



Minutes of the In-Camera and Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Fort McMurray Public School District, held in the Main Board Room, Clearwater Public Education Centre, 2014 03 17.

Attendees:

Chair	Jeff Thompson
Trustee	Tim O'Hara
Trustee	Linda Mywaart
Trustee	Stephen Drover
Trustee	Angela Adams
Superintendent	Doug Nicholls
Associate Superintendent	Brenda Sautner
- Education & Admin.	
Associate Superintendent	Allan Kallal
- Business & Finance	
Recording Secretary	Sharon Dunn

Regrets: Associate Superintendent Phil Meagher

21074	Call to Order	Chair, Jeff Thompson, called the meeting to order at 1400 hrs.
21075	Additions to the In-Camera Agenda	Budget Process Calendar
21076	Approval of Agenda	Trustee Drover served motion at 1409 hrs. M/C That the agenda be approved.
21077	In-Camera Meeting	Trustee Adams served motion at 1409 hrs. M/C That the meeting proceed to the In-Camera meeting.
21078	Out of In-Camera	Trustee Mywaart served motion at 1520 hrs. M/C That the Board of Trustees move out of the In-Camera meeting and proceed to the Regular Meeting.
21079	Recess	Meeting Recessed: 1520 hrs. Meeting Reconvened: 1525 hrs.
21080	Additions to Agenda	None
21081	Approval of Agenda	Trustee Drover served motion at 1527 hrs. M/C That the agenda be approved.
21082	Minutes – In-Camera, In-Conference and Regular Meeting 2014 02 18	Trustee Mywaart served motion at 1527 hrs. M/C That the Minutes of 2014 02 18 In-Camera, In-Conference and Regular Meeting be approved.

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- 21083 Minutes – Committee of the Whole 2014 03 07** Trustee O’Hara served motion at 1538 hrs.
M/C
That the Minutes of 2014 03 07 Committee of the Whole Meeting be approved.
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- 21084 Business Arising from the Minutes**
- a) Home Schooling – Associate Superintendent, Brenda Sautner, updated trustees and senior administration on Home Schooling registrations in Fort McMurray Public Schools. Trustee Mywaart asked for further clarification on what supports the District provides to home schoolers. Superintendent Nicholls indicated the District will be reviewing the Home Schooling process, and in particular to the provision of more support to both parents and students.
 - b) Letter to Minister Jeff Johnson regarding funding for ECDP – Chair, Jeff Thompson, reviewed the March 5, 2014 letter that was sent to the Honourable Jeff Johnson expressing the District’s concerns.
 - c) Review of the Nomination Process for the Edwin Parr Award – Superintendent Doug Nicholls provided a brief report.
 - d) Policies AGAB, BCF and JG to be referred to the Policy Advisory Committee - the Policy Advisory Committee will be meeting on March 27, 2014.
 - e) RARA – Associate Superintendent, Brenda Sautner, updated trustees that senior administration will be meeting with the RARA organizing committee to discuss the concerns and subsequently provide a report to the Board.
 - f) Regular Board Meeting Format – Chair, Jeff Thompson, updated trustees and senior administration on the new format and indicated the website has also been updated to relay this information.
 - g) Rental Rate Statistics – Associate Superintendent, Allan Kallal, updated trustees and senior administration that a report will be provided at the April Board meeting. The teachers’ rental rates are also being reviewed.
 - h) Robotics Space at Westwood – Associate Superintendent, Allan Kallal, updated trustees and senior administration on changes made to the Robotics Space at Westwood Community High School.
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- 21085 Upcoming Conferences** Chair, Jeff Thompson, updated trustees and senior administration on the conference schedule for the remainder of the year. Chair Thompson indicated he will be attending the NSBA conference, as well as the June PSBAA and ASBA Spring General Meetings in Red Deer. Trustee Adams will attend CAPSLE.
- Chair Thompson asked trustees to confirm their conference attendance with the Recording Secretary.
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- 21086 Budget 2014** Associate Superintendent, Allan Kallal, updated trustees and senior administration on the impact the recent government funding announcement had on the District budget. Mr. Kallal indicated the Budget will be brought before the Board for approval during the April Board meeting.
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- 21087 Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA)** Chair, Jeff Thompson, updated trustees and senior administration on the email received March 6, 2014, from ASBA as follow up to the Minister’s Budget announcement.
- Trustee Linda Mywaart provided trustees and senior administration with her Zone 2/3 report.
- The ASBA Facilitated Consultation Sessions – Development of a New Teacher Bargaining Model scheduled in Edmonton on March 20, 2014, will be attended by Chair Jeff Thompson, Trustees Linda Mywaart and Tim O’Hara, and Associate Superintendent Allan Kallal.
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Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) (continued)	Trustee Mywaart also updated trustees and senior administration on ASBA's upcoming advocacy event. Chair, Jeff Thompson, encouraged all trustees to attend.
21088 Public School Boards Association (PSBA)	Trustee Mywaart updated trustees and senior administration on highlights of her PSBC business meeting notes from February 6 – 8, 2014. Trustees' feedback was requested regarding the Minister's taskforce on teacher excellence. Trustee Mywaart indicated the next PSBA meeting is scheduled April 11 & 12, 2014, preceded by a governance session on Board Policy April 10 th . It was noted Trustee Adams may attend the April meetings if Trustee Mywaart is unavailable.
21089 Bell Times – Walter & Gladys Hill School	Associate Superintendent, Allan Kallal, updated trustees and senior administration on possible start times for students. Discussion followed. Trustees agreed they would prefer an earlier start time. Chair, Jeff Thompson, inquired about preparations for the Grand Opening Ceremony, suggesting it be held in September.
21090 School Tours – April 7 th COW Meeting	Chair, Jeff Thompson, updated trustees and senior administration on the upcoming School Tours scheduled on April 7 th . Mr. Thompson indicated he will not be attending the April 7 th COW meeting.
21091 Review of Evening Agenda	Trustees reviewed the public agenda in preparation for the Regular Board meeting.
21092 Recess	Trustee Drover served motion at 1629 hrs. M/C That the Board of Trustees move out of the Regular meeting and recess until 1830 hrs.
21093 Reconvene Regular Meeting	Chair, Jeff Thompson, called the meeting to order M/C That the Board of Trustees reconvene the Regular Meeting at 1830 hrs. Other attendees: Full audience Media: 2
21094 O Canada	Chair, Jeff Thompson, welcomed everyone present and invited meeting attendees to stand for the national anthem.
21095 Question Period	There were no questions.
21096 Final Approval – Westwood & Comp Students Spring Break 2014 trips	Trustee Drover served motion at 1837 hrs. M/C That the Board of Trustees give final approval for a) Westwood Community High School students travel to France & London; b) Westwood Community High School students travel to Germany/Czech Republic; and c) Composite High School students travel to Honolulu, Rotura and Sydney, Spring Break 2014.



21097 **Approval in Principle and Final Approval of Vex Robotics Students Travel to Anaheim, CA, April 20 – 27, 2014** Trustee Mywaart served motion at 1839 hrs.
M/C
That the Board of Trustees give Approval in Principle and Final Approval for Vex Robotics students travel to Anaheim, CA, April 20 – 27, 2014, to compete in the 2014 Vex Robotics High School World Championships.

21098 **Approval in Principle of Westwood Community High School Students Travel to Honolulu, HI, Spring Break 2015** Trustee Adams served motion at 1842 hrs.
M/C
That the Board of Trustees give approval-in-principle for Westwood Community High School students travel to Honolulu, Hawaii, Spring Break 2015.

21099 **Approval of Edwin Parr Nominee** Trustee Drover suggested this could be put in the paper/website.

Trustee O'Hara served motion at 1846 hrs.
M/C
That the Board of Trustees approve the 2014 ASBA Edwin Parr Award District's nominee.

21100 **Approval of Auditor Appointment** Trustee Adams served motion at 1849 hrs.
M/C
That the Board of Trustees appoint the firm of Meyers Norris Penny as the District's Auditors for the 2013-2014 fiscal year, including subsequent pension and school audits.

21101 **Approval of Locally Acquired Courses** Trustee Mywaart served motion at 1839 hrs.
M/C
That the Board of Trustees approve the locally acquired courses outlined on the attached form for use by Westwood Community High School, Fort McMurray Composite High School and Frank Spragins High School beginning the first semester of the 2014 – 2015 school year. The material and resources utilized for this course will be as per the course outline.

21102 **Trustee Items** Board Chair, Jeff Thompson, updated meeting attendees on trustees' participation in school events, District events, and conferences since the last regular Board meeting.

21103 **Superintendent of Schools Report** Superintendent, Doug Nicholls, updated trustees and senior administration on the highlights of his report, including an update on the work of the C.2 committee, the addition of Grades 7, 8 and 9 Islamic School students into Composite High School, and the May 10, 2014 Spring Splash Event. Superintendent Nicholls introduced meeting attendees Joe Champion, Principal of the Fort McMurray Christian School, and Annalee Nutter, Principal of Walter & Gladys Hill Public School.

Superintendent Nicholls mentioned the ECDP program and necessary increase in fees to \$500 per year, indicating the separate school board has also similarly increased their fees.

Two options for the 2014 – 2015 School Calendar are being discussed with various stakeholders. The full-day PLC Calendar would provide some cost savings in the transportation area and benefit all staff, both CUPE and ATA. Local CUPE and ATA Presidents, Lorna Tollman and Nancy Ball, will also be meeting with the Board to provide feedback on the calendar options.



**Superintendent of
Schools Report
(continued)**

The EDGE program will see the addition of a female component and will expand into Grade 3. It is currently being offered in Ecole McTavish, Westwood, and Ecole Dickinsfield.

The second Special Networks Committee Meeting was held on March 12th and meeting attendees were given the opportunity to provide their feedback on Calendar and outcome-based reporting.

Associate Superintendent, Allan Kallal, provided trustees and senior administration a brief financial report, indicating overall the District is trending better than budgeted and has \$6 million in reserves. Superintendent Doug Nicholls added the expectation is to bring in a balanced budget for the 2014 – 2015 school year.

Allan Kallal also updated trustees and senior administration on the impact of the recent Provincial Budget announcement, and the status of new school construction.

21104 District Spotlight

**Spotlight on Education
Presentation by
Westview Public School**

Associate Superintendent, Brenda Sautner, introduced Westview School Principal, Merrie-Rae Mitsopoulos. Ms. Mitsopoulos provided an explanation for the students' presentations, and expressed her appreciation for the mentorship provided by Westwood Community High School students. Westview students presented their projects.

**Presentation by Student
Advisory Team**

Associate Superintendent, Brenda Sautner, introduced Education Department Coordinators Bobbi Compton and Myrna Matheson, and Composite High School student Stefan Eybers. Stefan described his commitment as a Student Advisory Team member, indicating the opportunity to engage with other students, the fabulous discussion, and the opportunity to present student feedback to the Board was invaluable.

Stefan asked trustees what they will do with students' feedback. Superintendent Doug Nicholls indicated senior management will be reviewing the feedback and determining appropriate follow up. Mr. Nicholls also indicated the senior management team has committed themselves to spending more time with students at upcoming Student Advisory Team meetings.

Trustee Mywaart commented that, as an example, trustees raise students' concerns regarding diploma examinations to the Minister of Education at every opportunity. Ms. Mywaart added students' questions become a living document with trustees and students' issues are raised whenever possible.

Trustees and senior administration thanked everyone for attending and participating in the Spotlight on Education.

21105 Recess

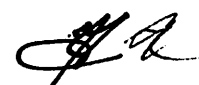
**Meeting Recessed: 1956 hrs.
Meeting Reconvened: 2005 hrs.**

21106 Correspondence

1. Chair, Jeff Thompson, updated meeting attendees on the March 5, 2014, letter sent to the Honourable Jeff Johnson, Minister of Education, expressing the Board's funding concerns for ECDP.

21107 Business Arising

None.



21108 Other Business Chair, Jeff Thompson, surveyed trustees regarding the new meeting format. Trustee Adams indicated the feedback she received from parents in attendance was very positive: they really enjoyed the meeting format and the information provided. Several suggestions were made and will be taken into consideration:

- a) Moving the Spotlight on Education segment more to the beginning of the Agenda, particularly when elementary students are in attendance.
- b) Providing a microphone for students when they are presenting.
- c) Moving Trustees and senior administration into the gallery for presentations.

21109 Request for Information None.

21110 Future Agenda Items Truth and Reconciliation Event – Associate Superintendent, Brenda Sautner, will arrange to have this item included in the Spotlight on Education at an upcoming meeting.

21111 Out of Regular Meeting Trustee Drover served motion at 1629 hrs.
M/C
That the Board of Trustees move out of the Regular meeting and reconvene the In-Camera Meeting.

21112 In Camera Board Chair, Jeff Thompson, excused the Associate Superintendents and Recording Secretary at 1629 hrs.

21113 Out of In Camera Trustee Drover served motion at 2047 hrs.
M/C
That the Board of Trustees move out of the In-Camera meeting and adjourn.


BOARD CHAIR


SECRETARY-TREASURER

The following information was obtained from the records of the [redacted] and is being furnished to you for your information. It is requested that you do not disseminate this information to any other person or organization.

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