

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MEDICINE HAT CATHOLIC BOARD OF EDUCATION HELD at the Catholic Education Centre, 1251 – 1st Avenue S.W., Medicine Hat, Alberta on February 09, 2010 @ 6:00 p.m.

TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS PRESENT

Stan Aberle	Chair	<i>via Teleconference</i>
Jodi Churla	Vice-Chair	
Peter Grad	Trustee	Absent
Kelly Van Ham	Trustee	
Ken Arthur	Trustee	
David Leahy	Superintendent of Schools	
Greg MacPherson	Secretary Treasurer	
Hugh Lehr	Director of Student Services	
Amanda Crowley	Coordinator of Religious Education	
Della Dewald	Executive Assistant	

OPENING PRAYER

Note: The meeting opened with prayer led by Jodi Churla.

CHAIR

Note: The meeting was chaired by Mrs. Jodi Churla. Mr. Stan Aberle, Board Chair was in attendance via teleconference.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

2360 Motion. Ken Arthur: "THAT the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held January 12, 2010 be approved as circulated".

Carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE ACTION AGENDA

2361 Motion. Kelly Van Ham: "THAT the Action Agenda dated February 09, 2010 be approved as circulated".

Carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE NON-ACTION AGENDA

2362 Motion. Stan Aberle: "THAT the Non-Action Agenda dated February 09, 2010 be approved as circulated".

Carried unanimously.

CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

Note: A letter was forwarded to Parents and Guardians regarding the school bus cancellation policy as communicated to the Division by TRAXX operating as TOTEM Transportation.

Note: The Superintendent of Schools forwarded a letter acknowledging the athletes and basketball fans in the upcoming 3A Provincial Basketball championships in Medicine Hat, the tournament is hosted in partnership with the Public School District.

Note: A letter was forwarded to the Minister of Education expressing our ongoing and continued support of the Alberta Distance Learning Centre.

Note: Notification was received from the Minister of Education that the proposed changes to the School Act will be delayed for further stakeholder consultation and engagement.

Note: Notification from the Deputy Superintendent announced that changes to Section 71 of the School Act received royal assent that now enables Trustees to participate in public board meetings via videoconference and teleconference.

Note: Mrs. Amanda Crowley was announced as the Full-Time Religious Education Coordinator beginning February 01, 2010.

APPENDIX "A"

POLICY 11 – BOARD DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY

2363 Motion: Ken Arthur: "THAT the Board of Trustees for the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education approve first reading of Policy 11 – Board Delegation of Authority".

Carried unanimously.

2364 Motion. Ken Arthur: "THAT the Board of Trustees for the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education approve second reading of Policy 11 – Board Delegation of Authority".

Carried unanimously.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Note: Senior Administration will do a site-visit/inspection of the St. Thomas Aquinas School property to prepare for the re-opening in September 2010. St. Thomas Aquinas School will be the future home of the K – 6 French Immersion Program.

Note: Division-Wide Registration and Sacramental Preparation – As part of the February 2010 registration process, information was circulated to our parent community focusing on Sacramental Preparation and First Nations, Métis and Inuit Funding.

Note: Administrative Procedure 550 – Transportation of Students – Annually the Division will communicate the protocol regarding school bus transportation in particular the protocol for cancelling bus service.

Note: Official Languages in Education Program – The Division will receive the final grant payment from the Federal Action Plan for Official Languages in Education in the amount of \$11,000. The Division has made application for another 4 year grant to support Second Language Programming in the Division.

Note: Provincial Budget 2010 – At this time there is uncertainty in the 2010 Budget as recently announced by the province. The Budget could certainly have an impact on division operations. The Board will continue to set the budget assumptions. The final Budget will be approved by the Board by May 31.

APPENDIX "B"

TOWN HALL MEETING BUDGET CONSULTATION – JANUARY 18, 2010

Note: The Board held a Town Hall Meeting on January 18, 2010 to consult with stakeholders regarding programming and the upcoming budget. The Board wanted to hear "what stakeholder's value most in the Division".

2365 Motion. Stan Aberle: "THAT the Trustees for the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education directs administration to prepare a summary of costs associated with program and service delivery for topics generated at the Town Hall Meeting held on January 18, 2010 and that a 2nd Town Hall Meeting be held to communicate this information to our stakeholders".

Note: This information will be prepared for the Board and the date of a Town Hall meeting will be scheduled and announced.

Carried unanimously.

ALBERTA AVERAGE WEEKLY EARNINGS INDEX (AAWEI)

2366 Motion. Ken Arthur: "THAT the Trustees for the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education approves the Alberta Average Weekly Earnings Index of 5.99% to be applied to certificated salaries and allowances retroactive to the start of the 2009 – 2010 school year".

Carried unanimously.

TRUSTEE NOMINATION PACKAGE

2367 Motion. Kelly Van Ham: "THAT the Trustees for the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education approve the Position Description, Role Description and Code of Ethics of a Catholic School Board Trustee".

Carried unanimously.

Note: The information will be forwarded to the City of Medicine Hat to become part of the 2010 nomination packages for the upcoming Municipal Election in October.

APPENDIX "C"

SOUTHRIDGE RECREATIONAL AND WELLNESS CENTRE/NOTRE DAME ACADEMY OPERATING CLARIFICATION AGREEMENT

2368 Motion. Stan Aberle: "THAT the Trustees for the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education approves the Southridge Recreational and Wellness Centre/Notre Dame Academy Operating Clarification Agreement as presented".

Carried unanimously.

APPENDIX "D"

INSURANCE COVERAGE FOR PARENT COUNCILS

Note: The Board is currently paying \$715 per/school per/year for Directors/Officers insurance for school councils in all nine schools. We are currently the only Board in the Insurance Consortium paying this premium for schools. The Board asked senior administration to take this item to Parent Association for discussion to determine whether school councils could take on this expense.

BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS 2010 – 2011

Note: Annually as part of the Budget process, senior administration seeks Board approval on the assumptions to be made in the development of the budget and seeks any other direction the Board may wish to include.

2369 Motion. Stan Aberle: "THAT the Trustees for the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education approve the 2010 – 2011 Budget Assumptions as amended without the \$200/year full day everyday kindergarten and without a support staff salary increase".

Vote: 3 Trustees in Favor.
1 Trustee Opposed.
1 Trustee Absent.

Carried.

APPENDIX "E"

LEARNING ASSISTANTS CONFERENCE

Note: Mr. Hugh Lehr reviewed the outline for the Learning Assistants Conference planned for Friday, March 19, 2010. This conference will offer First Aid Recertification, Non-Violent Crisis Intervention, sessions on Autism, Dealing with students with anger issues, Mental Health Disorders, Yoga and Pottery. This is an exciting opportunity for all Division Learning Assistants to be involved in a full day of professional development.

Note: This conference is normally held in the fall, however, had been rescheduled due to H1N1 Protocol.

ALBERTA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION (ASBA) AWARDS 2010

Note: The Board reviewed the deadline and criteria for annual awards offered by the Alberta School Boards Association.

ELECTORAL WARD BY-LAW RE-APPROVAL

2370 Motion. Ken Arthur: "THAT the Trustees for the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education approve first reading of the amended by-law as presented".

Carried unanimously.

2371 Motion. Kelly Van Ham: "THAT the Trustees for the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education approve second reading of the amended by-law as presented".

Carried unanimously.

2372 Motion. Stan Aberle "THAT the Trustees for the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education approve third reading of the amended by-law as presented".

Carried unanimously.

APPENDIX "F"

SCHOOL COUNCIL CONFERENCE 2010

Note: The School Council Conference is scheduled for April 23 – April 25, 2010. No Trustees expressed an interest in attending the conference.

ALBERTA CATHOLIC SCHOOL TRUSTEES' ASSOCIATION (ACSTA) CATHOLIC CONFERENCE

Note: The Board of Trustees sponsored this event in the amount of \$1,000 and received three complimentary tickets. The Religious Education Coordinator and the Youth Minister will attend. The third ticket was donated to ACSTA who passed it along to a family in need.

ALBERTA CATHOLIC SCHOOL TRUSTEES' ASSOCIATION (ACSTA) SPICE AND BLUE PRINTS CONFERENCE

Note: The SPICE CONFERENCE AND BLUE PRINTS CONFERENCES are upcoming. Interested Trustees and Senior Administration must express their interest in attending by March 30, 2010.

WIND FARM PROJECT

Note: Notification was received about a Wind Farm Project underway in the County of Forty Mile SE of the Town of Bow Island. The anticipated population growth is approximately 75 families to the area that could

result in an increase of school aged children to our schools in Medicine Hat and Bow Island. This information is provided to the Board for information only.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Medicine Hat Catholic Schools' Education Foundation – Kelly Van Ham

Note: Annual General Meeting was held on January 19, 2010. Two Foundation Directors resignations this year included Mrs. Patty Jo Follitt and Mr. Archie MacPhail. Two new Directors for the Foundation are Mr. Richard Mastel and Mr. Byron Martin were announced. The Foundation still requires one more Director.

The Foundation is looking at setting up an Endowment Fund.

The Annual Golf Tournament is set for June 04, 2010. This is not a professional development day for division staff.

Representative to ACSTA – Peter Grad

Note: No report. Trustee Absent.

Representative to Teacher Board Advisory – Stan Aberle

Note: No report.

Representative to ASBA Zone 6 – Ken Arthur

Note: Next meeting planned for January 13, 2010 in Lethbridge. Good information exchange. Discussion about the Edwin Parr Awards Banquet resulted in a number of changes based on feedback received from last years celebration.

Mr. Arthur distributed a brochure from Crestwood School about their Leadership Academy highlighting the Seven Habits of Highly Effective People.

Representative to Spiritual Leadership Scholarship Awards – Stan Aberle

Note: No report.

Representative to Support Staff Board Advisory Committee – Jodi Churla

Note: Discussion at the meeting addressed the equalization pay disbursements of hourly paid employees including how and when they are made and the rationale to the pay schedule. The next meeting is the last Wednesday of March 2010.

Representative to Parent Association – Jodi Churla

Note: Discussion around the Budget consultation process and the lack of information some parents felt was missing from the January 18, 2010 Town Hall Meeting. The message was that it was not the Board's original intent to distribute programming costs associated with services for that particular meeting.

A presentation from the On-Track Coordinator Mrs. Kim Rae was very valuable.

A presentation from Mr. Robert Dumanowski, Principal of St. Mary's School about the Fine Arts Academy was informative and was seen as beneficial in particular of the fact that Academy programming is not subsidized by the division.

Salary Negotiations – ATA – Ken Arthur

Note: No report. Mr. Greg MacPherson and Mr. Ken Arthur are doing background research on finite comparisons of other collective agreements for information only.

Salary Negotiations – CUPE – Peter Grad

Note: No report. Trustee Absent.

ADJOURNMENT

Note: The meeting was called adjourned by the Vice-Chair, Mrs. Jodi Churla.

Note: The meeting adjourned at 8:05 p.m.

Jodi Churla, Vice Chair

Della Dewald, Executive Assistant