

CALGARY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees (the "Board") held on Tuesday, January 12, 2021 at 12:00 p.m. through Microsoft Teams

MEETING ATTENDANCE (Virtual)

Board of Trustees:

Trustee M. Dennis, Chair
Trustee A. Adams
Trustee M. Bradshaw
Trustee R. Hehr
Trustee J. Hrdlicka
Trustee T. Hurdman

Administration:

Mr. C. Usih, Chief Superintendent of Schools
Mr. R. Armstrong, Superintendent, Human Resources
Mr. D. Breton, Superintendent, Facilities and Environmental Services
Ms. K. Fenney, General Counsel
Mr. B. Grundy, Superintendent, Finance/Technology Services
Ms. M. Martin-Esposito, Chief Communications Officer
Ms. J. Pitman, Superintendent, School Improvement
Ms. D. Unruh, Acting Superintendent, School Improvement
Ms. T. Minor, Corporate Secretary
Ms. M. Broda, Board Administrator

1 | CALL TO ORDER, NATIONAL ANTHEM AND WELCOME

Chair Dennis called the meeting to order at 12:05 p.m. and O Canada was led by students from Briar Hill School by way of pre-recorded video.

Chair Dennis acknowledged the traditional territories and oral practices of the Blackfoot Nations, which includes the Siksika, the Piikani, and the Kainai. She also acknowledged the Tsuut'ina and Stoney Nakoda First Nations, the Métis Nation (Region 3), and all people who make their homes in the Treaty 7 region of Southern Alberta.

Chair Dennis acknowledged and welcomed trustees, superintendents, staff and public to the public Board meeting.

2 | CONSIDERATION/APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Minor, Corporate Secretary, noted there was a request for item 9.1.1 OE-8: Communicating and Engaging With the Public - Annual Monitoring be removed from the consent agenda and added as item 8.1 under Matters for Board Decision.



MOVED by Trustee Adams:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the agenda for the Regular Meeting of January 12, 2021 subject to the changes noted above.

The motion was
CARRIED.

In favour: Trustee Adams
Trustee Dennis
Trustee Hehr
Trustee Hrdlicka
Trustee Hurdman

Opposed: Trustee Bradshaw

3 | **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

There were no awards or recognitions.

4 | **RESULTS FOCUS**

4.1 **Results 2: Academic Success - Annual Monitoring Part 1 (Indicators 1 and 2)**

Chief Superintendent Usih introduced the report, stating that it outlines results of the organization ensuring that each student will be literate and numerate, able to integrate and apply the knowledge, skills, attitudes and competencies acquired across all academic disciplines. Due to the COVID-19 pandemic and subsequent cancellation of Provincial Assessment Testing and Diploma Exams, there is no evidence available for indicators 3 and 5 for the 2019/2020 school year.

Superintendent Pitman provided more detail on the report, stating that last year the report moved away from report card indicators illustrating the success rate for courses and moved to results as a mean. Another change made was breaking data out for three different groups of students in order to better understand the achievement of these groups. Two targets were not met tied to high school completion for students who self identify as Indigenous and students with identified special needs cohorts. The report is the first of many that will reference the COVID-19 pandemic impacts on access to data sets and student achievement. Analysis done at the system level still allows for trends and patterns to emerge to identify areas where further capacity may be required or success has been realized.

Administration responded to trustee questions on matters related to the executive summary and policy including: satisfaction level with the English Language Learner (ELL) achievement numbers; determining the target percentages; minimizing the gap between those that self identify as Indigenous and all students.

Administration responded to trustees questions on matters related to indicator 1 including: context behind the ELL high school completion rates; the significant gap in high school completion of those that self identify as Indigenous even with the investment through the Indigenous Education Strategy; the use of standardized testing and impacts of standardized testing accounting for 30 percent of final grade; risks associated with aligning



ELL funds/supports based on provincial government support; actions planned to increase high school completion rates for those that self identify as Indigenous; funding of the Indigenous Education Strategy; the supports, training, and resources provided to the Education Directors; addressing racism; supports for special education needs and the ability to access necessary supports in reasonable timeframe; funding change impacts to ELL; baseline assessments and processes for ELL proficiency; and the transition of Indigenous students from Grade 9 to Grade 10.

Administration responded to trustees questions on matters related to contextual information including: access to the internet and digital devices for low socioeconomic status students; students impacted by lack of technology for learning; gaps identified as part of the early years evaluation assessment and addressing gaps; using report card data to make conclusions or valid comparisons.

Administration responded to trustees questions on matters related to indicator 2 including: professional learning to shift mindset and resources from diagnoses and coding to intervention and supports; characteristics of most vulnerable early development centre learners and what can be done to support them; impacts from changes to Program Unit Funding (PUF); professional development for students with learning disabilities; literacy instruction for students with learning disabilities; and report card data chi-squared comparison.

Administration responded to a trustee question on matters related to the appendix regarding high school diploma rates for students that self identify as Indigenous.

Recessed: 1:54 p.m.

Reconvened: 2:05 p.m.

5 | **OPERATIONAL EXPECTATIONS**

5.1 **OE - 3: Instructional Program – Annual Monitoring**

Chief Superintendent Usih introduced the report, stating that evidence collected is from the 2019/2020 school year and shows compliance in 16 of 18 indicators. The COVID-19 pandemic impacted exploratory programming while all other programming was maintained throughout the year. This is the last year indicators contained in this report will be reflected as significant work was undertaken by trustees in revising the OE-3 policy statements.

Superintendent Pitman provided more detail on the report, reiterating that one component of programming that was impacted by the COVID-19 pandemic was exploratory programming. This was due to the nature of the learning designed in these courses relying on in-person, hands on learning and with emergency remote teaching in March this was no longer possible. The remainder of the report highlights the success in high school of still being able to offer flexibility and dual credit courses throughout the year.

Administration responded to trustees questions on matters including: how current the assessments used to support student learning are; how educators are supporting students reflecting on learning and establishing goals for their learning; whole class off-site activities; the school development plan process; reporting on school development plans



to the community; common off-site activities for French language programs; ensuring students can access off-site opportunities and not be restricted by funding; the frequency of the development and re-evaluation of bus zones and route assessments; and other institutions' interest in taking on courses previously cancelled by Bow Valley College.

The Chair asked trustees to identify their intentions to bring forward any motions related to compliance, exceptions or commendations for OE-3: Instructional Program to the Corporate Secretary and all trustees by noon, January 21, 2021. If no motions are received, the item will be placed on the consent agenda for the Regular Meeting of January 26, 2021 with a motion that the Board of Trustees approves the Chief Superintendent is in compliance with the provisions of this policy.

6 | **PUBLIC COMMENT**

There were no public comments.

7 | **MATTERS RESERVED FOR BOARD INFORMATION**

7.1 Hub Online Learning

Chief Superintendent Usih introduced the report and recognized staff across the organization for responding and working during the COVID-19 pandemic. He also thanked parents, students and the Board for all the work being done together.

Administration responded to trustees questions on matters including: the impacts and operational challenges of transitioning hub students to in-person learning; whether the order of learning units taught were the same for both hub and in-person learning; increase in teachers hired this year, and whether teachers teach in both hub and in-person; task class student numbers; responsibility of oversight of hub teachers; hub programs across other school board jurisdictions; selection of and skill requirements when filling hub teaching positions; why two-way transition between hub and in-person was not allowed; students participating in hub by program or geographic area; reason area 4 has significantly higher enrolment for hub compared to other areas; and supporting special education needs students who chose hub.

7.2 First Quarter Budget Variance Report

Superintendent Grundy provided detail on the report, stating it covers the period of September 1, 2020 to November 30, 2020 and sets variances between the board approved budget and administrations updated forecast. The inclusion of the financial health matrix provides relevant short and long term information on the health of the CBE. The COVID-19 pandemic has had significant impacts to the budget, impacts which were largely unknown when the budget was created in early 2020. The forecasted deficit based on the first three months of school operation is \$2.3 million, a slight improvement from the \$2.7 million budgeted deficit. Overall the CBE is well positioned for any challenges in the remainder of the year.

Trustee Bradshaw, Chair of the Audit and Risk Committee, indicated the report was presented at the December 2020 Audit and Risk Committee meeting and stated that no



motions came out of the meeting. He shared that the Committee was impressed with the report.

Administration responded to trustees questions on matters including: decreased transportation spending; future cash outflow related to CBE infrastructure; maximum reserve amount the CBE can carry forward; the inventory item in the financial position activity; effect of rapid city growth on the CBE; salary costs and hiring new teachers; growth of the city and the need for new schools in some areas and closing schools in others to balance utilization rates; the Language Instruction for Newcomers to Canada (LINC) program.

8 | **MATTERS RESERVED FOR BOARD DECISION**

8.1 **OE-8: Communicating and Engaging With the Public**

Moved by Trustee Hrdlicka:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves that the Chief Superintendent is in compliance with the provisions of OE-8: Communicating and Engaging With the Public.

In debate of the motion, trustees made comments on: the evidence presented shows the Chief Superintendent is in compliance with the policy; seeing that the CBE was very busy with six major engagements, a number of which were resource intensive; significant events such as the COVID-19 pandemic and Ministerial Order #016/2020 requiring the system to be able to communicate effectively; managing the last year through good communication; concerns over support of the media; the high school engagement work; communication of transportation adjustments; support for the Board in communicating with school councils; the concerns and complaints process being accessible to anyone that allows for timely follow-up; and expressed appreciation for the new tools developed for school council use.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee Hehr:

THAT the Board of Trustees review Operational Expectations 8: Communicating and Engaging With the Public policy by June 30, 2021.

MOVED by Trustee Hurdman:

THAT the Board of Trustees postpones consideration of the motion indefinitely.

In debate of the postponement motion, trustees made comments on: Board evaluation is scheduled, and any governance policy work can be reviewed at that time; holistically looking at all the Board's work and prioritizing it to create a work plan during the Board evaluation; postponement not being in the best interest of the CBE; the major concern being with the media and relationship with them; the ability to deliver on commitments; and allowing for maximum flexibility.



The motion was
CARRIED.

In favour: Trustee Adams
Trustee Bradshaw
Trustee Dennis
Trustee Hrdlicka
Trustee Hurdman

Opposed: Trustee Hehr

9 | **CONSENT AGENDA**

Chair Dennis noted the following items approved as submitted with the consent agenda:

9.1 **Items Provided for Board Decision**

9.1.1 Meeting Minutes

- October 27, 2020 Regular Meeting
- November 10, 2020 Regular Meeting
- November 19, 2020 Regular Meeting
- November 24, 2020 Regular Meeting
- November 25, 2020 Regular Meeting
- December 8, 2020 Regular Meeting
- December 15, 2020 Regular Meeting
- December 17, 2020 Special Meeting

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the minutes of the Regular Meetings held October 27, November 10, 19, 24, 25, December 8 and 15, 2020, and the Special Meeting held December 17, 2020, as submitted.

9.2 **Items Provided for Board Information**

9.2.1 Chief Superintendent's Update

Chair Dennis noted that the Board would meet in-camera following the public portion of the meeting to discuss one land, two labour, and one strategic planning matter. She noted the next public Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 26, 2021.

Recessed: 3:50 p.m.

Reconvened: 4:11 p.m.

10 | **IN-CAMERA SESSION**

Ms. D. McQueen, Governance Instructor joined the in-camera portion of the January 12, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees.

All Trustees, Superintendents, and Ms. D. McQueen confirmed they were alone and in a location that no other person could hear them or any part of this meeting.



Motion to Move In-Camera

MOVED by Trustee Bradshaw:

Whereas the Board of Trustees is of the opinion that it is in the public interest that matters on the private agenda for the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees, January 12, 2021 be considered at an in-camera session; therefore, be it

Resolved, THAT the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees moves in-camera.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Motion to Revert to Public Meeting

MOVED by Trustee Hurdman:

THAT the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees moves out of in-camera.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Motion to Action In-Camera Recommendations

MOVED by Trustee Adams:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the process for the Chief Superintendent's Summative Evaluation as outlined in the attachment to the report.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee Bradshaw:

- 1. THAT the Board of Trustees approve recommendations B, D, E and F contained in the November 19, 2020 private report; and**
- 2. THAT the Board of Trustees approve recommendation C contained in the November 19, 2020 private report, as amended; and**
- 3. THAT the Board of Trustees approve the recommendation as discussed in-camera.**

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.



MOVED by Trustee Hurdman:

That the Board of Trustees directs the Chair to communicate with the governance instructor as discussed in-camera.

The motion was
CARRIED.

In favour:	Trustee Adams Trustee Bradshaw Trustee Dennis Trustee Hehr Trustee Hurdman
Opposed:	Trustee Hrdlicka

11 | **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 7:03 p.m.

