

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,**
SEPTEMBER 23, 2025 AT 3:15 P.M.

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

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Tracy Hensel, Superintendent of Schools
Leanne Dulle, Secretary Treasurer
Cody Edwards, Associate Superintendent: Student Services
Jason Peters, Associate Superintendent: Human Resources
Carla Carrier, Director of Learning and Partnerships

OTHERS PRESENT: Lee Krasilowez, Communications Coordinator
Alyssa Morris, Crescent Heights High School Student Delegate
Jordyn Nickel, Crescent Heights High School Student Delegate
Jeeya Gupta, Medicine Hat High School Student Delegate
Ruba Mustafa, Medicine Hat High School Student Delegate
Dr. Jeffrey MacCormack, Associate Professor, University of Lethbridge
Chantelle Bartek, Specialized Teacher, Herald School

CHAIR: Catherine Wilson

RECORDING SECRETARY: Marley Steinwandt

I. CALL MEETING TO ORDER

Meeting was called to order at 3:16 p.m.

II. MOVE TO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

4. 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 5:30 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.

Video Land Acknowledgement – The Hub School

V. INTRODUCTION OF STUDENT DELEGATES

The Board of Trustees welcomes student delegates, Alyssa Morris and Jordyn Nickel from Crecent Heights High School and Jeeya Gupta and Ruba Mustafa from Medicine Hat High School.

VI. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Trustee Sissons requested the addition of *ASBA Long Service Awards* to the agenda.

5. P. Grisonich

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED

VII. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Presentation and adoption of the Minutes of the Regular and the Committee of the Whole meetings held on **Tuesday, June 24, 2025, Monday, August 25, 2025** (Special Meeting) and **Tuesday, September 9, 2025**.

6. Y. Sissons

THAT the Minutes of the Regular and Committee of the Whole meetings held on **Tuesday, June 24, 2025, August 25, 2025** (Special Meeting) and **Tuesday, September 9, 2025**, be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

VIII. PRESENTATION

1. Dr. Jeffrey MacCormack

Dr. Jeffrey MacCormack, associate professor in the Faculty of Education at the University of Lethbridge, presented an overview of a two-year collaborative research initiative with the Medicine Hat Public School Division. The project, titled Building Communities of Practice Among Principals and Teachers that Support Students with Complex Educational Needs: A Case-Study Approach, focuses on developing customized professional learning for principals and teachers involved in specialized programming. The purpose of the project is to foster deeper collaboration and promote collective efficacy in supporting students with complex educational needs.

Dr. MacCormack shared that the first year of the project involved in-depth engagement at three schools, Vincent Massey, Herald, and MHHS, including interviews with teachers, educational assistants, students (where appropriate), and caregivers at both the beginning and end of the school year. He spent time in classrooms observing and interacting with students to better understand the unique dynamics of specialized programs. He emphasized the importance of studying these classrooms within a

Canadian context, as much of the existing research comes from outside the country.

In its second year, the focus is on Community of Practice, bringing together additional teachers and school leaders for professional development. Data gathering continues, with anonymized case studies being developed to guide collaborative discussions. These sessions aim to strengthen relationships between educators and administrators, promote shared understanding, and support the development of inclusive practices. Herald School teacher Chantelle Bartek shared that her students' experience has been overwhelmingly positive, and that meaningful classroom adjustments have already been implemented as a result of conversations with Dr. MacCormack.

6:09 p.m. Dr. Jeffrey MacCormack and Chantelle Bartek left the meeting.

IX. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Thank You Cards from Students

The following students sent thank you messages for scholarships received:

Debra Bitz Memorial Scholarship

Alivia Gott & Lacie McCaskill

Jonathan Dee Appleton Memorial Drama Award

Alana Santos

2025 Zirka Ukrainian Dancing Scholarship

Allyna Sleeking

Thelma Berkeley Robinson Scholarship

Finn Barbour, Kayanna Bosch, Juan Andres

Garcia Caripa, Sophia Holmes & Katie Wiebe

X. ITEMS FOR INFORMATION

1. Schedule of School Council Meetings

The schedule of meetings for Medicine Hat Public School Division school councils was provided to trustees for information.

XI. RECOGNITION & ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. ASBA Long Service Awards

On behalf of ASBA Zone 6, Trustee Yvonne Sissons presented the following Long Service Awards:

Catherine Wilson	Three Terms
Rick Massini	Four Terms
Deborah Forbes	Eight Terms

Suspended: 6:16 p.m.

Resumed: 6:30 p.m.

XII. RETURN TO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

7. D. 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 6:30 p.m.

XIII. RECONVENE TO OPEN BOARD MEETING

The Board reconvened to the open board meeting at 6:40 p.m.

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

No action arising.

XV. ADJOURNMENT

8. R. Massini

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

CARRIED

The meeting was adjourned at 6:40 p.m.

CHAIR

SECRETARY TREASURER