

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**
APRIL 23, 2024 AT 3:15 P.M.

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

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Leanne Dulle, Secretary Treasurer
Tracy Hensel, Associate Superintendent: Student Services
Jason Peters, Associate Superintendent: Human Resources
Corey Sadlemyer, Associate Superintendent: Learning

OFFICIALS ABSENT: Mark Davidson, Superintendent of Schools

OTHERS PRESENT: Lee Krasilowez, Communications Manager
Andrea Perez, Student Delegate, MHHS
Sonak Saha, Student Delegate, MHHS
Alexis Unreiner, Student Delegate, MHHS
Tyson Van Ham, Student Delegate, MHHS
Jennifer Davies, Teacher, CHHS
Bailey Streifel, Student, CHHS
Carla Carrier, Director of Student Learning
Kendra Boyd, Optimal Learning Coach
Rachel Dale, Optimal Learning Coach
Ashley Durbeniuk, Optimal Learning Coach
Nicole Hall, Optimal Learning Coach
Marnie Heintz, Optimal Learning Coach
Lisa Mueller, Optimal Learning Coach
Kayla Young, Optimal Learning Coach
Cassie Young, Optimal Learning Coach
David Van Leeuwen, Education Technology Lead Teacher

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

78. Y. Sissons

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

CARRIED

The Board moved to Committee of the Whole at 3:15 p.m.

III. RECONVENE TO OPEN BOARD MEETING

The Board reconvened to the open board meeting at 5:31 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 delegates: Andrea Perez, Sonak Saha, Alexis Unreiner and Tyson Van Ham.

VI. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

79. D. Forbes

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED

VII. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Presentation and adoption of the Minutes of the Regular and Committee of the Whole meetings held on held on **Tuesday, March 26, 2024, Tuesday, April 9, 2024, Wednesday, April 10 and Tuesday, April 16, 2024.**

80. R. Massini

THAT the Minutes of the Regular and Committee of the Whole meetings held on held on Tuesday, March 26, 2024, Tuesday, April 9, 2024, Wednesday, April 10 and Tuesday, April 16, 2024, be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

VIII. PRESENTATIONS

1. International Off-Site Activity: Los Angeles and Anaheim, California

Crescent Heights High School Students in the Theatre Arts Program travelled to Los Angeles and Anaheim, California, from Tuesday, March 26, 2024, to Sunday, March 31, 2024. Jennifer Davies and Bailey Streifel presented to the Board on their experiences and educational highlights.

Ms. Davies expressed her gratitude to the Board for supporting her international trips that provide the students with unforgettable experiences. She introduced Bailey Streifel, a grade 12 student that has been involved in many productions and shared that she was invaluable in the preparation for this trip. Ms. Davies and Bailey shared an overview of the workshops and performances the students participated in followed by a video collage of the trip.

5:55 p.m. J. Davies and B. Streifel left the meeting.

5:55 p.m. Optimal Learning Coaches joined the meeting.

2. Optimal Learning Coaches

The OLC Team walked trustees through some stories of practice to highlight the variety of ways that we have been responsive to the needs of our system. Throughout the year they have been responsive to Admin/School Needs, Student Needs, Teacher Needs, and Research & Best Practice. They were excited to share the impacts of their work within the optimal learning environment and how it has made a difference for the staff and students of our division.

Their team of eight coaches supported teachers in various roles including consultant, collaborator, and coach. This year, they have been focusing on supporting new curriculum implementation, addressing learning loss and professional learning for secondary school teachers. New curriculum support was provided to administrators and elementary teachers through professional learning, personalized supports, grade level collaboration and research and evidence-based resources. To address ongoing concerns around learning loss in elementary students, the OLC Team created the "Learning Loss Roadmap". The roadmap is used to work with school staff to identify areas of need and develop a plan of support. Working closely with the administrative teams at the secondary level, Ashley Durbeniuk and Lisa Mueller developed meaningful professional learning opportunities catering to the unique needs of these teachers.

6:51 p.m. Optimal Learning Coaches left the meeting.

6:51 p.m. D. Van Leeuwen joined the meeting.

3. Minecraft in Education – Future Builders

Through a partnership between Microsoft Canada (Minecraft), the City of Medicine Hat and our Division, we have created a project for students, asking them to solve urban planning issues through the popular video game, Minecraft. Modeled on a program that the Calgary Board of Education has been operating for years, it has been an exciting addition to our schools.

David Van Leeuwen, Education Technology Lead Teacher shared background on the game itself and how Minecraft Education Edition differs from the regular video game. Working with the City of Medicine Hat, two sites were selected for the project, both in the North Flats. Students were given parameters for each including building type, affordability, size, and landscaping requirements.

Initially launched at Crestwood, students from Ross Glen, River Heights and Wilson Learning Centre have now participated in the project. Through this project, students learn many skills including problem solving, planning and organization, basic engineering, and spatial awareness. With the addition of a new area and an earlier release time they are hoping to see more students taking part next year.

7:28 p.m. D. Van Leeuwen and student left the meeting.

IX. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Thank You Card

The Board received a thank you card from a substitute teacher for the recognition of Substitute Appreciation Week.

2. Letters from Grade 6 Social Studies

Mr. Travis Boser is a Grade 6 Humanities Teacher at Dr. Ken Sauer School.

During a unit on Local Government, he tasked students to pick a cause that they care about and write a letter to a local government official about it. Several students chose school related items, as they learned about the school board setup in the unit as well. These letters were addressed to Superintendent Davidson.

Mr. Boser shared the letters that students wrote, covering a wide variety of topics, in hopes of a response.

Trustees enjoyed reading the letters and will connect with Superintendent Davidson to discuss their responses.

X. ITEMS FOR ACTION

1. Reauthorization of Locally Developed Courses – High School

Request to reauthorize the following locally developed high school courses:

Course Name	Version	Course Code	First Approved	Last Approved
ESL Expository English 15	5 Credits (2010-2024)	LDC1513	2023-2024	2023-2024
ESL Expository English 25	5 Credits (2010-2024)	LDC2513	2023-2024	2023-2024
ESL Introduction to Mathematics 15	5 Credits (2007-2024)	LDC1350	2023-2024	2023-2024
Holocaust Studies 15	3 Credits (2020-2024)	LDC1787	2023-2024	2023-2024
Holocaust Studies 25	5 Credits (2020-2024)	LDC2787	2023-2024	2023-2024
Holocaust Studies 35	5 Credits (2020-2024)	LDC3787	2023-2024	2023-2024

Improviseational Theatre 15	3 Credits (2013-2024)	LDC1551	2023-2024	2023-2024
Improviseational Theatre 15	5 Credits (2013-2024)	LDC1551	2023-2024	2023-2024
Improviseational Theatre 25	3 Credits (2016-2024)	LDC2551	2023-2024	2023-2024
Improviseational Theatre 25	5 Credits (2013-2024)	LDC2551	2023-2024	2023-2024
Improviseational Theatre 35	5 Credits (2013-2024)	LDC3551	2023-2024	2023-2024
Improviseational Theatre 35	3 Credits (2016-2024)	LDC3551	2023-2024	2023-2024
Theatre Performance 15	5 Credits (2007-2024)	LDC1367	2023-2024	2023-2024
Theatre Performance 25	5 Credits (2007-2024)	LDC2367	2023-2024	2023-2024
Theatre Performance 35	5 Credits (2007-2024)	LDC3367	2023-2024	2023-2024

High schools have expressed their intention to use these in the future.

It was recommended that the Board of Trustees approve the reauthorization of these high school courses.

81. P. Grisonich

THAT the Board approve the reauthorization of the locally developed high school courses, as presented.

CARRIED

2. International Off-Site Activity: Request for Approval in Principle

It was recommended that the Board approve, in principle, an international off-site activity for students from Crescent Heights High School and Medicine Hat High School represented by teacher, Georgia Bull, to travel to Honolulu, Hawaii for the period Saturday, March 15, 2025, to Saturday, March 22, 2025, subject to the following conditions:

- a) that the destination and the submitted itinerary are approved at the Division level;
- b) that all informed consent forms are signed by parents;
- c) that a Consent for Children Travelling Abroad be completed and signed by each parent;
- d) that each student is in possession of a passport, valid for at least six months beyond the expected return date.
- e) that there is no cost to the Board, other than the cost of substitute teachers to replace designated supervising teachers traveling on the trip;
- f) that all funds related to this trip be managed by the School Bookkeeper using the School Trip Accounting Template (720 E 015);
- g) that all volunteer forms, including criminal record check with vulnerable sector search, are completed and approved;
- h) that all students and chaperones are required to obtain School Division Travel Insurance;
- i) that the Lead Teacher continues to monitor all travel advisories and ensure students and parents are

aware that the trip could be modified or cancelled based on travel advisories for the destination(s);

- j) that the Lead Teacher comply with all criteria set out in Policy 720: Off-Site Activities
- k) *that all required transportation forms are completed and approved; and*
- l) *that students are provided opportunities for fundraising to offset their travel cost.*

The Board requested that conditions k and l be added to the Approval in Principle.

82. D. Forbes

THAT the Board approve, in principle, an international off-site activity for students from Crescent Heights High School and Medicine Hat High School represented by teacher, Georgia Bull to travel to Honolulu, Hawaii for the period Saturday, March 15, 2025, to Saturday, March 22, 2025, subject to the conditions specified.

CARRIED

Suspended: 7:40 p.m.

Resumed: 7:42 p.m.

XI. RETURN TO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

83. Y. Sissons

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

CARRIED

The Board moved to Committee of the Whole at 7:42 p.m.

XII. RECONVENE TO OPEN BOARD MEETING

The Board reconvened to the open board meeting at 8:21 p.m.

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

84. D. Forbes

THAT the Board approve Personnel Item #2024-03, as presented.

DEFEATED

85. Y. Sissons

THAT the Board accept the recommendation for the 2024 Friends of Education Award, as presented.

CARRIED

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

86. R. Massini

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 8:24 p.m.

CHAIR

SECRETARY TREASURER

DRAFT