

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE MEDICINE HAT CATHOLIC BOARD OF EDUCATION HELD at Notre Dame Academy, 646 Spruce Way SE., Medicine Hat, Alberta on February 12, 2008 @ 7:30 P.M.

TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS PRESENT

Stan Aberle	Chair	
Jodi Churla	Vice-Chair	
Peter Grad	Trustee	
Kelly Van Ham	Trustee	Absent
Ken Arthur	Trustee	
David Leahy	Acting Superintendent	
Christopher Smeaton	Deputy Superintendent	
Sherrill Fedor	Associate Superintendent Student Services	
Bernie Girardin	Secretary Treasurer	
Della Dewald	Executive Assistant	

OPENING PRAYER

Note: The meeting was called to order by Mr. Stan Aberle. He thanked Notre Dame Academy and Mr. Brian Macauley, Principal and Mr. Robert Grisonich, Vice-Principal for hosting the February 12, 2008 Board Meeting. Mr. Aberle thanked Mr. Rolf Traichel for assisting with coordinating the technology in allowing the Board to hold the meeting off-site.

Note: The meeting began with prayer led by Mr. Peter Grad.

APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

2110 Motion. Jodi Churla: "THAT the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held January 08, 2008 be approved as circulated".

Carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE ACTION AGENDA

2111 Motion. Ken Arthur "THAT the Action Agenda dated February 12, 2008 be approved as amended".

Amendment Addition: Job Fairs

Carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE NON-ACTION AGENDA

2112 Motion. Ken Arthur "THAT the Non-Action Agenda dated February 12, 2008 be approved as circulated".

Carried unanimously.

CORPORATE COMMUNICATIONS

Note: Mr. Stan Aberle reviewed the corporate communications from Alberta Education – Minister of Education acknowledging the appointment of Mr. David Leahy as Acting Superintendent of Schools. Alberta Education – Minister of Education regarding the Medicine Hat Regional Skills Centre City of Medicine Hat – Alberta Summer Games Promotions Committee

APPENDIX "A"

PRESENTATION – NOTRE DAME ACADEMY SENTEO

Note: Mr. Unreiner and Mr. Siedlecki, teachers from Notre Dame Academy provided the Board with a hands-on demonstration of the SENTEO Interactive Response System being used regularly in classrooms. The teachers described that the system is designed to enhance interactive teaching and learning. A teacher displays questions and on an interactive SmartBoard and the students anonymously key in the answers with their remote and responses are instantly tallied then displayed. This gives instant results on what was learned and what was not both for the benefit of the teacher and the students. The Board thanked Mr. Unreiner and Mr. Siedlecki for the demonstration and the exceptional work being done in their classrooms using technology as an excellent learning tool.

AMBASSADORS FOR CATHOLIC EDUCATION – PRESENTATION

Note: The Board of Trustees recognized the former trustees with a framed certificate in recognition of their dedicated service as a Catholic School Board Trustee. Mr. Michael Tivadar was recognized for 18 years of service, Mr. Immanuel Moritz for 6 years of service, Mr. Mario Rossetto for 6 years of service and Dr. Lee Little for 3 years of service. Trustees are recognized for – Answering the Call to be Faith Leaders". Congratulations.

Note: Mr. Tivadar and Mr. Rossetto were not in attendance to accept their award due to other commitments.

MEDICINE HAT CATHOLIC SCHOOLS' EDUCATION FOUNDATION – PRESENTATION

Note: Mr. Rob Stroh from the MH Catholic Schools' Education Foundation presented a PowerPoint presentation to the Trustees outlining the many ways in which the Foundation supports Catholic Christian leadership in our Division. The Foundation sponsors Projects, Awards Scholarships and Grants. In the past year, the Foundation projects totaled \$24,000, scholarships at \$7,200, grants at \$26,025 and the 50/50 payroll generated funds direct to the Foundation in the amount of \$4,000. The 6th Annual Foundation Golf Tournament will be held June 06, 2008. The Board thanked the Foundation for their outstanding work.

ALBERTA MINISTER'S EDUCATION RECOGNITION LEADERSHIP AWARD (MERLA)

Note: On January 09, 2008 the Medicine Hat Catholic Separate Regional Division No. 20 was awarded the Minister's Education Leadership Recognition Award for Significant and Very High Achievement in School Improvement. The MERLA Award was created by Alberta Education to formally recognize and celebrate significant improvement and very high achievement. It is based on the Accountability Pillar which was designed by stakeholders as a means for collecting objective criteria and data results from a broad set of measures related to school quality. This is the first year the award has been presented.

INFRASTRUCTURE MAINTENANCE RENEWAL (IMR) – PROPOSED FACILITY PROJECTS

Note: Mr. Bernie Girardin, Secretary-Treasurer and Mr. Jim Schafer, Facility and Operations Supervisor presented the project proposals.

2114 Motion. Peter Grad: "THAT the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education approves Items 2 – 11 of the Infrastructure Maintenance Renewal Projects in the amount of \$579,120 inclusive of GST."

Carried unanimously.

2115 Motion. Ken Arthur: "THAT the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education approves Item 1 in principle with a further study required regarding the building quality issues including the furnace age and the consideration of the enrollment of the school".

Carried unanimously.

2116 Motion. Jodi Churla: "THAT the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education approve the Catholic Education Centre Roofing Project in the amount of \$150,000 inclusive of GST".

Carried unanimously.

APPENDIX "B"

DIVISION WIDE REGISTRATION

Note: The Annual Student Registration for the division is occurring in February 2008. This is an opportunity for all students currently enrolled in our Catholic Schools in Medicine Hat and Bow Island to pre-register for next year. New student registrations for K – 12 are scheduled for February 25 – February 29, 2008 including Kindergarten and Grade One. A report on student registration will be communicated at a later date.

TOWN HALL MEETINGS – OVERVIEW

Note: The Board is looking forward to the first of two Town Hall Meetings scheduled for all Catholic stakeholders in the communities of Medicine Hat, Bow Island, Redcliff and Dunmore. The town hall meetings are scheduled for Thursday, February 28, 2008 and May 20, 2008. Invitations were extended in all school newsletters, on the division website and by single invitations handed out at the Parish's on February 16, 2008.

APPENDIX "C"

STRATEGIC PLANNING DISCUSSION AND PLANNING

Note: Mr. David Leahy advised that committees have been formed to talk about Three Year Education Planning and Budget. Each school administrator has been directed to have Budget and Three Year Planning on each staff meeting agenda. This discussion will continue at the Division Leadership Team and with the Board of Trustees.

CENTRAL OFFICE REVIEW

Note: Mr. David Leahy advised that Mr. Steve Cymbol will have a preliminary report ready for the Board to review by February 25, 2008 with a final report presented to the Board at the March 11, 2008 regularly scheduled Board Meeting.

FEBRUARY 04, 2008 POLICY HANDBOOK AND ADMINISTRATIVE PROCEDURE MANUAL REVIEW

Note: A full day working meeting was held on Monday, February 4, 2008 attended by 35 people from various Catholic stakeholder groups to review or Policy Handbook and Administrative Procedures Manual. Board Policy changes will be presented at the March 11, 2008 Board Meeting with recommendations for first and second reading and then proposed for third reading and final adoption at the April 2008 Board Meeting. Mr. David Leahy communicated that the reference to "draft" has been removed from the Administrative Procedures Manual and staff is to consider the AP's the document to refer to. Changes will continue to the AP's with completion of the Manual by June 30, 2008.

OFFICE OF THE BISHOP OF THE DIOCESE OF CALGARY

Note: The Board reviewed the letter from the Bishop regarding fundraising. The Bishop has determined that all Catholic schools will cease using bingo and casinos for fundraising purposes by March 01, 2010 at the latest.

2117 Motion. Ken Arthur: "THAt the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education cease using bingo and casinos for fundraising purposes by March 01, 2010".

Carried unanimously.

Note: The Diocese indicated that Boards will not knowingly accept gambling revenues from any source. The Board directed Mr. Leahy to contact the Bishop to clarify if this does or does not include CFEP Grants. The Board deferred that resolution to the March 11, 2008 Board Meeting.

APPENDIX "D"

FACILITIES

Note: The Board and Senior Administration have an appointment to meet with the City of Medicine Hat regarding acquisition of land. Further, the board reviewed the consideration of hiring a consultant to develop a ten year facility plan with no facility announcements and to look at our existing plan and rework it in terms of possibilities that exist.

2118 Motion. Peter Grad: "THAT the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education hires Mr. David Purdy from Simera Strategy Group to complete a revised/new Ten Year Facility Plan".

Carried unanimously.

Note: Mr. Aberle indicated that it is very important that we discuss that we set the terms of reference and the deliverables.

THREE YEAR EDUCATION PLAN – POWERPOINT PRESENTATION

Note: This item was deferred to the March 2008 Board Meeting.

BLUEPRINTS / SPICE CONFERENCE

Note: Any interested individuals wanting to attend SPICE or BLUEPRINTS must register asap. Contact Mrs. Della Dewald to complete the registration submission. SPICE is scheduled for April 24 – April 27, BLUEPRINTS is scheduled for April 29 – May 02, 2008.

2008 – 2009 THREE YEAR CALENDAR

Note: Mr. Christopher Smeaton presented the proposed 2008 – 2009 school year calendar.

2119 Motion. Peter Grad: "THAT the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education approve the 2008 – 2009 school year calendar as presented".

Carried unanimously.

APPENDIX "E"

BACK TO SCHOOL CELEBRATION 2008 – 2009 SCHOOL YEAR

Note: Mr. Stan Aberle indicated that the Back to School Year celebration will be held on September 26, 2008 and will be a formal event recognizing staff new to the division and presenting long service awards and celebrating the start of the school year. More information will follow.

JOB FAIRS

Note: Mr. Christopher Smeaton reviewed the job fairs attended this year. Mr. Smeaton along with division principals attended the University of Lethbridge, University of Calgary, University of Saskatchewan and University of Regina. He describes a good pool of interested teachers expressed interest in our division. Mr. Smeaton will further communicate personally with the graduates of the education program at the University of Alberta to invite them to teach with us in the fall.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Medicine Hat Catholic Schools' Education Foundation – Kelly Van Ham

Note: Kelly Van Ham absent. Mr. Girardin reported that the Foundation did give one grant to the Wizard of Oz play at McCoy in the amount of \$1500. The next meeting is March 06, 2008.

Representative to ACSTA – Peter Grad

Note: No report.

Representative to Teacher Board Advisory Committee – Stan Aberle

Note: Discussion included the 2008 – 2009 School Year Calendar, the Policy Handbook and the Administrative Procedures Manual and the role and purpose of the Teacher Board Advisory. The TBAC and the ATA are two channels for communication for the teachers.

Representative to ASBA Zone 6 – Ken Arthur

Note: Zone 6 Meeting is scheduled for February 13, 2008 at 10:00 am. At the January 09, 2008 Zone 6 meeting Mr. Ken Arthur received the MERLA Awards from Alberta Education that recognized our division in the areas of school improvement.

Representative to Spiritual Leadership Scholarship Award – Stan Aberle

Note: No report.

Representative to Support Staff Board Advisory Committee – Jodi Churla

Note: A meeting was held in January. The group was happy to come together and is pleased the committee now exists to hear issues from support staff. The next meeting is scheduled for March 12, 2008. Further discussion regarding the scope of the committee and the method of communication.

Representative to Parent Association- Jodi Churla

Note: Discussion included the Central Office Review, School Generated Funds. Mr. Bernie Girardin was in attendance to answer the questions regarding school generated funds.

Salary Negotiations – ATA – Ken Arthur

Note: We have a contract as of January 2008 between SBEBA and the ATA for five years. All twelve boards went to mediation, some were ratified and some went to voluntary arbitrary binding processes.

Salary Negotiations – CUPE – Peter Grad

Note: No report.

ADJOURNMENT

Note: The meeting was called adjourned by Mr. Stan Aberle at 10:10 p.m.

Stan Aberle, Board Chair

Della Dewald, Executive Assistant