

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE MEDICINE HAT CATHOLIC BOARD OF EDUCATION HELD at Catholic School Board Office, 1251 – 1<sup>st</sup> Avenue S.W., Medicine Hat, Alberta on Tuesday, February 10, 2015 @ 3:00 p.m.**

**TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS PRESENT**

Peter Grad	Trustee
Dick Mastel	Trustee
Regina Durst	Trustee
Robert Risling	Trustee
Joe Colistro	Superintendent of Schools
Chuck Hellman	Acting Associate Superintendent Human Resources
Greg MacPherson	Secretary Treasurer
Hugh Lehr	Associate Superintendent Learning Services
Jill Wilkinson	Religious Education Coordinator
Della Dewald	Executive Assistant & Communications
Dominique Hirsch	Communications

Note: The meeting was called to order at 3:16 p.m.

**OPENING PRAYER**

Note: The meeting opened with prayer led by Mr. Dick Mastel.

**APPROVAL OF REGULAR BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

2953 Motion. Dick Mastel: "THAT the Board of Trustees for the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting dated January 13, 2015".

Carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF THE ACTION AGENDA**

2954 Motion. Dick Mastel: "THAT the Board of Trustees for the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education approve the Action Agenda dated February 10, 2015 as amended".

Carried unanimously.

Note: Amendment: Add: Teacher Gradual Retirement Plan  
Add: Comments from Mr. Ganzer, Community Member

**APPROVAL OF THE NON-ACTION AGENDA**

2955 Motion. Robert Risling: "THAT the Board of Trustees for the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education approve the Non-Action Agenda dated February 10, 2015 as circulated".

Carried unanimously.

**COMMENTS FROM MR. GANZER-COMMUNITY MEMBER**

Note: Mr. Grad introduced Mr. Ganzer and granted him permission to address the Board.

Note: Mr. Ganzer commented that Trustee, Reverend Mr. Robert Risling gave a good report on behalf of the Board at the Police Commission regarding the School Zone Safety issue. Mr. Ganzer then asked the Board what has transpired as a result of that meeting and have funds been advanced to increase School Zone Safety? It was noted by the Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Greg MacPherson that the Board has met with both Alberta Infrastructure and the City of Medicine Hat. The City is undergoing a stakeholder engagement process that will include a Public

Forum before it goes to City Council. Currently Monsignor McCoy, St. Francis Xavier, Mother Teresa and Notre Dame have electronic speed signs installed in the School Zones on a temporary basis.

Note: Mr. Ganzer had the floor for 10 minutes. Mr. Peter Grad thanked Mr. Ganzer for his comment.

#### **CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS**

Note: **Letter to Premier Prentice dated January 19, 2015** – The Board wrote a letter to the Premier regarding Bill 10, which is currently on hold. The Board wanted the Premier to be clear of our Board's position on the Bill.

Note: **Letter to Minister of Education dated January 16, 2015** - The Board wrote a letter to Gordon Dirks regarding modernization funding. The Board requested a meeting with the Minister of Education.

Note: **Clue & Seussical Jr** – Monsignor McCoy High School and St. Mary's School drama presentations are being held in March and April 2015.

Note: **Media Release** – St. Mary's School Award of Distinction – St. Mary's School has won a Provincial Award of Distinction for their School Wellness project.

Note: **Media Release** – Acting Associate Superintendent Appointment – A media release was issued on February 5, 2015 announcing the appointment of Mr. Chuck Hellman as the Acting Associate Superintendent Human Resources effective February 9, 2015.

#### **APPENDIX "A"**

#### **MONSIGNOR MCCOY HIGH SCHOOL MODERNIZATION**

Note: We have received the development permit for the modernization. The tender process will take approximately 4- 6 weeks. We will have the shovel in the ground for late spring.

#### **PRESENTATION**

Note: The School Division was presented with a cheque in the amount of \$4,000 from the Medicine Hat Autism Support Association. The funds will be used for physical supports to benefit students including sensory tools, communication technologies and occupational therapy devices. Ms. Lisa Litousky, President of the Autism Association was in attendance. Mr. Hugh Lehr, Associate Superintendent Learning Services thanked Ms. Litousky for the generous donation on behalf of the Board and Division.- It was noted the Medicine Hat Autism Support Association is disbanding.

#### **MINISTERIAL ORDER**

Note: The Board of Trustees announced that Ministerial approval was received from Alberta Education appointing Mr. Joseph Colistro as Superintendent of Schools for the term February 1, 2015 to July 31, 2018.

#### **APPENDIX "B"**

#### **RATIFICATION OF THE APPOINTMENT OF THE SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS**

2956 Motion. Dick Mastel: "THAT the Board of Trustees for the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education ratify the appointment of Mr. Joseph Colistro as Superintendent of Schools for the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education and that the effective date of the appointment be February 01, 2015 to July 31, 2018".

Carried unanimously.

## RATIFICATION OF THE CONTRACT OF EMPLOYMENT

- 2957 Dick Mastel: "THAT the Board of Trustees for the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education ratify the Contract of Employment for Mr. Joseph Colistro as Superintendent of Schools for Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education and that the effective date of the appointment be February 01, 2015 to July 31, 2018".

## MOTION TO MOVE IN-CAMERA - Personnel

- 2958 Peter Grad: "THAT the Board of Trustees for the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education move In-Camera".

Carried unanimously.

Note: The Board moved In-Camera at 3:30 pm. The gallery left the room.

## MOTION TO MOVE OUT OF IN-CAMERA

- 2959 Robert Risling: "THAT the Board of Trustees for the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education move out of In-Camera".

Carried unanimously.

Note: The Board moved out of In-Camera at 3:35 p.m. The gallery returned to the room.

Note: Motion # 2957 was re-stated as above, the Board voted motion #2957.

Carried unanimously.

## SUPERINTENDENT OF SCHOOLS REPORT – Mr. Joe Colistro

Note: **Registration Form** – In an effort to provide greater ease for parents, registration for the 2015-2016 school year was completed through a pre-populated Student Registration Form.

Note: **Board Retreat** – A retreat was held on February 7, 2015 with Trustees and Central Office Senior Administration to review the Board's strategic plan and discuss developments in the Catholic Education Standards. Positive Culture Company facilitated the day.

Note: **French Immersion** – An enrollment analysis was reviewed in particular the cohort change from ECS to Grade 12. We are currently offering video conferencing at the High School in addition to the distance learning program. We also offer K-6 French Immersion at École St. Thomas d'Aquin and 7-9 at St. Mary's School.

Note: **Fine Arts Meeting** – A meeting with representatives from our Fine Arts staff was held on January 23, 2015. We talked about our vision for Fine Arts in the division and we expressed the Division is committed to excellence in all school programming including Fine Arts.

Note: **Parent Association** – A parent meeting was held on January 26, 2015 at Notre Dame Academy. We talked about the new website layout design and functionality. School and Division websites will be revised in the near future. We talked about the potential for professional development opportunities being offered for parents. We also discussed the upcoming 2015 – 2016 school year calendar.

Note: **School Year Calendar 2015 – 2016** – The calendar has now been reviewed by stakeholders in the division including staff, parents and ATA representatives. The Board will approve the calendar at the upcoming March 10, 2015 Board meeting.

Note: **Appointments** – As of Monday, February 9, 2015 we are excited to welcome Mr. Chuck Hellman as the Acting Associate Superintendent Human Resources. An interview process was engaged with members from the Board, DLT and Staff serving on the interview committee. Mr. Hellman will continue to support St. Mary's School as they transition with their newly appointed Acting Principal, Mr. Mike Weisgerber. Currently the Acting Vice-Principal position is posted; we hope to fill that as soon as possible.

#### **ACTING ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT HUMAN RESOURCES – Mr. Chuck Hellman**

Note: **Welcome and Congratulations** – The Board welcomed Mr. Hellman to Board table. Mr. Hellman expressed his thanks and appreciation to the Board.

Note: **Inspiring Education Update** – The Minister has stated that he is a “student” of Inspiring Education. There is still a lot of positive talk at the provincial level regarding this initiative.

#### **GRADUAL RETIREMENT PLAN**

Note: Mr. Hellman introduced the idea of a Gradual Retirement Plan for teachers in our Division. We have recently met with Prairie Rose School Division to talk about how their program has worked for their Teachers. It was determined that our Division is interested in investigating this type of plan for our Teachers.

2960 Motion. Regina Durst: “THAT the Board of Trustees for the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education approve the development of a Teacher Gradual Retirement Plan as a 1 year pilot effective immediately with Administration to develop a Plan in collaboration with the local Alberta Teachers' Association”.

Carried unanimously.

#### **SECRETARY-TREASURER REPORT – Mr. Greg MacPherson**

Note: Trustees are encouraged to complete the Government of Alberta Budget Survey that is open until February 28, 2015. It was determined it best that Trustees respond individually as there were some challenges within the survey to respond appropriately as a corporation.

#### **ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT LEARNING SERVICES – Mr. Hugh Lehr**

Note: **Learning Assistants Conference** – The Learning Assistants Conference held on January 23, 2015 was an excellent day. We have engaged our Learning Assistant Staff in a survey to gain feedback on the day. Mr. Lehr thanked Trustee Risling for attending and bringing greetings on behalf of the Board.

#### **RELIGIOUS EDUCATION COORDINATOR**

NOTE: **Excellence in Catholic Education Award** – Three nominees from our division teaching staff were nominated. We are meeting on Feb 11, 2015 to select the winning recipient for 2015. The criteria for this award is developed by the CCSSA which recommends local Boards financially support the winning recipient to attend the SPICE Conference.

#### **EXCELLENCE IN CATHOLIC EDUCATION AWARD**

2961 Motion. Peter Grad: “THAT the Board of Trustees for the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education annually sponsor the successful recipient of the Excellence in Catholic Education Award to attend the SPICE conference hosted by the Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association (ACSTA)”.

Carried unanimously.

Note: **High School Religious Education Courses** – Permission to use the Locally Developed Course Religious Education 15, 25, & 35 in both 3 & 5 credit courses will expire in August 2015. In addition, the new curriculum is to be implemented starting in September 2015 and will be in effect for 4 years until August 2019. The ACSTA owns these courses and the Edmonton Catholic School District administers them and we acquire them from Edmonton Catholic. It was noted the Office of the Superintendent will engage the process for reacquiring the locally developed courses in time for September 2015.

## **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

### **Medicine Hat Catholic Schools' Education Foundation – Mrs. Regina Durst**

Note: The Annual General Meeting was held on January 20, 2015. Mr. Bernie Lyczewski's has retired as a Director. Mr. Rob Stroh is the new Chair with Mr. Gordon Rice as Vice-Chair. Grants were awarded to Notre Dame Academy, Monsignor McCoy for *WE Day*. The next meeting is March 17, 2015. The Golf tournament planning is underway. The Foundation has collected just over \$6,000 for the Monsignor McCoy High School Modernization fundraising.

### **Representative to ACSTA – Mr. Dick Mastel**

Note: At the ACSTA Directors meeting there was discussion regarding Student Code of Conduct and the new Education Act in particular 32.2. There is a desire to obtain a legal opinion and that ACSTA would develop standards for Board's to use. There was also discussion regarding Trustee Code of It was noted the ACSTA Spring Convention is cancelled due to low registration. There was a lot of discussion regarding the Annual General Meeting of the ACSTA and ASBA relating to the format and the venue. It was determined it is best to keep the conferences back to back, but it was thought it may be time to explore a new venue and to move away from the WESTIN in Edmonton. It was noted the motion to accept the Trustees from YUKON as part of the Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association (ACSTA) was accepted; a committee will review the governance regulations.

### **Representative to Teacher Board Advisory Committee – Reverend Mr. Robert Risling**

Note: No meeting, no report.

### **Representatives to ASBA Zone 6 – Mr. Peter Grad**

Note: ASBA Directors are building a strategic plan and hope to have a draft by the March 2015 Directors meeting. It will be circulated to Boards to review. Mr. Grad plans to attend the ASBA Zone Meeting in Lethbridge on February 11, 2015. It is expected this meeting will be a very important relating to the School Act and Regulations.

### **Representative to Support Staff Board Advisory Committee – Mrs. Regina Durst**

Note: There were discussions at the last meeting regarding Support Staff Salaries. It is noted that this discussion topic will be presented to the Board during the budget setting and potentially this item could be a budget assumption. The next meeting is set for March 25, 2015.

### **Representative to Parent Association – Reverend Mr. Robert Risling**

Note: Trustee Durst attended the meeting. There was some discussion regarding the upcoming new websites for schools. There were excellent

reports presented by school representatives, lots of great information sharing.

**Representatives to Salary Negotiations – ATA – Mr. Peter Grad**

Note: No meeting, no report.

**Representatives to Salary Negotiations – CUPE – Mr. Dick Mastel**

Note: No meeting, no report.

**Representatives to CUPE Staff Board Advisory – Reverend Mr. Robert Risling**

Note: Next meeting is March 2, 2015. No report.

**Representatives to Spiritual Leadership Scholarship – Mrs. Regina Durst**

Note: No meeting, no report.

**Representative to Student Board Advisory – Mr. Dick Mastel**

Note: No meeting, no report.

**Representative to C2 (Adhoc) Committee – Reverend Mr. Robert Risling**

Note: No meeting, no report.

**Representative to Monsignor McCoy High School (Adhoc) Committee – Mrs. Regina Durst**

Note: We had a meeting on January 27, 2015 to develop a moving forward strategy for fundraising. Next we will be meeting with Parish Groups to talk about the project and inform them how they might support the project. We plan to be present at the Monsignor McCoy High School presentations of *CLUE – The Musical* at the Southside Events Centre. The official sod turning event is being planned perhaps for mid April 2015. We will invite the Bishop and dignitaries both locally and provincially. The next meeting of the committee is March 4, 2015.

Note: The Trustees expressed interest in attending the CLUE-THE MUSICAL. Tickets will be purchased accordingly.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Note: The Board Chair called the meeting adjourned.

Note: The meeting adjourned at 5:04 p.m.

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Mr. Peter Grad, Board Chair

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Mrs. Della Dewald, Executive Assistant