

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 26, 2023** AT 3:15 P.M.

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

TRUSTEES ABSENT: Rick Massini

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

OTHERS PRESENT: Lee Krasilowez, Communications Coordinator
Andrea Perez, Student Delegate, MHHS
Tyson Van Ham, Student Delegate, MHHS
Alex McCuaig, Community Member

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

6. 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 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 and Tyson Van Ham.

VI. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

7. Y. Sissons

THAT the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED

VII. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Presentation and adoption of the Minutes of the Regular Board meetings held on **Tuesday, June 29, 2023**, and **Tuesday, September 12, 2023**, and the Committee of the Whole meetings held on **Tuesday, June 29, 2023**, and **Tuesday, September 12, 2023**.

8. D. Forbes

THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board meetings held on Tuesday, June 29, 2023, and Tuesday, September 12, 2023, the Committee of the Whole meetings held on Tuesday, June 29, 2023, and Tuesday, September 12, 2023, be adopted as presented.

CARRIED

VIII. RECOGNITION/ACCOMPLISHMENTS

1. Advancing Association Business and Initiatives Award

Pat Grisonich, Trustee, and Vice Chair for Medicine Hat Public School Board was nominated for this award by Brian Callaghan from Canadian Rockies Public Schools. The Public School Board Association of Alberta presented this award to Pat for his commitment to Medicine Hat Public School Board and the Association. Congratulations!

The board extended their congratulations for this well-deserved honor.

IX. PRESENTATION

1. Elementary Students Cycling to School

Alex McCuaig, a cycling enthusiast, and advocate for accessible and safe cycling pathways, asked to present to the Board regarding a concern with the bylaws of the City of Medicine Hat. Specifically, he was concerned that the bylaw regarding riding on sidewalks is inappropriately connected to tire size, as opposed to the age of the rider. Mr. McCuaig requested the Board's support for a measure to see the bylaw changed.

Mr. McCuaig shared that though many children with tire-sizes exceeding the limit ride on the sidewalk, this bylaw creates a barrier to educating children on proper etiquette, safety and respect when sharing this space with pedestrians. The city is aware of this issue and is open to amending the bylaw.

The Board is in support of Mr. McCuaig's goal and will send a letter to the City of Medicine Hat in support of changing the bylaw.

5:59 p.m. A. McCuaig left the meeting.

X. CORRESPONDENCE

1. Thank You Cards from Students

Thank you cards have been received from the following students that were awarded the Thelma Berkeley Robinson Scholarship.

Sofia Cardona
Jena Harty
Anna Thomas

XI. ITEMS FOR ACTION

1. International Off-Site Activity: Approval in Principle

It is recommended that the Board approve, in principle, an international off-site activity for students from Crescent Heights High School represented by teacher, Jennifer Davies, to travel to San Francisco, Los Angeles, and Anaheim, California for the period Tuesday, March 26, 2024, to Wednesday, April 3, 2024, 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.

9. D. Forbes

THAT the Board approve, in principle, an international off-site activity for students from Crescent Heights High School represented by teacher, Jennifer Davies to travel to San Francisco, Los Angeles and Anaheim, California for the period Tuesday, March 26, 2024, to Wednesday, April 3, 2024, subject to the conditions specified.

CARRIED

2. **International Off-Site Activity: Request for Final Approval**

At the November 29, 2022, Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees a request was presented on behalf of Medicine Hat High School Senior Girls Volleyball Team and Lead Teacher, Jarrett Bardal, for an out-of-country trip. The trip was approved, in principle, subject to various conditions. All conditions set out by the Board have now been met.

It is recommended that the Board of Trustees give final approval for the Medicine Hat High School student trip to Hawaii, USA for the period Saturday, October 7, 2023, to Sunday, October 15, 2023.

THAT the Board of Trustees give final approval for the Medicine Hat High School student trip to Hawaii, USA for the period Saturday, October 7, 2023, to Sunday, October 15, 2023, as presented.

CARRIED

10. P. Grisonich

XII. **ITEMS FOR INFORMATION**

1. **Division Professional Development**

Dedicated educators kicked off the school year with enriched professional learning sessions. We were honoured to have the dynamic motivational speaker, David Irvine, start the day by reminding us that our authentic individuality is a precious asset that enriches the educational experience for everyone. As we stand on the threshold of a new school year, we will carry forward these important lessons:

Be Unique: Each one of us brings a distinct flavor to education, we will celebrate our diverse backgrounds, passions, and strengths as we inspire each other.

Be resilient: Just as we encourage our students to overcome challenges, we will confront obstacles with courage, adaptability, and a growth mindset.

Connect: Our authentic selves thrive in a supportive community; we will continue to build strong connections that uplift and nurture one another.

From innovative teaching techniques to fostering a growth mindset, we explored a variety of

Grisonich **THAT** Legal Matter 2023-02 be approved as

XIV. ADJOURNMENT

Grisonich **THAT** the meeting be adjourned.

The meeting was adjourned at 6:03 p.m.

CHAIR

SECRETARY TREASURER

11. Y. Sissons

CARRIED

CARRIED

13. P. Grisonich

CARRIED

CHAIR

SECRETARY TREASURER