



Minutes of the In-Camera, In-Conference and Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Fort McMurray Public School District, held in the Main Board Room, Clearwater Public Education Centre, 2013 04 15.

- Attendees:**
- Chair - J. Thompson
  - Vice Chair - G. Cooper
  - Trustee - L. Mywaart
  - Trustee - S. Drover (joined at 1700 hrs.)
  - Trustee - A. Adams
  - Superintendent - D. Parsons
  - Associate Superintendent - P. Meagher
    - Human Resources & Admin.
  - Associate Superintendent - B. Sautner
    - Education & Admin.
  - Associate Superintendent - A. Kallal
    - Business & Finance
  - Recording Secretary - S. Dunn
- Regrets:**
- P. Meagher at 1735 hrs.

20647	Call to Order	Chair, Jeff Thompson, called the meeting to order at 1447 hrs.
20648	Additions to the In-Camera Agenda	None
20649	Approval of Agenda	Trustee Mywaart served motion at 1449 hrs. M/C That the agenda be approved.
20650	In-Camera Meeting	Trustee Adams served motion at 1449 hrs. M/C That the meeting proceed to the in-camera meeting.
20651		Trustee Drover joined at 1700 hrs.
20652		Regrets: Phil Meagher at 1735 hrs.
20653	Shop Talk	Deferred.
20654	Out of In-Camera	Trustee Cooper served motion at 1734 hrs. M/C That the Board of Trustees move out of the In-Camera meeting and proceed to In Conference.

*Handwritten signatures in blue ink.*

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20655	Additions to Agenda	4.8 Art 30 Award & Process 4.9 Upcoming Conferences 4.1.3 Minutes of Special Board Meeting April 13, 2013 4.10 Action Item – Acceptance of Letter from Superintendent 4.11 Action Item – Approval of Condominium Purchase
20656	Approval of Agenda	Trustee Cooper served motion at 1740 hrs. M/C That the agenda be approved.
20657	Minutes – In-Camera, In-Conference and Regular Meeting 2013 03 18	Trustee Cooper served motion at 1741 hrs. M/C That the Minutes of 2013 03 18 In-Camera, In-Conference & Regular Board Meeting be approved.
20658	Minutes – Committee of the Whole Meeting 2013 04 08	Trustee Mywaart served motion at 1742 hrs. M/C That the Minutes of 2013 04 08 Committee of the Whole Meeting be approved.
20659	Minutes – Special Board Meeting 2013 04 13	Trustee Drover served motion at 1743 hrs. M/C That the Minutes of 2013 04 13 Special Board Meeting be approved.
20660	Business Arising from the Minutes	1. Trustee Adams' request that a letter be sent to the organizing committee of RaRa – a letter was prepared and presented to Board Chair, Jeff Thompson, for signature. The recording secretary will mail the letter on Tuesday, April 16, 2013. 2. District Website – Superintendent Parsons provided feedback indicating that steps are being taken to remove the old website. 3. Letters to accompany gifted 100 <sup>th</sup> anniversary books – Superintendent Parsons provided the letters to Board Chair, Jeff Thompson, for signature. Once signed, the letters and accompanying complimentary copy of the 100 <sup>th</sup> Anniversary books will be mailed to the approved list of recipients. 4. ASBA Information Sessions, “Is school trusteeship for you” - Superintendent Parsons indicated he has approached the Fort McMurray Catholic School Board to determine their interest in co-hosting a session here in Fort McMurray with our Board. He advised the Catholic District has declined.
20661	Superintendent's Report	Superintendent Parsons updated trustees and senior administration on the highlights of his operational report, including a technology review and the request from Thickwood Heights Public School for a proposed new designation.  Trustees requested Thickwood Heights Public School Principal, Mr. Kevin Bergen, be invited to attend the Regular Board meeting this evening and present his proposal to the Board.  Superintendent Parsons also updated trustees and senior administration on Dr. Sautner's participation on the Regional Collaborative Service Delivery (RCSD) Committee and called upon her to outline the committee's work.
20662	Enrollment	Deferred to the May Board meeting.

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20663	Trustee Engagement	Trustee engagement since the March 18, 2013, Board Meeting, includes: Meeting with MLA Mike Allan MLA Reception - March 21st at the Royal Glenora, Edmonton ASBA Zone 2/3 Meeting March 22nd , Edmonton Thickwood Heights School production of Winnie the Pooh March 26th Beacon Hill School Volunteer Appreciation for Open Minds March 26th Fort McMurray Christian School Easter Concert March 27th Intra Governmental Relations Committee conference call (PSBAA) March 28th Westwood High School - Robotics Meeting April 10th
20664	Public School Boards Association (PSBA)	Trustee Cooper indicated he will be attending the upcoming PSBA Council meeting on Thursday, April 21 <sup>st</sup> , bringing survey feedback provided by the District.
20665	Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA)	Trustees and senior administration reviewed the Budgeting and Bylaws Bulletin in preparation for the ASBA Spring General Meeting scheduled June 3 – 4, 2013, in Red Deer.
20666	Art 30 Award & Process	Superintendent Parsons updated trustees on the upcoming Art 30 Award process. Trustees Thompson and Cooper volunteered to sit on the selection committee.
20667	Conferences	<p>The list of upcoming conferences was reviewed. Trustees agreed the Capsle Conference will not be attended this year. The PSBA and ASBA Spring General Meetings will be attended by Trustees Thompson and Cooper. Trustees Drover and Adams will be in Red Deer at the time of the PSBA/ASBA Spring Generals and will attend as their schedules permit. Trustee Mywaart will attend the closing sessions of PSBA and the full ASBA Spring General Meeting.</p> <p>Trustees Thompson and Cooper indicated they will attend the CSBA Conference in July 2013 and the remaining trustees were asked to notify the recording secretary if they were also able to attend. The recording secretary will register all conference attendees.</p>
20668	Action Item – Acceptance of Letter from Superintendent	<p>Board Chair, Jeff Thompson, updated trustees and senior administration on his receipt of a letter dated April 15, 2013, from Superintendent Dennis Parsons. Mr. Thompson provided the rationale for this letter, indicating that a change in designation was being made for the sole purpose of enabling the new Superintendent to commence employment on August 1, 2013. Mr. Thompson further stated that, in the Senior Education Advisor role, Superintendent Parsons would retain the salary and benefits as stipulated in his current contract.</p> <p>Trustee Mywaart served motion at 1845 hrs. M/C That the Board of Trustees accept the letter dated April 15, 2013, from Superintendent Dennis Parsons regarding conclusion of his current contract effective July 31, 2013, and his acceptance of a position as Senior Education Advisor for the period August 1 – 21, 2013.</p>
20669	Action Item – Approval of Condominium Purchase	<p>Trustee Cooper served motion at 1850 hrs. M/C as amended That the Board of Trustees approve the District's purchase of condominium #408 located at 108 Denholm Gate with the intent this condominium be utilized as a rental unit for the incumbent Superintendent/CEO, pending Ministerial approval if required.</p>

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20670	Review of Public Agenda	Trustees reviewed the public agenda in preparation for the Regular Board meeting.
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20671	Recess	Trustee, Stephen Drover, served motion to recess at 1857 hrs. M/C That the meeting move out of in-conference and recess until 1905 hours.
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20672	Convene Regular Meeting	Chair, Jeff Thompson, called the meeting to order M/C That the Board of Trustees reconvene the Regular Meeting at 1905 hrs.  Other attendees: 13 Media: 0
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20673	O Canada	Chair, Jeff Thompson, welcomed everyone present and invited them to stand for the national anthem.
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20674	Question Period	There were no questions.
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20675	Additions to Agenda	Thickwood Heights Presentation Statement of Financial Position – as an addendum to Item 7.1 Budget.
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20676	Approval of Agenda	Trustee Drover served motion at 1909 hrs. M/C That the agenda be approved.
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Spotlight on Education

Westview Public School & Westwood Community High School

Associate Superintendent, Dr. Brenda Sautner, introduced Westview Public School Principal Merrie-Rae Mitsopoulos, Vice Principal Garette Tebay and teachers Leslie Scott and Jennifer Painter. The teachers introduced two students who demonstrated their knowledge on learner outcomes in support of the new outcome-based report card.

The students delighted trustees and senior administration, one presenting and reviewing her poster project and the other student reviewing a powerpoint presentation she had prepared.

Dr. Sautner introduced Westwood Community High School Principal, Jessica Roy, Vice Principal, Danny Tulk, and teacher Johnny Dulku, Westwood's staff sponsor for their green initiative. Westwood has received environmental awareness grants for four (4) main projects, including worm composters and a large outdoor garden. Westwood student, Diamond Cisna, was in attendance and provided a complete explanation of the worm composter project. Among several other projects, Ms. Cisna indicated a grant has also been applied for to build a lean-to greenhouse where students will attempt to grow their own foods for use in the foods room.

Decade Marker Presentation – Westview Public School & Westwood Community High School

Dr. Sautner called upon Westwood Principal Jessica Roy for the decade marker presentation. Ms. Roy introduced Westwood student Lise-Anne Lacombe. Ms. Lacombe displayed a picture she had painted and provided an explanation for the details included in the painting based on events from the 80's.

Students from both schools then unveiled the decade marker for the period 1982 – 1992 for presentation to the Board.

Trustees and senior administration thanked the staff and students for their enlightening and enjoyable presentations.

Presentation by Kevin Bergen, Thickwood Heights Public School

Superintendent, Dennis Parsons, introduced Mr. Kevin Bergen, Principal, Thickwood Heights Public School. Mr. Bergen put forward a proposal for an arts-focused school program, to achieve creative, unique programming. It is anticipated this new focus will attract students. Part of the proposal included renaming the school to the Thickwood Heights School for the Arts.

Chair, Jeff Thompson, thanked Mr. Bergen for his passionate presentation. Trustee Drover felt there would be a huge benefit to the District if this initiative were to proceed, and Trustees Adams and Cooper shared his enthusiasm.

Trustee Mywaart wondered about public support. Mr. Bergen felt, through preliminary discussion, there was a significant amount of interest.

Trustees inquired about the costs that would be incurred and were advised there would be no or very minimal costs to achieve this change in focus, with perhaps only a shifting of staffing, and nominal costing for the new name to stationery should it be approved.

Superintendent Parsons indicated that if the Board approved this new focus for Thickwood Heights Public School, it would create a natural path for students to flow from Thickwood Elementary, onto McTavish Junior High and subsequently to Westwood Community High School.

Chair, Jeff Thompson, called for a motion.

20678

Trustee Adams served motion at 2020 hrs.

M/C

That the Board of Trustees support arts-focused programming in Thicketwood Heights Public School and direct the Superintendent to proceed with taking the necessary steps to change the name of Thicketwood Heights Public School to Thicketwood Heights School for the Arts, and to bring a motion to this effect back to the Board prior to the end of the 2012 - 2013 school year.

20679 Superintendent of Schools Report

Superintendent, Dennis Parsons, updated trustees and senior administration on the provincial budget announced on March 7, 2013, the Paul Martin Aboriginal Initiative 2013 and upcoming meeting scheduled for Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, the Westwood Community High School robotics club and their huge successes, and the Thicketwood Heights School Designation.

20680 Preliminary Budget 2013 - 2014

Superintendent Parsons, called upon Business and Finance Associate Superintendent, Mr. Allan Kallal, to speak to the preliminary 2013 - 2014 Budget presented for approval.

Trustee Mywaart discussed the proposed budget and asked about our re-designation to far northern. Superintendent Parsons indicated administrative staff have sent this proposal to both the former Education Minister and the current Education Minister.

Trustee Adams expressed her appreciation to Mr. Kallal and his staff for their hard work in preparing the budget.

Trustee Mywaart served motion at 2059 hrs.

M/C

That the Board of Trustees approve the attached preliminary budget for 2013 - 14.

20681 Approval - Amended Policy IN Student Fees

Associate Superintendent, Allan Kallal, updated trustees and senior administration on the request for an increase in student fees, bringing our District in alignment with the separate school board. Discussion followed.

Trustee Drover served motion at 2109 hrs.

M/C

That the Board of Trustees approve the amendment to Policy IN Student Fees, as attached.



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20682 Approval – Amended Policy EEA Student Transportation Services Associate Superintendent, Allan Kallal, updated trustees and senior administration on the request for amendments to the transportation fees to reduce the transportation deficit. Discussion followed.

Trustee Cooper served motion at 2115 hrs.  
M/C

That the Board of Trustees approve the proposed amendments to Policy EEA Transportation Fees, as attached, with the change in fees to be implemented ONLY if the Fort McMurray Catholic School Board approves the same increase in Transportation Fees.

Trustee Cooper put forward a request for information and asked Superintendent Parsons to discuss the possibility of undertaking a joint transportation study with the Catholic School District. Trustee Cooper suggested the study could be done over the next year to look at routes and efficiencies, and asked Superintendent Parsons bring back a response to the May 21<sup>st</sup> Board meeting.

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20683 Trustee Drover declared a conflict of interest for the upcoming agenda item and was excused at 2132 hrs.

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20684 Proposed Agreement with ATA Superintendent Parsons updated trustees and senior administration on the proposed agreement with ATA. He provided relevant background information leading to this proposed agreement.

Considerable debate followed.

Trustee Cooper served motion at 2137 hrs.  
M/C (majority vote with one opposed)

That the Board of Trustees accept the Minister's proposed agreement with the ATA as attached.

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20685 Trustee Drover rejoined the meeting at 2200 hrs.

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20686 Approval – Amended Policy HIBI Use of Electronic Devices in Schools Associate Superintendent Allan Kallal updated trustees and senior administration on the request for board approval of amended Policy HIBI.

Trustee Mywaart served motion at 2202 hrs.  
M/C

That the Board of Trustees approve the proposed amendments to Policy HIBI Use of Electronic Devices in Schools.

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20687 Approval – Amended Policy HIBH Acceptable Use of Information and Communication Technology Associate Superintendent Allan Kallal updated trustees and senior administration on proposed amendments to Policy HIBH.

Trustee Drover served motion at 2209 hrs.  
M/C

That the Board of Trustees approve the proposed amendments to Policy HIBH Acceptable Use of Information and Communication Technology.

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20688	Agreement for the Fort McMurray Public School District to Participate in the Elections with the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo	<p>Associate Superintendent, Allan Kallal, updated trustees and senior administration on the proposal, based on past practice, to enter into an agreement with the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo regarding the upcoming District's school board elections in the fall, 2013.</p> <p>Trustee Adams served motion at 2214 hrs. M/C That the Board of Trustees authorize the Associate Superintendent, Business &amp; Finance, to enter into an agreement with the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo to conduct the Fort McMurray Public School Board elections in conjunction with the Municipal elections. This resolution directs the Municipality to be responsible for the Appointment of Officers and the conduct of the elections.</p>
20689	Trustee Items	<p>Trustee Adams updated trustees and senior administration that she would not be able to attend the upcoming Alberta School Councils Association Annual General Meeting scheduled on April 25 – 27, 2013 in Edmonton. Trustees were asked to check their schedules and advise Trustee Adams if they were able to attend.</p> <p>Trustee Mywaart mentioned the Alberta School Boards Association information sessions, "Is school trusteeship for me, indicating there may be one scheduled to be held in Fort McMurray. Trustee Cooper requested this information be posted on the website, once a date has been set.</p>
20690	Correspondence	<p>Chair, Jeff Thompson, updated trustees and senior administration on receipt of a letter dated March 26, 2013, from Dean Lindquist, Acting Deputy Minister, Alberta Education, regarding approval of a capital project for the District's new school, Walter &amp; Gladys Hill.</p> <p>Superintendent Parsons indicated funding appears low and he has directed Mr. Kallal to investigate.</p>
20691	Business Arising	None
20692	Other Business	None
20693	Request for Information	Transportation study
20694	Future Agenda Items	TBD

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20695 Adjourn

There being no further business, Chair, Jeff Thompson, adjourned the meeting at 2219 hrs.

  
BOARD CHAIR

  
SECRETARY-TREASURER

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