

Medicine Hat Catholic Schools Parent Association Minutes

February 27, 2012

In Attendance: Candace Lambert, Corinne Hordos Goyer, Laureen Getz, Penny Pahl, Melinda Mastel, Michelle Lutz, Barb Dolter, Michele Plante, Ray West, Barb Thompson, Ruby Clarke, Jodi Churla, Wayne Schlosser, Peter Grad

1. Tour of St. Louis: led by Wayne Schlosser 7:05-7:25 Comment asked to be added: "Beautiful School! Can see the pride!"
2. Opening Prayer: led by Wayne Schlosser
3. Introductions
4. Additions and Approval of Agenda : Approved by Michelle Lutz/seconded by Michele Plante
5. Reading and Approval of Minutes from January 23, 2012: Approved by Laureen Getz/seconded by Barb Dolter with correction to Gwen Young for Bow Island report.
6. Board Trustee Report: Jodi Churla
Centennial Celebrations are in need of support. Stan Aberle will return to Medicine Hat shortly and has more info. There are tickets for sale for the Bishop's Dinner and the Golf Tournament needs donations – please support where you can.
7. Central Office Report: Wayne Schlosser
 - Mr. Greg Macpherson has gone through the budget numbers from the government and calculated those out to the accurate figures for our division. The Division is down approximately 100 kids from the 2010-2011 figures that the government used so rather than the implied 4.35% government funding increase for the 2012-2013 division budget, the actual increase is 1.25% or \$348,000.00. Several different grants and programs are impacted. For example, AISI funding has decreased. The deficit and new Memorandum of Agreement will have to be covered by the 1.25%.
 - Update on St. Michael Bow Island motion: There will be a discussion at the March Board Meeting and a decision will be made by the end of April.
 - Update on French Immersion in High School: meeting on February 28th with French Immersion families, ADLC and administration @ 7pm. Decision to be made approximately same time as Bow Island.
 - McCoy Value Management process has begun – a group of professionals including 2 persons from Infrastructure, 2 from Alberta Education, 1 from the Medicine Hat College, and administration from both McCoy and Central Office toured the areas of CTS, Fine Arts, Gym, Lunch room, etc. that are being reviewed. Infrastructure was impressed with technology at the school and the physical shape/condition of the school, but knows that modernization is needed. A team visited high schools in Lethbridge and Taber and have very impressive feedback on what education may look like. Surveys are out to parents and a council member(s) will be involved in the process of modernization. College courses at high school level seemingly important to government. RAP program impressive and students can end with first year apprenticeship. Many things impressive but many more needs. Value management audit first step in process for major project. A full report will be coming and any info/opinions can be forwarded to the Education Minister and MLA's.

- Jodi speaks to David's resignation – a huge blow to the Division but wish him the very best – hiring process is beginning. Also hiring a new religious coordinator – Amanda Crowley has done fabulous job but will be her last term.
- Please contact Mr. Leahy or trustees@mhcbe.ab.ca in regards to any issues.

8. ATA Update: Ray West

Tripartite negotiations have ended. All divisions now have local authority so Board will negotiate with teaching staff directly. Ray believes Medicine Hat Catholic best Division in the province and there is a strong relationship in place. Local ATA recognizes the financial realities of our division and the #1 priority at this time is not the Collective Agreement but rather Inclusive Education.

9. Committee Reports

- Chair Report: Candace Lambert
ASCA Conference in April – please let Corinne at corjwo_2004@msn.com know if you are attending April 20-22, 2012. A report/giant book from the Chief Medical Officer of Health entitled “Let's Talk” was received. Webinar about school council was attended by Candace online – they are being recorded and will appear on the ACSA website www.albertaschoolcouncils.ca
- Secretary /Treasurer : Corinne Hordos Goyer
Account Balance: 1168.54
- Board Representative: Lauren Getz
Will be Town Hall on Monday, April 16 @ 7 p.m. and issues on agenda are Effective and Efficient Operations, Programming, and Budget. Next Board Meetings will be March 13th and April 17th.
February 14, 2012 – Ambassador Awards presented to Willow and Chayce for Spelling Bee participation. The FI student delegate made a delightful presentation in French & English. Jill Wilkinson presented on AISI. Kim Porter introduced a presentation from Jennifer Usher – coordinator of Medicine Hat Early Childhood.

10. School Reports

McCoy: Lauren Getz

AP meeting Feb. 1st well attended – over 150 parents & students – waiting on registration numbers – minimum of students needed and cannot be at cost to any other programs. Singing in the Rain will be performed by McCoy Drama Thursday March 1st and Friday March 2nd. Registration forms for McCoy always later than rest of District. McCoy Delegation to visit Junior High Schools Mar 6th & 7th.

Mother Teresa: Michelle Lutz

Cookbooks for sale @ \$10 each. Christmas Concert DVD's \$15 or 2 for \$20. Kitchen needs a used stove. Looking at Car Decals of Virgin Mother and Rosary.

Notre Dame: Michele Plante

Food Lab Construction to start in April. Grade 6 had EPIC Grad. Mother Teresa Council visited Notre Dame Council to share ideas.

St. Thomas: Ruby Clarke

Set up table at Mall-wide registration for Kindergarten. Students did well at the Board Meeting. Solution to High School FI has been put forth and a meeting is forthcoming. Carnival will be Thursday and Friday and all are welcome. St. Thomas would like to host next PA Meeting.

St. Francis: Barb Thompson

A great time was had at the school dance.

St. Mary's: Laureen Getz

Alice in Wonderland JR performances on April 24th & 25th – they need sponsorship for program. History Book Launch went well and Mr. Hellman praised involved students. Two University Nursing students in school once a week for the morning to discuss healthy choices, body image, etc. March 7th will be the Science Fair. After last report card, all honours students were recognized and prize draws held – about 100 kids – reinforcement that Brains ROCK!!

St. Michael's BI: Penny Pahl & Melinda Mastel

Grade 11 put on a very successful fashion show – 230 tickets were sold. Held a Basketball Tournament - Boy's basketball team off to Zones – GOOD LUCK!! Ski Trip on Friday with School Council paying for anyone who cannot afford it. School participated in Rick Hansen Relay. Have a curling team attending provincials – Best of Luck!! Select parents and Mr. Van Ham will attend the Rural & Urban Symposium in Red Deer. The whole school will take a trip to the Calgary Zoo in June – each family represents an animal. Parents have begun to teach Food Studies, Shop and Cosmetology. A good meeting was held at Bow Island School with Division Admin and school community – A+ from Mr. Leahy. Grad students are doing ADLC courses - very well!! There is a quick marks turnaround that is highly appreciated. Zumba is coming to school – the kids will tape the moves to share – about \$100 to bring out the instructor.

St. Michael's MH: Barb Dolter

May attend conference and Society will help with funding. Uniform issue – “No's” more adamant than “Yes's”, but info night upcoming with samples – date will be emailed when set. Choirs will attend the Rotary Music Festival Monday, March 5th with junior's choir @ 9am and senior @ 10 am.

11. Old Business: none

12. New Business: Conference expenses to be discussed at next meeting.

13. NEXT MEETING APRIL 2nd @ ST. THOMAS SCHOOL @ 7:00 PM

MAY 7th @ BOW ISLAND SCHOOL @ 7:00 PM

Adjourn 9:10 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Corinne Hordos Goyer