

CALGARY BOARD OF EDUCATION

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees (the “Board”) held on Tuesday, January 11, 2022 at 12:00 p.m. through Microsoft Teams

MEETING ATTENDANCE (Virtual)

Board of Trustees:

Trustee L. Hack, Chair
Trustee P. Bolger
Trustee N. Close
Trustee M. Dennis
Trustee D. Downey
Trustee C. May
Trustee S. Vukadinovic

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. A. Holowka, Superintendent, School Improvement
Ms. T. Minor, Corporate Secretary
Ms. M. Broda, Board Administrator

1 | CALL TO ORDER, NATIONAL ANTHEM AND WELCOME

Chair Hack called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m. and O Canada was led by students from Fish Creek School by way of pre-recorded video.

Chair Hack 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 Hack welcomed staff, public members, and union representatives participating virtually in the Board meeting.

2 | CONSIDERATION/ APPROVAL OF AGENDA

Ms. Minor, Corporate Secretary, noted there was a request for the addition of Board Chair and Chief Superintendent Opening Remarks to be added to the agenda as item 3.0 and for all remaining agenda items to be renumbered.



MOVED by Trustee Dennis:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the agenda for the Regular Meeting of January 11, 2022, subject to the changes noted above.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

3 | **BOARD CHAIR AND CHIEF SUPERINTENDENT OPENING REMARKS**

The following statement was read by Chair Hack:

“Huge shout out to first the families of our students and especially the students themselves who have had to be flexible in their learning throughout the last almost 2 years.

A massive thank you to our teachers, principals and administration who are just keeping it together for the sake of serving our students, we know that it hasn't been easy as you transition from in person to online learning, the interruptions you have faced with isolation either by yourself or your students. The extra time and hour's teachers have put in to connect with their students while they manage their own families and personal situations.

We recognize and see the sacrifices everyone has had to make in changes to sporting events, concerts and even having volunteers in classrooms; all this to prioritize in-person learning while protecting the health and safety of everyone in our buildings.

Many are understandably exhausted. Although we are each experiencing this differently, I ask you show empathy and kindness to one other as we don't always know the experiences of those around us and what they have been through. When we entered March of 2020 no one expected this pandemic to last as long as it has and we must continue to have hope we are nearing the end. Again I just want to say thank you.

The Board of Trustees looks forward to receiving COVID-19 updates at future public Board meetings.”

Chief Superintendent Usih continued, stating that while hopeful when this school year started that the impacts from COVID-19 would continue to decrease, with the emergence of omicron there has been a rapid rise of infections. The CBE is taking measures to ensure schools stay safe and open for in person learning, such as moving principals and school-based staff into the classrooms, sending learning strategists and area personnel to schools, encouraging vaccination, enhancing ventilation, while also exploring other options. The CBE is also expecting a large shipment of medical grade masks and rapid tests later this week. He also mentioned that the CBE would no longer be reporting and tracking COVID-19 cases due to changes in the AHS process, but would continue tracking absence rates. He thanked staff, students, and families for their continued patience.

4 | **AWARDS AND RECOGNITIONS**

There were no awards or recognitions.



5 | **RESULTS FOCUS**

5.1 **Results 2: Academic Success – Annual Monitoring (Indicators 1 and 2)**

Chief Superintendent Usih introduced the report, stating it outlines the results of the organization ensuring that each student will be literate and numerate, and able to integrate and apply the knowledge, skills, attitudes, and competencies acquired across all academic disciplines. Due to the cancellation of provincial achievement tests, there is no evidence for indicators 3 and 5.

Superintendent Pitman provided further detail, stating that this is the third year of data but that five years of data is needed to analyze trends and attend to areas that continue to be of concern. Targets are unable to be set at this time, as the two main conditions required have not been met due to the ongoing disruptions to student learning and the provincial assessment testing being optional.

Administration responded to trustee questions on matters related to indicator 1 including: the number of years the exception has been made for students who self identify as Indigenous; how an increase of a result becomes statistically significant; the percentage of the student population that self-identifies as Indigenous and how that compares to other school jurisdictions; highlighting the work done by the Indigenous education team; actions being taken to assist in the transition from junior high to high school; identifying barriers of student success for students who self identify as Indigenous; percentage of students who self identify as Indigenous graduating in three years compared to provincial average; resources needed to ensure students who self identify as Indigenous are closing the gap; explanation of the three, four, and five year graduation rates; ability to further de-segregate cohorts for monitoring and progress; identification of supports in place to ensure English Language Learner report card data is similar to other cohorts; increasing access to formal assessments; number of psychological assessments that can be completed by the CBE and the system's ability to increase that number; psychologists doing learning assessments; and addressing mental health concerns including increasing supports for students with special needs.

Administration responded to trustee questions on matters related to indicator 2 including: lower reasonable progress being made in the dash 2, 3 and 4 courses; the role of champion representation; the champion representatives providing professional development to colleagues on assessment and gathering feedback on how assessment is working in practice; addressing the achievement gap between all students and those that self identify as Indigenous in the younger grades; capacity to welcome additional students into the Niitsitapi Learning Centre; the actions tied to teaching through a diversity of First Nations experiences and perspectives; and the resources and tools used to support schools in determining effective measures in their school development plans.

Recessed: 1:44 p.m.
Reconvened: 1:55 p.m.



6 | OPERATIONAL EXPECTATIONS

6.1 OE-8: Communicating and Engaging with the Public – Annual Monitoring

Chief Superintendent Usih introduced the report, stating it highlights the multiple opportunities for the community to engage in conversations on topics, initiatives and activities that affect the community. The evidence indicates compliance with 13 of 14 indicators.

Superintendent Martin-Esposito provided more detail stating a capacity building attachment was added yesterday to address indicator 8.4.3 that is non-compliant. Indicator 8.4.3, relating to parent involvement as determined by Alberta Education's Assurance Survey, is thought to have decreased due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic during which learning disruptions and less direct connection to the school may have resulted in parents not feeling as engaged. Ms. Martin-Esposito highlighted how the CBE engages with students, staff, and families, which included the high school engagement completed in June 2021, the CBE's largest engagement to date.

Administration responded to trustee questions on matters including: how to determine the number of people who downloaded or read the key communique; increasing staff in order to respond to inquiries and meet the 90% responded to within 2 days indicator; the concerns and complaints overarching themes; and frequency of updates to school councils resources.

Chair Hack asked trustees to identify their intentions to bring forward any motions related to compliance, exceptions or commendations for OE-8: Communicating and Engaging with the Public to the Corporate Secretary and to trustees by noon, Thursday, January 20, 2022. She stated that if no motions come forward, the item will be placed on the January 25, 2022 consent agenda with a motion 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.

7 | PUBLIC COMMENT

There were no public comments.

8 | MATTERS RESERVED FOR BOARD INFORMATION

There were no reports or presentations.

9 | MATTERS RESERVED FOR BOARD DECISION

9.1 OE-4: Treatment of Employees – Annual Monitoring

Chair Hack introduced the report, stating that at the December 7, 2021 meeting, trustees had the opportunity to ask questions. It is now on the agenda for the Board to determine if the Chief Superintendent is in compliance.



MOVED by Trustee Downey:

THAT the Board of Trustees approves that the Chief Superintendent is in compliance with the provisions of OE-4: Treatment of Employees.

In debate of the motion, trustees made comments on: the motion speaking for itself; and administration doing good work.

Chair Hack called for a vote on the motion.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOVED by Trustee Close:

THAT the Board of Trustees review OE-4: Treatment of Employees policy.

In debate of the motion, trustees made comments on: OE-4 being an older policy; suggesting the new board review with their own values and the interpretation of the policy and indicators and discuss with administration; referring the policy to the Board Governance Committee for review and to determine timing; the policy needing some attention; this being a good time to look at it and set the goals for the Chief superintendent; and being a new board wanting to make sure the values were elected on are reflected.

Chair Hack called for a vote on the motion.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

10 | **CONSENT AGENDA**

10.1 **Items Provided for Board Decision**

10.1.1 Meeting Minutes

- Regular meeting held November 9, 2021
- Regular Meeting held November 18, 2021

THAT the Board of Trustees approves the minutes of the Regular Meetings held November 9, 2021 and November 18, 2021, as submitted.

10.2 **Items Provided for Board Information**

10.2.1 Chief Superintendent's Update

10.2.2 EducationMatters Financials as at September 30, 2021

Chair Hack noted that the Board would meet in-camera following the public portion of the meeting to discuss one labour, two legal, and four strategic planning matters. She noted the next public Board meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, January 25, 2022.



Recessed: 2:30 p.m.
Reconvened: 2:46 p.m.

11 | **IN-CAMERA SESSION**

Trustees and Superintendents 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 Dennis:

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 11, 2022 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 Bolger:

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 Vukadinovic:

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

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

12 | **ADJOURNMENT**

MOVED by Trustee May:

THAT on adjournment, the meeting adjourns to the call of the Chair.

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

The meeting adjourned at 5:27 p.m.



Chair Hack reconvened the January 11, 2022 Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees at 9:03 a.m. on Monday January 17, 2022 through Microsoft Teams.

MEETING ATTENDANCE

Board of Trustees

In Attendance:

Trustee L. Hack, Chair
Trustee P. Bolger
Trustee N. Close (departed at 10:41 a.m.)
Trustee M. Dennis
Trustee C. May
Trustee S. Vukadinovic

Absent:

Trustee D. Downey

Administration:

Mr. C. Usih, Chief Superintendent of Schools
Ms. J. Pitman, Superintendent, School Improvement
Ms. A. Holowka, Superintendent, School Improvement
Ms. T. Minor, Corporate Secretary

Trustees and Superintendents 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 Vukadinovic:

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 11, 2022, reconvened January 17, 2022 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 Bolger:

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

The motion was
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

Absent: Trustee Close



12 | **ADJOURNMENT**

The meeting adjourned at 10:56 a.m.

