

## **Medicine Hat Catholic Schools Parent Association Minutes**

### **January 29, 2013**

In Attendance: Candace Lambert, Corinne Hordos Goyer, Laureen Getz, Michele Plante, Lesley Heather, Lisa Faller-Torrie, Andy Dooling, Carrie Lundquist, Celena Gerl, Laurie Pearse, Chuck Hellman, Bernie Kinch, Stan Aberle, Peter Grad, Clyde Pudwell

1. Tour of St. Mary's School: led by Mr. Hellman – Candace thanks Mr. Hellman for tour of most fabulous school in Medicine Hat.
2. Opening Prayer: led by Mr. Pudwell at 7:30
3. Introductions
4. Additions and Approval of Agenda: Approved by Michele Plante/seconded by Laurie Pearse
5. Reading and Approval of Minutes from May 7, 2012: Corinne asks for clarification if 225000 religious education budget includes Mrs. Wilkinson's salary and Clyde answers in the affirmative: Approved by Laurie Pearse/seconded by Andy Dooling
6. Central Office Report: Clyde Pudwell
  - See attached
  - Budget update: Reserves from 2011-12 used to balance budget. The 2012-13 deficit is 287, 444, with 215,558 used to cover portion of deficit. Operating surplus has dropped significantly to 112,681. Alberta Ed recommends a 5 day surplus – approximately 600000 – so task is to restore. Running a deficit due to significant loss of Gov't funding with class size initiative and the loss of several students also hurt division. Salary increment and support staff salary increases received no money from the Gov't.
  - Zone 6 Accountability Pillar Results: We rank 2<sup>nd</sup> out of 10 divisions in zone 6.
  - Registration Procedures: Internal registration occurs in February with external the following week. Boundary changes – registration will occur at current school with registration form then being transferred to the applicable 2013-14 school. A cross attendance procedure is in place with all affected students/families to receive a personal letter. A pending registration list will be in place for cross-attending students, but cross attendance will only be allowed if room in class/grade.
  - Boundary/Transportation changes:
    - Division wide transportation for Grade 6 academy at Notre Dame remains - Passed
    - St. Louis School will receive several new students from new boundaries - Passed
    - St. Francis to add new students from Redcliff & Rural1 - Defeated.
    - St. Michael's to lose one area to St. Louis but keep Redcliff – Passed.

Elementary fine arts program transportation to St. Michael's will cease – Passed.

Flex Zone in Crescent Heights – Passed.

Many conversations are happening about Inclusive education – what works? What doesn't? Was there a better system with rooms at St. Michael's (LAP) or spread throughout the Division? With the boundary changes in effect there will be savings of one bus at approximately \$40000. The decision may save two staff members but may also mean lost students and lost revenue.

- Stan Aberle asks for parents to praise schools, embrace Catholic and spiritual support for local schools.
- 8:00 Clyde finishes report.

7. ATA Update: Bernie Kinch: ATA & Central Office have a good working relationship, with some subs preferring to work in the Catholic Division.

8. Board Trustee Report: Stan Aberle: Thanked Peter Grad for covering last meeting. Next board meeting will see an HPV decision. Thanked Senior Admin for running town hall meeting. Laureen states that she believes Central Office and the Trustees really heard what was said at town hall and followed through. Board is sensitive about decisions behind closed doors – please email Stan an opinion on decision making in the Division. Election year with election month being October and terms changing to 4 years. There will be an information meeting upcoming in Medicine Hat for interested potential trustees – the ASBA website has info. Stan invites comment at [stan.aberle@mhcbe.ab.ca](mailto:stan.aberle@mhcbe.ab.ca).

## 9. Committee Reports

### A. Chair Report: Candace Lambert

- ASCA Conference falls on the 4<sup>th</sup> weekend in April – please take to your Councils for potential interest and email Candace as soon as you know. Schools should have Food safety course if doing own hot lunches. Candace contacted the public health and a course at the college is 125 and they will do a course for Councils with a minimum 15 people for 25 a person. Mr. Chuck Hellman will provide a classroom, and the course can be 4 nights or 2 days. Please talk to your Councils and email interest to Candace. Celena Gerl listened to the education minister/parent conference call – Catholic education was addressed with a statement about no intention to dilute Catholic ed – very political and blah de blah – the ASCA website and Govt website will have recordings.

### B. Secretary/Treasurer:

- \$1188.54 in bank account.

### C. Board Representative: Laureen Getz

- 3 pm is the new meeting time – there was a long discussion on committees, Monica Braat gave a lovely presentation on Inclusive Education, the January 8 meeting saw a long discussion on meeting format and a consultant will be brought in to advise on private vs. in-camera meeting terminology. Wayne Schlosser is the Attendance Officer for the division and our School Resource Officer will work with Wayne as needed. Budget assumptions for a tight budget were presented and AP's were reviewed. Next meeting is February 12 @ 3pm. All Central Office staff and Trustees are invited to Shrove Tuesday luncheon at St. Mary's School.

## 10. School Reports

McCoy: Laureen Getz

So very excited to start after the long weekend next year – Yay – only concern with new calendar the one pd day that diploma falls on. New School sign. Breakfast program has support. Casino funds bought freezer for the Home Ec room. Looking to purchase tables, chairs, & carts. Looking for a portable defibrillator – Laureen questions Clyde about an AP for CPR.

Mother Teresa: Lisa Faller-Torrie

Hot Lunch has been revitalized. 3 movie nights have been held and the Christmas concert at the college went well. In the process of planning a Family Fun Night and a Spellathon.

Notre Dame: Michele Plante

Outdoor Ed is concerned for the Grade 8 camp at Elkwater – Wildlife Management will be meeting with parents. Admin shared the Town Hall info and all was discussed at Council. Medicine Hat Photography Club has monthly meetings at the school. Mr. Grisonich enjoyed giving the tour at the last PA meeting.

St. Thomas: Celena Gerl

Carnivale is coming. One French PAT falls on a PD day with new calendar so will need to be addressed. PATS in June nonstop. Celena questions the other Councils if they use a template for operating policy as they are in the process of revamping theirs. There is a statement in the template about annual plans/summaries being submitted to Central Office. Posters/brochures for School have gone to several locations in Medicine Hat.

St. Louis: Andy Dooling

“Sells St. Louis Shamelessly ☺”. Applauds board for rezoning. There is a new locked door policy with a buzzer outside. Movie night held with attendance doubled due to a contest for movie choice. Curious about teacher and parent involvement ratios in other schools. Christmas concert was excellent and raised funds that were used for turkey dinner.

St. Mary's: Laureen Getz

Fine Arts needs \$ so having smencil and yogurt sales with smellograms upcoming for Valentine's. Wine Gala & Art Auction will be held @ Legion on April 18 - \$15 person. Annie rehearsals are underway. Basketball went well with our Sports

Departments well supported. PARTY Program upcoming for Grade 9. Shrove Tuesday is February 12<sup>th</sup> with a pancake luncheon planned. Like the new Calendar! Dance on January 18 was a good time!!

St. Michael's MH: Laurie Pearse

Christmas Concert at College was well done! Movie night was held. Pancake day on Feb 12<sup>th</sup>. Chocolate fundraiser coming up. Question about bingos in schools – should be acceptable if charging for admittance rather than cards. Question about hiring TAs – Division is hiring parents with no education as they are hiring anyone available. Bring any concerns to Central Office.

11. Old Business:
12. New Business:
13. NEXT MEETING March 25 @ St. Michael's MH

Adjourn 9:22 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Corinne Hordos Goyer