDATES TO POLICY AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURES: Mark Davidson

The fee schedule exhibits have been updated to reflect current fees.

- [628 E 002 – Secondary Schools' Fee Schedule DRAFT](#)
Now set up per grade level. Uniform and consistent across the system. Similar is being set up for teacher supply lists for elementary.
- [628 E 003 – International Students' Fee Schedule DRAFT](#) This is more detailed regarding insurance, airport fees, accommodations, and activities.

Policy (724 was 812) – School and Program Closure and Relocation

This policy and related APs were moved from the 'Facilities' section into the 'Educational Program' section of manual. For the most part the other changes were made to bring the policy into line with the Education Act. Changes to Policy will be brought to the Board for consideration in April.

- [Policy 724 School and Program Closure and Relocation DRAFT](#) - If Division is closing a school (Note: not happening right now). Just for if/when. There has to be engagement with the public, parents, staff, and the board.
- [724 P 001 – School Closure or Grade Relocation DRAFT](#)
- [724 P 002 – Program Relocation or Closure DRAFT](#) - Has to be engagement with those impacted. The only possible are middle school outreach programs in the next couple years, but they are phasing out anyway. This is a similar process as Connaught when it moved to French only.

Policy 814 – Disposal of Real Property

This policy was also amended to bring it in line with the Education Act. Changes to Policy will be brought to the Board for consideration in April.

- [Policy 814 Disposal of Real Property DRAFT](#) Most changes are due to align with the Education Act.

7. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION: Mark Davidson

Budget 2021 Update

Minister Toews announced Budget 2021 on February 25, 2021 which was followed by a meeting with the Education Minister. We expect to hear end of March/ beginning of April. Talked about the province “holding harmless” - because enrolment numbers are skewed due to COVID, we would’ve had to pay back for prior year, but not looking like the province will have us do that this year. Might get funded for actual #'s. PUF is only ages 3 and 4 years. Lost so many numbers and \$1.1-1.5 million dollars when it changed. Maybe will use extra money from this year to bolster supports for coming years. Jerry Labossiere may provide a draft budget at the next meeting.

High School Hub

Jason Peters, members of our OLC Team and teachers from our system and others are working to develop quality, asynchronous resources for high school courses; priority is being placed on the development of ‘core’ courses at this time. Within our system, high school HUB students would view the asynchronous material and then attend scheduled, mandatory tutorials with subject experts throughout a quarter. Working with other school districts in our area as a true cooperative. Should have it ready by end of August. The dash one and dash two streams and maybe some options will be ready. Will provide resources for Coulee Collegiate as well. Following scope and sequence and building in assessments. Working with guidance counsellors as well. ADLC is shutting down so this works well as it incorporates all the high school and distance learning in one.

Enrolment Update

Reminder to parents that registration is now available for 2021-2022 school year. So far, the enrolment numbers are looking good 80-85% gains from last year. Kindergarten enrolment looks normal, grade 10 up nearly 70 students, everywhere else a little soft.

8. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION: Mark Davidson

Cell Phones and Device Use

[608 E 001 – Student Acceptable Use of Technology Agreement](#)

[600 E 001 – Student Acceptable Use of Technology](#) - phones have really become an issue.

Karen and Tonielle from CHHS had a discussion at their parent council meeting on how to deal with the issue. Mike Kukurudza from Wilson Learning Centre spoke about how he is working with students and families. He mentioned with COVID it has become their connection with friends. There was a common desire for secondary schools to work together to lessen tech (phone) use in our Division. Some great conversation and discussion followed.

*Item added to agenda - Discussion on school division audit of all school council associations. Created lots of discussion on the wording and lack of communication with school chairs/cochairs regarding this audit. Head office was just asking for transparency and making sure there was no liabilities as SD76 insures all parent councils and associations. No communication was sent directly to council chairs, instead it came through some school secretaries and only with partial information. Caused alarm bells and frustration, even though that was not the intended outcome.

9. TRUSTEE COMMENTS: Catherine Wilson

Lee has posted the board meeting minutes to the website, feel free to read them as well.

10. MOTION TO ADJOURN: Rebeca Rothfus

For those that want to adjourn you are welcome to leave. Following the official part of the meeting is 'Parking Lot Conversations'. A place to discuss how things are going in each school council right now.

Rebeca motioned to adjourn the official part of meeting at 8:46 p.m.

Future meeting date: Thursday, May 13th, 2021 at 7:00 p.m.

11. PARKING LOT CONVERSATIONS