



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 05 21.

Attendees:

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| Chair | - J. Thompson |
| Vice Chair | - G. Cooper |
| Trustee | - L. Mywaart |
| Trustee | - S. Drover (joined at 1700 hrs.) |
| Trustee | - A. Adams (joined at 2025 hrs. via telephone) |
| Superintendent | - D. Parsons |
| Associate Superintendent | - B. Sautner |
| - Education & Admin. | |
| Associate Superintendent | - A. Kallal |
| - Business & Finance | |
| Associate Superintendent | - P. Meagher (joined at 1434 hrs.) |
| - HR & Admin. | |
| Recording Secretary | - S. Dunn |

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| 20696 | Call to Order | Chair, Jeff Thompson, called the meeting to order at 1404 hrs. |
| 20697 | Additions to the In-Camera Agenda | None |
| 20698 | Approval of Agenda | Trustee Mywaart served motion at 1404 hrs. M/C That the agenda be approved. |
| 20699 | In-Camera Meeting | Trustee Cooper served motion at 1404 hrs. M/C That the meeting proceed to the in-camera meeting. |
| 20700 | | Regrets: Trustee Mywaart at 1434 hrs. Joined: Associate Superintendent Phil Meagher at 1434 hrs. |
| 20701 | Shop Talk | Deferred. |
| 20702 | | Joined: Trustee Mywaart by telephone at 1529 hrs. |
| 20703 | Out of In-Camera | Trustee Mywaart served motion at 1530 hrs. M/C That the Board of Trustees move out of the In-Camera meeting and proceed to In Conference. |
| 20704 | Additions to Agenda | 1. May 15, 2013, letter received from the organizing committee of the Regional Aboriginal Recognition Awards. |

20705 Approval of Agenda Trustee Cooper served motion at 1531 hrs.
M/C
That the agenda be approved.

20706 Regrets: Trustee Mywaart at 1532 hrs.

- 20707 Business Arising from the Minutes
1. CSBA Conference – Trustees and senior administration confirmed their attendance for this upcoming conference scheduled on July 3 – 7, 2013.
 2. Thickwood Heights Name Change – Superintendent Parsons indicated this topic is on the Agenda.
 3. Joint Transportation Study – Superintendent, Dennis Parsons, called upon Associate Superintendent, Allan Kallal, to update trustees and senior administration on a proposed joint transportation study with the separate school district. Mr. Kallal indicated he would provide a report to the Board in September.
 4. ASBA Information Session – Is School Trusteeship for Me” – Chair, Jeff Thompson, updated trustees and senior administration that the Fort McMurray Public School District is hosting this event on Monday, May 27, 2013, from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. Mr. Thompson indicated he would attend on behalf of the Board.
 5. Capital Project for Walter & Gladys Hill Public School – Superintendent Dennis Parsons called upon Associate Superintendent, Allan Kallal, to update trustees and senior administration on the findings of his investigation into funding. Mr. Kallal indicated a committee has been formed to look into this matter, with an anticipated report of their findings to be available to the Board in September.
 6. Thank you letter to Minister Johnson regarding the new school announcement – The letter was prepared and shared with trustees and senior administration, and subsequently signed by Board Chair, Jeff Thompson.
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20708 Superintendent's Report Superintendent Parsons updated trustees and senior administration on the highlights of his operational report, including the Minister of Education's decision to legislate the Framework Agreement. He mentioned Mr. Meagher's attendance at the Council for School Leadership ceremony held in Edmonton last week, where Principals Annalee Nutter and Roxanne Fudge each received Distinguished Leadership Awards. Superintendent Parsons spoke about the upcoming Excellence in Teaching Awards scheduled on May 25th in Edmonton, with Trustee Angela Adams and Superintendent Dennis Parsons representing the District.

Superintendent Parsons also updated trustees and senior administration on various other events and District initiatives administrative staff have attended or been involved with, including the recent Nexus North meeting, Regional Collaborative Service Delivery, and High School Completion.

Superintendent Parsons also mentioned the appointment of the new Edge Director, Mr. Mike Carlsen, and indicated that the Partnership Facilitator position has been re-advertised but not yet filled.

20709 Enrollment Trustees agreed, based on the recent new school announcement, that this topic can now be shelved.



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| 20710 | Trustee Engagement | Trustee engagement since the March 18, 2013, Board Meeting, includes: April 23 – poetry reading with Grade 1 class at Timberlea School April 24 – Arts and Culture night at Fort McMurray Christian School April 26 – ASBA Zone 2/3 Meeting in Edmonton April 26 & 27 – Alberta School Councils Association Annual General Meeting April 29 – facility announcement by Ministers’ Johnson & Drysdale at MacDonald Island Park |
| 20711 | Public School Boards Association (PSBA) | Trustee Cooper updated trustees and senior administration on a new on-line survey put forward by the Public School Boards Association. Trustees agreed the survey will be completed during the June in-conference meeting. |
| 20712 | Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA) | Trustee Mywaart had provided a written report. |
| 20713 | Graduation Ceremonies | Chair, Jeff Thompson, reviewed the schedule for upcoming high school graduation ceremonies. Board Chair, Jeff Thompson, will attend Frank Spragins and Composite High School graduation ceremonies. Trustee Linda Mywaart will attend Westwood High School’s graduation ceremony. |
| 20714 | Committee of the Whole & Board Meeting Dates, 2013 - 2014 | Chair, Jeff Thompson, updated trustees and senior administration on the proposed Board meeting schedule for 2013 – 2014. Discussion followed and trustees agreed to defer this topic to the June Board meeting for further discussion and decision. |
| 20715 | Wellness Alberta | Board Chair, Jeff Thompson, updated trustees and senior administration on his receipt of an email requesting support for a Wellness Foundation in Alberta. Discussion followed. Trustees agreed further information was required before making any decision, and requested Superintendent Parsons explore this further with a report brought back to the Board in June. |
| 20716 | Review of Public Agenda | Trustees reviewed the public agenda in preparation for the Regular Board meeting. |
| 20717 | May 15, 2013 Letter from Organizing Committee, Regional Aboriginal Recognition Awards | Chair, Jeff Thompson, reviewed the letter received from the Organizing Committee of the Regional Aboriginal Recognition Awards. Discussion followed. |
| 20718 | | Joined – Trustee Mywaart at 1705 hrs. |
| 20719 | In-Camera Meeting | Trustee Cooper served motion at 1704 hrs. M/C That the Board of Trustees move out of the In-Conference meeting and proceed to In Camera. |

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| 20720 | | 1704 hrs. – Board Chair, Jeff Thompson, excused senior administration and the Recording Secretary. |
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| 20721 | Out of In -Camera | Trustee Mywaart served motion at 1800 hrs. M/C That the Board of Trustees move out of the In-Camera meeting and recess until 1900 hrs. |
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| 20722 | | Joined: Trustee Drover at 1910 hrs. |
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| 20723 | Convene Regular Meeting | Chair, Jeff Thompson, called the meeting to order M/C That the Board of Trustees reconvene the Regular Meeting at 1911 hrs. Other attendees: Full audience Media: 2 |
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| 20724 | O Canada | Chair, Jeff Thompson, welcomed everyone present and invited them to stand for the national anthem. |
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| 20725 | Moment of Silence | The national anthem was followed by a moment of silence for the students who lost their lives when a tornado ripped through their town of Moore, Oklahoma. |
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| 20726 | Question Period | There were no questions. |
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| 20727 | Additions to Agenda | 1. Thickwood Heights Name Change Request 2. Announcement of New Superintendent of Schools for Fort McMurray Public |
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| 20728 | Approval of Agenda | Trustee Drover served motion at 1916 hrs. M/C That the agenda be approved. |
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| 20729 | Announcement of Superintendent of Schools | Chair, Jeff Thompson, announced the new Superintendent for the Fort McMurray Public School District will be Mr. Douglas Nicholls. Mr. Thompson read a press release providing some brief background information on Mr. Nicholls. |
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Spotlight on Education

Presentation by Westwood Robotics Team

Associate Superintendent, Brenda Sautner, introduced Westwood teacher, Mr. Brian Vaughan, and updated trustees and senior administration on the competitions Westwood robotics students participated in and listed the scholarships awarded to them.

Mr. Vaughan played several videos from tournaments the students participated in. He explained the projects are student driven, entirely on their own time. The students have competed locally, provincially, nationally and internationally with huge success.

Trustees expressed their congratulations and admiration to the staff and students who are a part of the Westwood Robotics program.

Timberlea Public School & Decade Marker Presentation

Dr. Sautner introduced Timberlea Principal Rick Thorne, and Vice Principal Meipsy Shackelford. Mr. Thorne introduced his school choir consisting of Grades 3 and 4 students.

Students delighted trustees and senior administration with a song they had written to introduce the decade marker for the period 1992 – 2002. The students then unveiled the marker for presentation to the Board.

Teacher, Karla Swansburg, mentioned choir is an after-school program offered to Timberlea students. The students explained why they like choir and what it means to them.

The students then delighted trustees and senior administration with a Journey song, Don't Stop Believing. They ended their spotlight on education segment with a drum song.

Trustees and senior administration thanked the staff and students for their creativity in writing the song for the decade marker presentation and asked for a copy of the words. They also expressed appreciation for this wonderful after-school program.

Presentation by MLA Mike Allen

MLA Mike Allen congratulated Chair Jeff Thompson on the successes of the Robotics team. He presented a cheque to Mr. Thompson in the amount of \$25,000 to go towards the costs incurred for the District's 100th Anniversary book.

Board Chair thanked MLA Mike Allen on behalf of the Board and expressed sincere appreciation on behalf of the District.

20731

Joined – Trustee Adams at 2025 p.m. via telephone.



20732 Superintendent of
Schools Report

Superintendent, Dennis Parsons, updated trustees and senior administration the upcoming prestigious Fringe Festival in Scotland that will be attended for the second time by Westwood students. He recognized Principals Annalee Nutter, who was in attendance at the meeting, and Roxanne Fudge, recipients of Distinguished Leadership Awards. Superintendent Parsons also mentioned two teaching staff, Diane Rizzuto and Kitty (Kathleen) Cochrane who received Excellence in Teaching Awards. He indicated these four individuals will be formally recognized at the upcoming District Staff Recognition Banquet scheduled on Thursday, May 23rd.

Superintendent Parsons also spoke to changes in the field of Education, i.e. replacement of existing Provincial Achievement Tests, on-line Diploma exams, and the flex approach to high school learning.

Superintendent Parsons confirmed the recent announcement of a new school for the Fort McMurray Public School District.

20733 Thickwood Heights
School Designation

Superintendent Parsons, updated trustees and senior administration on a request he received from Thickwood Heights Public School Principal, Kevin Bergen, to change the school name. Mr. Parsons indicated this request was reviewed twice by the Naming Committee. Parent surveys were conducted and research to support Mr. Bergen's request had been undertaken.

Trustee Adams felt the proposed renaming of Thickwood Heights Public School was a very positive step.

2050 hrs. – Chair, Jeff Thompson, turned the Chair over to Vice Chair, Glenn Cooper.

Trustee, Jeff Thompson, spoke to the motion. He indicated that, as a member of the Naming Committee, he had not voted in favor of this motion. However, after the discussion here tonight, Mr. Thompson indicated he now understood and recognized the motion was a better approach and he could now support it as presented. He felt this would give the Board more time to better understand the implications.

2053 hrs. – Trustee Jeff Thompson resumed the Chair.

Trustee Mywaart spoke in favor of the motion, indicating she felt the new proposed name was "all-inclusive", while the original name change might be viewed as "exclusive". Mrs. Mywaart also agreed that it would allow more time for the Board to understand the implications.

Trustee Mywaart served motion at 2043 hrs.
M/C

Given that Thickwood Heights School is first and foremost a community school, and given the suggested name change may create community expectations that are not supportable by the Board, the action recommended is that the Board of Trustees proceed with a change to the school name tag-line: *Thickwood Heights Public School – Where the Arts Come Alive.*

20734 Continuation of
Superintendent of
Schools Report

Superintendent Parsons concluded his report by thanking staff and trustees who participated in the Naming Committee.



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| 20735 | BHD Board Member Compensation & Expenses | <p>Chair, Jeff Thompson, called upon Superintendent Parsons, to speak to this action item. Superintendent Parsons provided background information and then indicated a motion would need to be brought forward from the floor. Mr. Parsons also indicated if trustees did not provide any direction in the form of a motion from the floor, then policy BHD Board Member Compensation & Expenses would take effect.</p> <p>Trustee Drover served motion at 2102 hrs. M/C That the Board of Trustees take a zero (0) increase in trustee's remuneration for the fiscal year March 2013 to March 2014.</p> |
| 20736 | Approval – Locally Acquired Courses | <p>Superintendent Parsons called upon Brenda Sautner to speak to the action item brought forward.</p> <p>Trustee Cooper served motion at 2110 hrs. M/C That the Board of Trustees approve the list of locally acquired courses, as provided.</p> |
| 20737 | Approval – Locally Developed Course | <p>Board Chair, Jeff Thompson, called upon Brenda Sautner to speak to the action item brought forward.</p> <p>Trustee Mywaart served motion at 2115 hrs. M/C That the Board of Trustees approve the locally developed course, as provided.</p> |
| 20738 | Approval-in-Principle – Westwood High School Students Travel to Germany & Czech Republic, Spring Break 2014 | <p>Superintendent Parsons updated trustees and senior administration on the request for approval-in-principle for Westwood Community High School students travel to Germany & the Czech Republic during Spring Break 2014.</p> <p>Trustee Drover served motion at 2117 hrs. M/C That the Board of Trustees give approval-in-principle for Westwood Community High School students travel to Germany and the Czech Republic, Spring Break 2014.</p> |
| 20739 | Trustee Items | <p>Chair, Jeff Thompson, updated trustees and senior administration on the upcoming ASBA information session, "Is school trusteeship for you", scheduled to be held on May 27th from 7:00 – 9:00 p.m. at the Clearwater Public Education Centre.</p> |
| 20740 | Correspondence | <p>9.1 Excellence in Teaching Awards – this information was included in the Superintendent's Report. 9.2 May 7, 2013 Letter from Michael Walter, Acting DM re appointment of Superintendent – Chair, Jeff Thompson, announced the new Superintendent at the beginning of the meeting.</p> |
| 20741 | Business Arising | None |
| 20742 | Other Business | <p>Superintendent Parsons updated trustees and senior administration that the Minutes of the previous Board and Committee of the Whole meetings had not been approved during the In-Conference meeting held earlier.</p> |



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| 20743 | Minutes – In-Camera, In-Conference and Regular Meeting 2013 04 15 | Trustee Mywaart served motion at 2122 hrs. M/C That the Minutes of 2013 04 15 In-Camera, In-Conference & Regular Board Meeting be approved. |
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| 20744 | Minutes – Committee of the Whole Meeting 2013 05 06 | Trustee Mywaart served motion at 2123 hrs. M/C That the Minutes of 2013 05 06 Committee of the Whole Meeting be approved. |
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| 20745 | Request for Information | None |
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| 20746 | Future Agenda Items | To be determined. |
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| 20747 | Adjourn | There being no further business, Chair, Jeff Thompson, adjourned the meeting at 2125 hrs. |
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BOARD CHAIR


SECRETARY-TREASURER
