

**MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC BOARD MEETING OF THE MEDICINE HAT CATHOLIC  
BOARD OF EDUCATION held at the Catholic Education Centre  
on December 10, 2024 at 2:45 p.m.**

**TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS PRESENT**

Kathy Glasgo	Board Chair	
Robert Risling	Vice-Chair	ABSENT
Bernie Kinch	Trustee	
David Leahy	Trustee	
Dick Mastel	Trustee	
Dwayne Zarichny	Superintendent of Schools	
Nick Gale	Deputy Superintendent	ABSENT
Greg MacPherson	Secretary Treasurer	
Hugh Lehr	Associate Superintendent Learning Services	
Heather Irvine	Religious Education Coordinator	
Derrian Hallas	Communications Coordinator	
Chelsey Lybbert	Executive Assistant to the Superintendent (Recorder)	

**GUESTS**

Dr. Monica Braat, Director of Learning Supports and Services

**CALL TO ORDER**

Note: The meeting was chaired by Kathy Glasgo, Board Chair.

**OPENING PRAYER**

Note: Mrs. Irvine led the opening prayer.

**LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Note: Dr. Zarichny read the land acknowledgement.

**PRESENTATIONS**

None

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC BOARD MEETING – November 12, 2024**

4121 Motion. Leahy: “THAT the Board of Trustees approve the minutes of the Public Board Meeting held on November 12, 2024 as circulated.”

Carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE PUBLIC BOARD MEETING – November 26, 2024**

4122 Motion. Kinch: “THAT the Board of Trustees approve the minutes of the Public Board Meeting held on November 26, 2024 as circulated.”

Carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

4123 Motion. Mastel: “THAT the agenda dated December 10, 2024 be approved as circulated.”

Carried unanimously.

**BOARD COMMUNICATIONS**

None

**CATHOLIC EDUCATION**

**School Parish Relations Committee**

Note: No report.

**Religious Education Coordinator**

Note: Report included in board agenda package.

**BOARD WORK PLAN**

**School Plans**

Note: All schools developed their 2024-2025 school plans based on the division 4-Year Education Plan. School plans are posted on the division website as well as on each school's website.

**INFORMATION ITEMS**

**Strategic Priorities Update**

Note: Report included in board agenda package.

**SIVA Training**

Note: Dr. Braat and Mr. Lehr presented to the board about SIVA Training (Supporting Individuals through Valued Attachments). This training has been done in the division for 10 years.

Note: Trustees asked questions about safety (self-harm or harm of others) as the program does not involve restraining. Mr. Lehr responded that there has been a reduction in injuries and in certain cases a two-person transfer out of the room is used.

**Municipal Affairs Statutes Amendment – Criminal Record Checks**

Note: Mr. MacPherson brought awareness about new legislation regarding criminal records checks for trustee candidates. Since the criminal record outcome does not affect whether an elector can become a candidate there is no recommendation to move forward with requiring criminal record checks.

**Sisters of Charity of St. Louis Performance Centre (ad hoc) - Dissolution**

Note: The Sisters of Charity of St. Louis Centre ad hoc committee has now been dissolved as its purpose has been achieved.

**Communications Report**

Note: Report included in board agenda package.

## ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

### Monsignor McCoy High School Field Trip Request

Note: The Field Trip Committee met on December 3<sup>rd</sup> to discuss the proposed French immersion trip to France. The committee recommended that it go to the board for approval.

4124 Motion. Leahy: "THAT the Board of Trustees for the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education approve the Monsignor McCoy High School international trip to France on or about April 3, 2026 – April 11, 2026. Approval is subject to:

- Submitting the final itinerary.
- Submitting all required forms to the Superintendent at least 90 days prior to the trip.
- Submitting a plan if a student is denied access to the flight or entry to the country.
- Transportation details finalized and approved.
- Meet any other requirement of the School Division insurance provider.
- And, it is noted the Board has the right to cancel the trip at any time."

Carried unanimously.

### School Program Reconfiguration

Note: Dr. Zarichny presented information about the proposed school reconfiguration at École St. John Paul II. Due to rapid enrollment growth and the need for classroom space it is being recommended that the grade 6's (both English and French immersion) move to St. Mary's School and that École St. John Paul II becomes a K-5 school for the 2024-2025 school year.

Note: A meeting with parents was held on December 3<sup>rd</sup>. Dr. Zarichny let the board know of parent concerns that were expressed at the meeting.

Note: In order for schools to prepare for the change (staffing, registration, etc.) it is recommended that these motions are brought forth at this time.

Note: There was discussion around transportation costs due to the increased attendance zone. Mr. MacPherson let the board know there will be a minimum of two additional buses needed due to growing enrollment.

Note: Trustee Kinch expressed concern about the amount of time given to the public to respond to the changes.

4125 Motion. Kinch: "THAT the Board of Trustees for the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education table the following two motions to the January 2025 public board meeting:

1. *'THAT the Board of Trustees approve the creation of a grade 6 program at St. Mary's school which includes both English and French Immersion options effective for the 2025-2026 school year.'*
2. *'THAT the Board of Trustees reconfigure the grade structure at École John Paul II school from a K-6 to a K-5 program effective for the 2025-2026 school year.'*

Defeated 1-3. (In favour: Kinch  
Opposed: Glasgo, Leahy,  
Mastel)

- 4126 Motion. Leahy: "THAT the Board of Trustees approve the creation of a grade 6 program at St. Mary's School which includes both English and French Immersion options effective for the 2025-2026 school year."

Carried 3-1. (In favour: Glasgo, Leahy,  
Mastel  
Opposed: Kinch)

- 4127 Motion. Mastel: "THAT the Board of Trustees reconfigure the grade structure at École John Paul II school from a K-6 to a K-5 program effective for the 2025-2026 school year."

Carried 3-1. (In favour: Glasgo, Leahy,  
Mastel  
Opposed: Kinch)

### **2024-25 Infrastructure Maintenance Renewal Plan**

Note: Mr. MacPherson reported that the IMR is still being finalized and will be presented at the January public board meeting.

Note: Mr. Leahy requested that an item be included in the IMR: a camera system at Monsignor McCoy. Mr. MacPherson and Dr. Zarichny responded that the IT department is looking into a camera and the Hudl system and are working on installation within the next couple of months. The installation and infrastructure costs will be paid by the division. The ongoing operational costs will be the responsibility of the school.

### **2025 Election**

Note: The election will be held on October 20, 2025.

- 4128 Motion. Mastel: "THAT the Board of Trustees for the Medicine Hat Catholic Board of Education:
1. Appoint Andres Cardona Arias, City of Medicine Hat Chief Electoral Officer, as the Returning Officer for the School Board Election on October 20, 2025; and
  2. Appoint Tarolyn Aaserud, City of Medicine Hat City Clerk, as its Substitute Returning Officer for the School Board Election on October 20, 2025; and
  3. Provide the '2025 School Board Trustee' information package for inclusion in the Nomination Package; and
  4. The School Board will enter into an agreement with the City of Medicine Hat for provision of election services for the School Board Election on October 20, 2025 under terms and conditions agreeable to both parties."

Carried unanimously.

- 4129 Motion. Kinch: "THAT the Board of Trustees for the Medication Hat Catholic Board of Education approve the School Board Trustee Information Package as presented for inclusion into the Nomination Package for the October 20, 2025 School Board Election."

Carried unanimously.

### **COMMITTEE REPORTS**

#### **Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA) Negotiation Committee**

Note: Nothing to report.

**Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Negotiation Committee**

Note: Nothing to report.

**Teacher Board Advisory Committee**

Note: Nothing to report.

**Support Staff Board Advisory Committee**

Note: Nothing to report.

**CUPE Support Staff Advisory Committee**

Note: There was a question from CUPE support staff regarding snow removal and custodians being on stand-by. This question was answered via email.

**Student Board Advisory Committee**

Note: Mr. Gale and Chair Glasgo met with ten Monsignor McCoy students from various grades on December 4<sup>th</sup>. It was a very good meeting, and the students had a lot of positive comments about their teachers and Chaplain BJ. One highlight was from a student who is not Catholic but couldn't say enough good things about Catholic education and the wonderful opportunity students have to a Christ-centered education.

**Audit Committee**

Note: Nothing to report.

**Holy Trinity Academy Update**

Note: Nothing to report.

**Alberta School Boards' Association - Zone 6 Representative**

Note: Trustee Mastel updated the board about the zone 6 meeting that was held last week, as well as the ASBA AGM in mid-November. He attended the MLA breakfast which had 40 MLA's (including the Premier) in attendance; it was a very successful event!

**Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association Representative**

Note: Chair Glasgo recently attended the ACSTA annual general meeting. There was an orientation for new directors which was very informative.

**Medicine Hat Catholic Schools' Education Foundation Representative**

Note: Trustee Kinch reported that the Education Foundation AGM is on January 21<sup>st</sup>. There is currently a vacancy for one director.

**Parent Association Representative**

Note: Chair Glasgo reported that the parent association met on November 25<sup>th</sup>. The next meeting is scheduled for January 27<sup>th</sup>.

**Teachers' Employer Bargaining Association (TEBA) Representative**

Note: Trustee Mastel reported that the meeting notes from today's TEBA meeting will be shared at the next Committee of the Whole meeting.

**CLOSING PRAYER**

Note:           The meeting closed with prayer.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Note:           The meeting was adjourned by the Board Chair.

Note:           The meeting adjourned at 4:19 PM.

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Kathy Glasgo, Board Chair

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Greg MacPherson, Secretary Treasurer