

**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
JUNE 25, 2024 AT 2:30 P.M.**

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

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Lee Krasilowez, Communications Manager
Bailey O'Reilly, Director of Finance
Carla Carrier, Director of Student Learning
Cody Edwards, Director of Student Programming
Ayman Kaiden, Cultural Liaison Worker
Brittany Leblanc, Family School Liaison Worker
Megan Anderson, Teacher, Vincent Massey
Jaymi Roth, Vice Principal, Vincent Massey
Andrew McFetridge, Principal, Vincent Massey

CHAIR: Catherine Wilson

RECORDING SECRETARY: Marley Steinwandt

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 2:30 p.m.

II. MOVE TO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

103. P. Grisonich

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

CARRIED

The Board moved to Committee of the Whole at 2:30 p.m.

III. RECONVENE TO OPEN BOARD MEETING

The Board reconvened to the open board meeting at 5:30 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, Jeeya Gupta.

VI. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

104. R. Massini

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, May 28, 2024, and Tuesday, June 11, 2024.**

105. P. Grisonich

THAT the Minutes of the Regular and Committee of the Whole meetings held on held on Tuesday, May 28, 2024, and Tuesday, June 11, 2024, be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

VIII. PRESENTATIONS

1. The Parent Group

Ayman Kaiden (Cultural Liaison Worker) and Brittany Leblanc (Family School Liaison Worker) explored the positive impact of culturally relevant programming offered this year to newcomer families, students and educators. A wide range of learning opportunities were developed for students, staff and families to encourage cultural humility and foster a sense of belonging for all within the division. Families were invited to participate in Parenting Foundations sessions, which covered topics relevant to supporting newcomer parents raising children in Canada. The program was met with enthusiasm and engagement has grown steadily with each session. Information about the objectives achieved by this program, as well as next steps for the upcoming year were shared during the presentation.

Identifying themes and challenges between Arab and Canadian cultures, Ayman and Brittany developed programs to support school staff, student culture clubs and parent foundation sessions. Goals identified included fostering communication and trust, promoting cultural responsiveness, encouraging active parent involvement, and facilitating cultural adaptation and integration. Parents and staff are invited to Coffee and Conversations, this provides a safe space for newcomer families to practice their English while strengthening their connection to the school.

Four parenting foundation sessions were held from January to June of this year at Southview and George Davison Schools. Each session has 20-40 parents in attendance, representing 70 students attending 12 different schools. Topics included, Child Development, Internet Safety, Edsby and FSLW support. Parents felt comfortable asking questions and engaging in conversations about Canadian culture and school programs which helps to build trust and understanding. Next year, they will start looking outward, engaging community resources, building partnerships and connecting families to community agencies.

6:11 p.m. A. Kaiden and B. Leblanc left the meeting.

6.11 p.m. M. Anderson, J. Roth and A. McFetridge joined the meeting.

2. Apple Schools

APPLE Schools is an innovative school-focused health promotion initiative. This organization impacts the lives of more than 30,000 students annually in 97 schools across Alberta, British Columbia, Manitoba, and Northwest Territories by improving their lifelong eating, physical activity, and mental health habits. The mission of APPLE Schools is to inspire and empower school communities to lead, choose, and be healthy by recommending and supporting measurable and sustainable changes.

Medicine Hat School Division currently has two Apple Schools. Vincent Massey shared their journey as a first year APPLE School.

Megan, Jaymi and Andrew from Vincent Massey School shared the work being done to create sustainable change in promoting physical activity, healthy food options and mental health. Students are encouraged participate in monthly challenges in class and at home, recess games, healthy celebrations, and hot lunch alternatives. Grade 5 student leaders help to plan school wide activities, act as recess leaders, provide morning announcements and run the breakfast club. Being visible in the school community with their blue hats, younger students look forward to their opportunity to join.

6:45 p.m. M. Anderson, J. Roth and A. McFetridge left the meeting.

Suspended: 6:46 p.m.

Resumed: 6:51 p.m.

3. Learning Disruption

The Alberta Government has acknowledged gaps in literacy and numeracy achievement post pandemic. As a result, grant funding was provided to school divisions to address this concern. In consultation with school administrators, the Learning Department responded to this need and funding allocation by adding an additional Optimal Learning Coach (OLC) to our team and by engaging in intensive coaching cycles at our schools based on our division and provincial screening data. Using our understanding of literacy and numeracy instruction, the professional learning provided, and the resources curated and purchased in our division, we engaged in developing a thoughtful model to embed coaching cycles in our schools. Through data driven goals, OLC's collaborated with administrative teams and teachers to engage in the Continuum of Coaching to further develop instructional practices that would impact student achievement in literacy and numeracy. Our division and schools experienced significant growth in student achievement in both literacy and numeracy resulting in an impressive number of our students identified at-risk in the fall, moving out of the at-risk category in the spring.

The OLC Continuum of Coaching provides different entry points for teachers depending on their preference and alignment to goals. Next year, OLC support will look a little different, coaches will be in schools for 5-week cycles to provide Numeracy and Literacy support. Staff will meet with them to talk about their school's data and goals. This will give teachers access and the opportunity to decide how they would like to be supported.

IX. RECOGNITION/ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. Honored Educator Awards

The recipients of the Honoured Educator Award include all teachers retiring from service in the 2023-2024 school year.

Mike Canadine	Joanne Kennedy	Susan Nelson
Mark Davidson	Ed Kruger	Sheldon Regier
Michel Farmer	Sandra Mason	Wendy Smid

Congratulations to the Medicine Hat Public School Division's 2023-2024 Honoured Educators!

X. ITEMS FOR ACTION

1. 2024-2025 School Fees

As per Administrative Procedure 628 AP 001 – Student Fees, the fees that require Board approval prior to application were presented.

Course fees are established in consultation with central office staff. Schools give their best estimate of travel/activity fees and have three checkpoints through the year when they can be updated.

106. R. Massini

THAT the Board approve the 2024-2025 School Fees, as presented.

CARRIED

2. Crestwood School Logo

Crestwood School is proposing a new logo and is seeking Board approval. As per Policy 210.2 – Team Names, Logos, Colours and Mascots it was recommended that the Board approve Crestwood School's logo as presented.

107. Y. Sissons

THAT the Board approve the Crestwood School's logo, as presented.

CARRIED

3. World Teacher Day

October 5th is celebrated annually as World Teacher Day.

It was recommended that the Board approve a card and fruit basket to be delivered to all MHPSD schools in appreciation of our teachers.

108. P. Grisonich

THAT the board approve a card and fruit basket to be delivered to all MHPSD schools in appreciation of our teachers.

CARRIED

XI. REPORTS OF COMMITTEES

1. Public School Boards' Association of Alberta: Spring General Assembly

The Public-School Boards' Association held their Spring General Assembly in Calgary on May 31 and June 1, 2024. An update was provided to the Board.

2. **Alberta School Boards' Association: Spring General Meeting**

The Alberta School Boards' Association business session and professional development session was held in Calgary on June 3 and 4, 2024. An update was provided to the Board.

3. **Coordinating Committee**

The Coordinating Committee held meetings on Monday, April 22, 2024, and Monday, May 6, 2024. These meeting minutes were enclosed for information.

4. **Division Council of School Councils'**

The Division Council of School Councils' held a meeting on Thursday, May 9, 2024. The meeting minutes were enclosed for information.

XII. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

1. **Alberta School Councils' Association Conference and Annual General Meeting**

The ASBA Award Packages are available online.

- Community Engagement Award: due September 16, 2024
- School Board Innovation and Excellence Award: due September 16, 2024.

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

No action arising.

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

109. R. Massini

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 7:51 p.m.



CHAIR



SECRETARY TREASURER