

MINUTES



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BOARD OF TRUSTEES MEETING

Date: Wednesday, March 27, 2024

Location: 231 Hardin Street, Central Board Room
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Time: 2:00 p.m.

In

Attendance:

Board Chair:
Vice-Chair:
Trustees:

Linda Mywaart
Jonathan Lambert
Malcolm Setter
Lorna Spargo
Jason Schulz
Angela Adams
Tim O'Hara

Superintendent of Schools:
Associate Superintendent, *Business & Finance*:
Assistant Superintendent, *HR & Administration*:

Annalee Nutter
Allan Kallal
Merrie-Rae Mitsopoulos

Recording Secretary:

Traci Towe

Regrets:

	ITEM	DISCUSSION
24611	1.0 Call to Order	Board Chair L. Mywaart called the meeting to order at 2:05 p.m.
	O Canada	Board Chair L. Mywaart invited those in attendance to stand for the playing of the National Anthem.
	Comment	Trustee Lambert entered the Board Room at 2:09 p.m.
24612	2.0 Acknowledgment of Treaty 8 Lands and Territory	Fort McMurray Public School Division acknowledges that we are on Treaty 8 Territory, a traditional meeting grounds, gathering place, and travelling route to the Cree, Dënësulinë, and Métis. We acknowledge all the many First Nations, Métis and Inuit whose footsteps have marked these lands for centuries. We are dedicated to honouring the intent and spirit of Treaty 8.
	Safety Moment	Assistant Superintendent Mitsopoulos provided the safety moment for those in attendance.


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24613	3.1 Agenda	Agenda accepted as presented.
24614	3.2 Approve Agenda	Motion by Trustee Spargo THAT the Board of Trustees approves the Agenda as presented. Chair Mywaart read the Motion. Carried 2:11 p.m.
24615	4.0 Declaration of Conflict	Board Chair L. Mywaart reminded Trustees of their responsibility to make a declaration should any agenda item pose a pecuniary conflict and remove themselves from the meeting for those items.
24616	5.0 Minutes 5.1 Approval of Regular Board Meeting Minutes	The Board reviewed the Regular Board of Trustees meeting minutes of February 21, 2024 MOTION by Trustee Setter THAT the Board of Trustees adopt the minutes as presented. Board Chair L. Mywaart read the Motion. Carried at 2:13 p.m.
24617	7.0 Action Items 7.1 Time Specific 2:15 p.m. Executive Function, EA Support & Mental Health Presentation	Director Cynthia Shelley-Lewis and her team gave a presentation to the Board entitled “Inclusive Education Supports 2023-2024”. The following information was given: FMPSD Priority Area 2: Maintain Safe & Caring Learning Environments and Supports. Within our Division, there is a strong stakeholder advocacy for increased targeted and specialized support; therefore, the needs in the area of differentiated instruction remain an area of growth. The desired outcome is having targeted Professional Development, staff coaching, mentorship and modeling to enhance staff capacity with aligning Individualized Program Plans (IPP) goals with differentiation strategies and interventions. An increase of regulated students, a decrease of inappropriate behaviour and increased academic performance by students are the goals. As well, Safe & Caring Schools - Mental Health Focus desired outcome is to increase stakeholder engagement in Mental Health awareness and instructions practices that align with self-regulation, co-regulation and improve student readiness to learn through building collective mental health supports. These objectives are to be acquired by the following measures: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> ● Capacity Building ● Executive Functioning ● Behavior Support ● Student & Staff Wellness Questions were asked and answered by/to the Board. The Board thanked Director Shelley-Lewis and her team for the informative presentation.
24618	Recess	Motion by Trustee Lambert THAT the Board of Trustees recess for five minutes before going into the Closed Session by Trustee Lambert. Board Chair Mywaart read the Motion. Carried: 3:04 p.m.
24619	6.0 Closed Session	Motion by Trustee Setter THAT the Board of Trustees move to the Closed Session of the meeting. Board Chair L. Mywaart read the Motion. Carried: 3:09 p.m.
24620	Pecuniary Conflict	Trustee O’Hara excused himself from the Board room due to a pecuniary conflict at 3:55 p.m.
	Comment	Trustee Adams excused herself from the meeting at 4:54 p.m. due to prior commitments.
24621	Reconvene Regular Board Meeting	MOTION by Trustee Spargo THAT the Board of Trustees come out of the Closed Session and reconvene the Regular Board Meeting. Board Chair Mywaart read the Motion. Carried 5:03 p.m.
24622	Pecuniary Conflict	Trustee O’Hara reentered the Board Room at 5:03 to exclude himself for Items 7.3 and 7.5. Trustee O’Hara left the Board room again at 5:04 p.m.
24623	7.0 Action Items 7.3 Review & Approve	After a discussion amongst the Board regarding the two calendar drafts presented for the 2024-2025 school year, Vice Chair Lambert made a motion THAT the Board of Trustees approves the 2024/2025

	Division Calendar	<p>Academic Calendar as Draft Version #1 (169 Instructional and 194 Operational Days).</p> <p>Chair Mywaart read the Motion. Defeated 5:23 p.m.</p> <p>Trustee Spargo made a motion THAT the Board of Trustees approves the 2024/2025 Academic Calendar as Draft Version #2 (169 Instructional Days and 195 Operational Days).</p> <p>Chair Mywaart read the Motion. Carried 5:28 p.m.</p>
24624	7.0 Action Items 7.5 Review Financial Update (2 of 3)	<p>Chair Mywaart presented to the Board the Audit and Finance Chair Report as well as the Minutes.</p> <p>Motion by Trustee Lambert THAT the Board of Trustees Receives the Audit & Finance Committee report as information.</p> <p>Chair Mywaart called the question. Carried 5:30 p.m.</p>
24625	7.0 Action Items 7.2 Board Work Plan	<p>Standing action item on the Agenda. Chair Mywaart reviewed the Board's Work Plan for March.</p>
24626	7.0 Action Items 7.6 Review & Approve Capital & Facilities Plan	<p>Associate Superintendent Kallal provided the Capital & Facilities Plan and advised this has been updated as per the current enrollment and the projected enrollment growth. Associate Superintendent Kallal also advised that Westwood High is still the number one priority.</p> <p>Questions/comments made by the Board and answers received.</p> <p>Motion by Trustee Schulz THAT the Board of Trustees approve the 2024 Master Facility & Capital Plan as presented.</p> <p>Chair Mywaart called the question. Carried 5:52 p.m.</p>
24627	Recess	<p>Motion by Trustee Lambert That the Board of Trustees recess and reconvene the Board Meeting at 6:30 p.m.</p> <p>Chair Mywaart called the question. Carried 5:54 p.m.</p>
24628	End of Pecuniary Conflict	<p>Trustee O'Hara reentered the Board room at 5:55 p.m.</p>
24629	Reconvene Regular Board Meeting	<p>The Board of Trustee meeting reconvened at 6:35 p.m.</p>
	Comment Division Showcase	<p>Due to the Division Showcase scheduled start time of 6:30 p.m. the Board elected to circle back to the remaining Action Items at the conclusion of the Showcase.</p>
	Safety Moment	<p>Assistant Superintendent Mitsopoulos provided a safety moment for those sitting in the gallery.</p>
24630	12:0 Spotlight on Students 12.1 Greely Road School	<p>Greely Road School delivered an impressive presentation to the Board of Trustees, highlighting the significant improvements in student literacy. With the introduction of creative and innovative programs, students have not only enhanced their reading skills but also developed a genuine passion for literature. The educators' dedication to boosting literacy was evident, as they've implemented methods that have led to soaring achievement levels. The Board was thoroughly impressed by the showcase, celebrating the commitment of Greely Road School to fostering a thriving educational environment.</p> <p>LINK to Greely Road's Presentation</p>
24631	12.0 Spotlight on Students 12.2 Fort McMurray Islamic School	<p>Islamic School had the opportunity to present the collaborative programming and clubs with Greely Road Public School. This partnership has been a beacon of unity and educational innovation, combining resources and knowledge to enhance the learning experiences of students from diverse backgrounds. In an enlightening segment of the presentation, students shared with the Board the profound significance of Ramadan. This month is not only about fasting from dawn to dusk; it symbolizes a period of spiritual growth, discipline, and a deepening sense of solidarity and generosity towards those less fortunate.</p>


24632	13.0 Division Showcase 13.1 Lincoln Alexander School Essay Competition	<p>The Board is thrilled to honour this year's Lincoln M. Alexander Essay Winners, showcasing exceptional talent and insight among our student contributors. Recognized for their compelling narratives and dedication to the craft of writing, these young authors embody the spirit of inquiry and exploration that the award celebrates. We commend their hard work and creativity, which not only earned them this prestigious accolade but also set a high standard for aspiring writers to follow.</p> <p><u>List of winners:</u></p> <p><u>Grades 4 - 6</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Position - Ayaan Sameer - Fort McMurray Islamic School • Second Position - Nesochi Okoro - Fort McMurray Christian School <p><u>Grades 7 - 9</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Position - Edha Talwar - Westwood Community High School • First Position - Nathan Toyin-Adeyemi - École McTavish High School • Second Position - Amarachi Okoro - Fort McMurray Christian School • Third Position - Sophie Pytak - École McTavish High School <p><u>Grades 10 - 12</u></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • First Position - Taha Ahmed - Westwood Community High School • First Position - Lisa Toyin-Adeyemi - École McTavish High School • Second Position - Esther Okorie - Westwood Community High School • Third Position - Shayan Awan - Westwood Community High School
24633	13.0 Division Showcase 13.2 RARA Award Winners	<p>The RARA 2024 Young Achievement Award proudly recognizes the outstanding accomplishments of two exceptional students, Odessa Tootoosis from Christina Gordon Public School and Hanna Belhumeur from Dave McNeilly Public School.</p> <p>Hanna is actively learning Cree from her grandmother, she passionately shares this knowledge within the school community and participates in cultural festivals in the surrounding areas reflecting her commitment to preserving and celebrating Indigenous heritage. Hanna is also learning the art of hoop dancing. Additionally, under her grandmother's guidance, she is refining her cooking skills, focusing on preparing cultural dishes.</p> <p>Odessa often practices her inherent traditional rights setting nets with her family in Fort Chip. She has been dancing Powwow and attending Ceremony since she was a baby. Odessa makes connections to stories we read in class and is happy and excited to share her own personal and cultural experiences with the class.</p>
24634	13.0 Division Showcase 13.3 Saanvi Talwar	<p>Westwood Community High School's very own Saanvi Talwar has released a heartwarming book titled "Nancy and Anna's Never-Ending Friendship," capturing the essence of true companionship. Each elementary school within the Division will receive a copy of Saanvi's book, helping to spread the joy and lessons of friendship to eager young readers. For those interested in getting their copy, "Nancy and Anna's Never-Ending Friendship" is available for purchase on Amazon, inviting readers of all ages to indulge in this endearing tale. Link to Saanvi's book HERE</p>
24635	13.0 Division Showcase 13.4 NCWIT AiC Canada West Coast High School	<p>Westwood Community High School celebrates the outstanding achievement of Lalithya Raavi, a recipient of the NCWIT Aspirations in Computing High School Award. Her dedication to the world of technology and computing exemplifies the incredible talent and potential among young women in STEM fields.</p>
24636	13.0 Division Showcase 13.5 Hilton Mireao Award of Excellence	<p>Composite High School's Academic Counselor, Ryan Hoffman, has been awarded the prestigious Hilton Mireao Award of Excellence for his outstanding dedication to student success. Recognized for his innovative counselling approaches, Ryan effectively guides students through academic challenges and college preparations. His commitment to developing a strong rapport with students and personalizing their learning journeys is a testament to his passion for educational mentorship.</p>
24637	7.0 Action Items 7.4 Approve Edwin Parr Teacher Recommendation	<p>Motion by Trustee O'Hara THAT the Board of Trustees approves the Division's nominee for the 2024 ASBA Edwin Parr Award.</p> <p>Chair Mywaart read the Motion. Carried 7:28 p.m.</p>
24638	7.0 Action Items 7.7 Audit Update	<p>Associate Superintendent Kallal advised that school site audits are no longer necessary and that school financial transactions will be audited as part of the overall school division audit.</p>

		<p>The reasoning for the decision to no longer require on-site audits is due to the following:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Moving to paperless reporting for financial documentation & documentation relating to HR. • Online payment of fees and services at schools. • Moving School Generated Funds into the main financial reporting system and bank account. • Five schools have closed their imprest bank accounts due to lack of activity. This means there have been no transactions for the past 24 months, and these transactions are now being processed by the division finance department. <p>Associate Superintendent Kallal was thanked for his information report.</p>
24639	7.0 Action Items 7.8 Westwood Robotics Field Trip	<p>Westwood Robotics was seeking the Board's approval to travel to Texas to participate in competition at the 2024 VEX Robotics World Championship from April 24-30, 2024. Twelve students and two chaperones will be attending this competition.</p> <p>The VEX Worlds Tournament will provide opportunities for participants to develop leadership and mentorship skills, be part of an international community, and learn about how students from other schools across the world develop/engineer robotic components. Most importantly, students will have the opportunity to share their ideas and experiences with Robotics in a variety of ways, creating connections that can last a lifetime.</p> <p>Motion by Trustee Setter THAT the Board of Trustees approves Westwood Robotics Team to travel to Texas to participate in a competition at the 2024 VEX Robotics World Championship from April 24 - 30, 2024.</p> <p>Chair Mywaart read the Motion. Carried 7:36 p.m.</p>
24640	8.0 Information Reports 8.1 PSBAA (including PSBC)	<p>Chair Mywaart advised an email had been sent to all Trustees regarding Public School Board Council (PSBC) upcoming meeting and informed the Board that Trustee Setter (alternate) will be attending this April meeting. Superintendent Nutter will also be presenting at the PSBC meeting.</p>
24641	8.0 Information Reports 8.2 ASBA (Including Zone %)	<p>Trustee Spargo advised she had sent out the Zone % highlights to the Board and will forward the minutes and meeting information shortly. Trustee Spargo also advised that there will be a budget video being released at the beginning of April and this will also be passed along to the Trustees.</p>
24642	8.0 Information Report 8.3 Trustee Engagement Report	<p>Chair Mywaart reviewed this month's Trustee Engagement report.</p>
24643	8.0 Information Reports 8.4 Superintendent Report	<p>Superintendent Nutter shared her report. Report accepted by Trustees with a few questions asked and answered.</p>
24644	8.0 Information Reports 8.4.1 Director of Inclusive Education	<p>Superintendent Nutter shared the report from the Director of Inclusive Learning. Report accepted by Trustees as presented.</p>
24645	8.0 Information Reports 8.4.2 Director of Teaching & Learning.	<p>No report from the Director of Teaching & Learning for this month.</p>
24646	8.0 Information Reports 8.4.3 Assistant Superintendent of Human Resources & Administration	<p>Assistant Superintendent Mitsopoulos' shared her report with the Board. Report accepted by Trustees with one question asked and answered.</p>
24647	8.0 Information Reports 8.4.4 Director of Human Resources & Administration	<p>Assistant Superintendent Mitsopoulos shared the Director's report with the Board</p> <p>Report accepted by Trustees.</p>
24648	8.0 Information Reports 8.4.5 Associate Superintendent of Business & Finance	<p>Associate Superintendent Kallal shared his report. Report accepted by Trustees with one question asked and answered.</p>
24649	9.0 Information & Correspondence 9.1 ASBA Minister of	<p>This letter was shared with Trustees. On March 12, 2024 Minister Demetrios Nicolaidis appeared before the Standing Committee on Families and Communities to discuss the 2024 Budget.</p>


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	Education Budget 2024 Update	In short, Questions from MLAs were focused on capital planning (the process and specific projects), transportation, mental health supports, classroom complexity, teacher complaint process, modulars, decline in graduation and post-secondary attendance rates, PISA results, EAs and support staff, home education pilot project for Kindergarten, curriculum implementation, collegiates, FNMI students, red tape reduction, career programming, hiring teachers (in particular for rural communities), school nutrition, intergovernmental affairs and education property tax.
24650	9.0 Information & Correspondence 9.2 Letter from Education Minister on SS Curriculum	On March 14th, 2024, Minister Nicolaides sent an email with a link to the Draft K - 12 Social Studies Subject Overview and a Draft K-6 Social Studies Curriculum. The Ministry was looking for stakeholders to complete the feedback form by March 29, 2024. The deadline has been extended to April 2, 2024 @ 11:59 p.m.
24651	9.0 Information & Correspondence 9.3 Letter from Minister re: Westwood Project	Chair Mywaart reviewed a letter from Minister Nicolaides regarding the Westwood High School capital priority plan. Minister Nicolaides stated he was looking forward to receiving the capital submission from the Division, which outlines the recommendations detailed in the value scoping study. Westwood Community High School remains the number one priority for the Division.
24652	10.0 Request for Information	There was none.
24653	14.0 Business Arising From Presentations & Delegations or Previous Meetings	There was none.
24654	15.0 Other Business	There was none
24655	16.0 Future Agenda Items	There were none.
24656	Adjournment	There being no further business, Motion by Trustee Spargo THAT the Regular Board of Trustee meeting of March 27, 2024, be adjourned. Chair Mywaart read the motion. Carried at 7:55 p.m.

Board Chair: 
Linda Mywaart Apr 26, 2024 09:38 MDT

Date: Apr 26, 2024

Secretary-Treasurer: 

Date: Apr 26, 2024









2024.03.27_MINUTES Board of Trustees Meeting

Final Audit Report

2024-04-26

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