

Fort McMurray School Division MEETING MINUTES March 8. 2022 6:30 p.m.

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Meeting Location: Board Room, District Office

Meeting Facilitator: Trustee Setter

Participants: Trustee Spargo/School Councils/Senior Leaders - DO

Participant List

Item Topics / Discussion

1. Introductions, Review and Additions to Agenda

Trustees & Senior Staff introduced themselves to the group as well as gave an overview of the purpose of this committee. There were no additions to the agenda. In reviewing the minutes, concerns were raised that the agenda and supporting documents were not received in a timely manner. A/Superintendent Nutter apologized on behalf of the acting recording secretary.

2. AP 449 Hazard Mitigation

A/Superintendent Nutter informed the Networks Committee that AP 449 Hazard Mitigation has been put into abeyance and can be brought forward again if necessary in the future.

3. **ASCE Grant**

Trustee Spargo reminded the committee that as school council members of ASCA, they are able to register delegates for the upcoming ASCA Conference and AGM.

ASCA website

She reiterated that Alberta Education has made \$500 available for each school council to create opportunities to increase the involvement and engagement of their parents. One possible way is to register more parents, over and above the two supported by the Division, in sessions at the upcoming ASCA Conference. Mr. Kallal has ensured that the preliminary paperwork has been completed on behalf of the Division's school councils.

The Board of Trustees passed a motion in February to support our school councils by covering up to (and including) 2 registrations per school council to attend the ASCA AGM and Conference.

4. Curriculum Discussion

Compelling video to share with other parents in the schools from the University of Alberta *Links to U of A "Crash Course on Curriculum - Part 1"

https://alberta-curriculum-analysis.ca/crash-course-on-the-draft-curriculum/

Math: 6:05-25:30

Networks Committee



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Social Studies: 26:10-46:55

Music: 48:00-1:08:00

*Newspaper article by Janet French

https://www.cbc.ca/news/canada/edmonton/alberta-social-studies-curriculum-being-tes

ted-by-a-handful-of-private-school-teachers-only-1.6348965

Curriculum Discussion con't

Trustee Spargo stated that school boards do advocate in slowing down the implementation of the new curriculum however, it was noted that this is all up to the Minister's discretion. The Board provides the information to parents and school council to bring forward as they wish. If school councils are writing letters to the Minister please copy to A/Superintendent Nutter and Board Chair Mywaart.

5. **Draft Calendar**

A/Superintendent Nutter is gathering feedback on the Draft Calendar for 2022-23 school year. A question was asked about staggered entry and is being proposed to the Board on March 23rd. There were questions about the number of PLF day's which would be 13, which is the same as this current year. The Division works very closely with the Catholic school board as we share transportation costs. Feedback from networks was possibly stretching the Christmas break at the beginning rather than the week in January as this would only give students a few days to prepare for Diploma exams. A/Superintendent Nutter pointed out that Easter is very early in the 2023-24 school year so there is a long weekend to encompass the Easter Weekend, a week of school, and a week off for Spring Break. There was some discussion.

6. Thought Exchange

A/Superintendent Nutter provided an overview of Thought Exchange and stated that the Division used the same platform last year. This is an online tool to allow people to answer and share their thoughts with the Division and with anyone else answering the question. This year there were 1088 participants. Question: "As we plan for the 2022-2023 budget, what do we need to focus on to ensure the success of every student at Fort McMurray Public Schools?"

PARTICIPANT BREAKDOWN:



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%	•	Answer
58%	(613)	■ Parents/Guardians
24%	(251)	Students
17%	(177)	■ Staff
0%	(4)	Community Members
1%	(10)	Other

DEMOGRAPHIC BREAKDOWN



%	4	Answer
6%	(66)	■ Indigenous (Inuit, Métis, First Nations)
67%	(695)	Caucasian
1%	(8)	Latino / Hispanic
3%	(36)	Middle Eastern
1%	(12)	Caribbean
5%	(47)	African
7%	(71)	■ South Asian
3%	(34)	■ East Asian

SCHOOL BREAKDOWN

2% (22) Beacon Hill Public School	2% (22) Fort McMurray Islamic
9% (87) Christina Gordon Public	School
School	1% (14) Frank Spragins High
5% (53) Dave McNeilly Public School	School
9% (95) Dr. K.A. Clark Public School	1% (14) Greely Road School
8% (76) École Dickinsfield School	3% (33) Thickwood Heights
38% (389) École McTavish Public High	School
School	2% (20) Timberlea Public School
3% (28) Fort McMurray Christian	5% (54) Walter and Gladys Hill
School	Public School
4% (35) Fort McMurray Composite	4% (36) Westview Public School
High School	4% (44) Westwood Community
	High School

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Key Thoughts by all participants shows **Class Size** and **Classroom Supports** as being the top two themes.

A/Superintendent Nutter will review school based data with Administrators and develop a draft priority staff development plan for 2022-2023. This will be presented to the Board of Trustees for review, clarification and feedback.

7. **Budget Updates**

Associate Superintendent of Business & Finance Allan Kallal, presented his report for review. The report is available here <u>LINK</u>

8. Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Form and Questions

What does diversity/equity/inclusion mean? What does your school do to support each?

The Division is doing an audit on diversity, equity and inclusion - This audit is to ensure that schools are meeting these needs. This is an information search so please have a conversation through the school council and submit your input. This updates the school profiles.

No questions.

9. School Council Sharing

Following points were shared with group:

- Crosswalk in front of McTavish is an ongoing process and it encouraged that parents call in through the *Pulse* line to complain.
- A question was asked about teacher recruitment and retention. Director of Administration & Human Resources, Merrie-Rae Mitsopoulos shared that FMPSD annually attends job fairs and universities, (virtually due to Covid), and are actively promoting Fort McMurray and FMPSD. Job postings are posted through Education Canada as well as our website. The Division sends out staff intentions twice a year, to see if staff are planning either resigning, leave of absence or seeking other opportunities with the Division. This assists with identifying target areas. A question was asked about Keyano College graduates, to which it was stated their students only graduate every two years. All colleges and universities

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across Canada are struggling with enrollment numbers due to Covid - especially so for French teachers.

• Westwood clubs are very active - poetry in motion and robotics club and happy they are meeting again. Basketball girls came first at their tournament.

10. Information & Correspondence

Trustee Setter reminded Networks of the Minister's Youth Council application deadline is March 25th, 2022. More information can be found here:

*https://www.alberta.ca/student-engagement.aspx

Next Meeting:

Tuesday, April 5th, 2022 @ 6:30 p.m.