

MEDICINE HAT CATHOLIC SCHOOLS PARENT ASSOCIATION MINUTES

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

SEPTEMBER 28, 2015

In Attendance: Michele Plante, Corinne Hordos-Goyer, Jennifer Rocheleau, Jodi Kerr, Joe Colistro, Robert Risling, Celena Gerl, Nancy Small, Teresa Stark, Barb Dolter, Justin Boksteyn, Laureen Getz, Candace Lambert, Alison Van Dyke.

Meeting was held at the Central Board Office, called to order at 7:04 pm by Candace Lambert.

1. Opening Prayer led by Robert Risling.
2. Introductions of all in attendance and the school or organization they represent.
3. Agenda was approved, after the date and details were corrected, by Corinne Hordos-Goyer and Barb Dolter.
4. Approval of minutes from September 29, 2014, AGM, by Celena Gerl and Corinne Hordos-Goyer.
5. Motion to dissolve current executive by Corinne Hordos-Goyer and Michele Plante. Joe Colistro was chosen to chair the elections of Executive for 2015/2016 school year.

Executive elected for the 2015/2016 school year for Medicine Hat Catholic Schools Parent Association are as follows:

- A) Chair - Candace Lambert
- B) Vice Chair - Michele Plante
- C) Secretary/Treasurer - Teresa Stark
- D) Board Representative - Jodi Kerr

Signing Authority on Account # 600108215113 at Servus on 13 Ave will be updated. The new Executive Candace Lambert, Michele Plante and Teresa Stark will hold signing authority for the 2015/2016 school year.

The election portion of the meeting was closed with approval of new volunteers elected and Candace Lambert chaired the rest of the regular meeting.

6. Central Office Report - Joe Colistro talked about the Division Strategic Priorities, how the planning session went last May and what will be included in the school annual plan reports. The main theme reflected on what makes a Catholic school Catholic. Fine Arts is an important part of the division and Mr. Colistro would like to see this promoted and supported by the use of a calendar listing all events for the year to be shared with all stakeholders. The Monsignor McCoy modernization project is off to a slow start but will start with the first phase being one of the gyms remodeled into classrooms. The Southlands School project is moving quickly with an architect being hired. The school will be located south of Holy Family Parish. Candace Lambert was invited to attend the Bishop's Dinner with the trustees and others going. A plan to continue with PD time for Parent Association was discussed and topics to cover. Parents will let Joe Colistro know how to proceed with this project. The Division has switched from Home Logic to PowerSchool in order to keep up with Alberta Education requirements. Parents will be able to access the information by October 1.

7. ATA Update - Bernie Kinch, ATA Rep was not able to attend but emailed Candace and said the ATA will cover the PA fees for all school councils again this year. They will send a \$400.00 cheque. Thank you to the ATA for their continuing support and donation to PA.

8. Trustee Board Report - Deacon Robert Risling reported on his support of the Strategic Priorities and how it connects the parish-school-home relationship. On October 5, Joe Colistro and Peter Grad will be in Lethbridge to meet with Alberta Education reps to discuss contract bargaining. On October 6, the Education Minister will be in Medicine Hat to meet with Joe and Peter. The Board Retreat will be on October 9 at Holy Family Parish. The theme will be to Nurture and Enhance Catholicity in our schools. The Catholic Dimension of Education is really important to this Board and they want to foster that.

10. A. Chair Report - Candace Lambert said the Bylaws and Constitution are on the District website under the heading Parents. She would like to change some wording in the Bylaws to update them. The PA brochure was handed out in May and should be in all schools now, it is also on the website. Candace talked about the ASCA website and the Webinars that are upcoming. The ASCA Conference is set for April 22 - 24, 2016 and Candace suggested reps to go. There was a Special Committee meeting with Candace and some of the parent reps to discuss the 3 year plan and what has been done. Two of the goals have been met, the Brochure is complete and the plan to work with the Salvation Army Hot meal program is getting started. Candace has worked one night and is going again, others are taking the orientation meeting and getting their police checks done. Our group will be doing Wed. evenings at the Fifth Ave church hall. Candace would like to go over the 3 yr plan and use the Board's strategies to guide the conversation. She will set up a coffee meeting and let everyone know.

B. Secretary/Treasurer - Laureen Getz - The Bank Balance as of Aug 31, 2015 is \$ 1281.06. The ATA cheque for \$400.00 will be deposited. There are only 5 cheques left , should get more printed this year.

C. Board Representative - Laureen Getz- The Board approved buying a table of 8 for the Bishop's Dinner on October 22. The Modernization tender closed late July with Wahl Construction doing the work. The Southlands Elementary School is a fast moving project. It will be a 250 seat school. As of Sept. 1, 2015, diploma exams will now be evaluated as 70% school mark and 30% exam mark. The Fresh Start Program was a success with 226 kids being helped. They received school supplies, toiletries, support and advice. Also offered were free haircuts and immunizations and a BBQ lunch. They will do it again next August.

11. School Reports - The school reps present gave an update on their AGM's and their final events of last school year. They also reported on the upcoming school events and activities planned for this year.

12. Old Business - No Report.

13. New Business - The meeting dates were set for the year, Oct. 26, Nov. 30, Feb. 29, Apr. 25, May 30.

14. Adjournment - Meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm.