

MINUTES OF THE SPECIAL MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF MEDICINE HAT SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 76 HELD IN THE TEMPORARY BOARD ROOM IN MEDICINE HAT HIGH SCHOOL ON TUESDAY, MARCH 29, 2016 AT 7:15 P.M.

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Mr. Terry Riley, Mr. Rick Massini, Ms. Deborah Forbes, Mrs. Carolyn Freeman, Mrs. Catherine Wilson Fraser

OFFICIALS PRESENT: Mr. Lyle Cunningham, Acting Superintendent of Schools
Mrs. Sherri Fedor, Associate Superintendent
Mr. Boris Grisonich, Acting Associate Superintendent
Mr. Jerry Labossiere, Secretary Treasurer

CHAIR: Mr. Terry Riley

RECORDING SECRETARY: Mrs. Angie Lesko

I. ITEMS FOR ACTION

1. Policy 621: Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning Environment

Draft Policy 621: Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning Environment was approved, in principle, at the February 23, 2016 Regular meeting. After reviewing stakeholder input, the Board has made a number of revisions to the policy. The Chair provided an overview of these changes.

92. Mr. Massini

THAT the Board approve Policy 621: Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning Environment.

93. Mr. Massini

THAT Guideline #4 be revised to read – “*The Board of Trustees expects all incidents of threats, bullying, harassment, violence or intimidation regardless of the identity of the alleged harasser or offender, to be reported to a responsible adult who is a District employee.*”

CARRIED

THAT the Board approve Policy 621: Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning Environment, as amended.

CARRIED

2. Policy 622: Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity

The Minister of Education has mandated that all school boards must have a Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity Policy in place by March 31, 2016.

Draft Policy 622: Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity, was approved, in principle, at the February 23, 2016 Regular meeting. After reviewing stakeholder input, the Board has made a number of revisions to the policy. The Chair provided an overview of these changes.

94. Mrs. Wilson Fraser

THAT Policy 622: Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity be approved.

95. Ms. Forbes

THAT Guideline #1 (f) be revised to read – “*develop, implement, and evaluate inclusive educational strategies, professional learning opportunities, and administrative procedures to ensure that all members of sexual and gender minority students in the whole school community are welcomed and treated with respect and dignity.*”

Mr. Massini recommended an amendment to the motion by Ms. Forbes:

96. Mr. Massini

THAT Guideline #1 (f) be revised to read – “*develop, implement, and evaluate inclusive educational strategies, professional learning opportunities, and administrative procedures to ensure that sexual and gender minority students, as well as all members of the school community, are welcomed and treated with respect and dignity.*”

CARRIED

THAT Policy 622: Sexual Orientation and Gender Identity be approved, as amended.

CARRIED

II. ADJOURNMENT

97. Ms. Forbes

THAT the meeting adjourn.

CARRIED

The meeting adjourned at 7:41 p.m.

CHAIR

SECRETARY TREASURER