



Public Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday Jan. 22, 2014

6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

Central Office Boardroom

#240, 688 Heritage Dr. SE

Calgary, AB

Attendees:

Board & Administration: Bill McGregor (Chair), Cindy Higa, Shelley Schroh, Darren Martin, Darrin Whitbread, Bruce Hibbard, Jay Pritchard, Kurtis Leinweber, Reta Morgan, Judy Gray, Amy Donovan, John Deines, Meredith Poole

Presenters: Pam Hunnisett, Anil Nayak

Gallery: Jesse Classen

6:01 CALL TO ORDER

1. Review of Meeting Agenda - Add Item 7.6 Wait List Update
2. Approval of Minutes – Dec. 18, 2013
MOVED by Shelley Schroh, seconded by Cindy Higa. **CARRIED.**
3. Staff Reports
 - 3.1 Critical Thinking - Pam and Anil described their work with Garfield Gini-Newman related to critical thinking (i.e. “using clues and evidence to come to thoughtful conclusions”) at the high school, and how what they are doing fits in with the 3 “E’s” (engaged, ethical , entrepreneurial) that underlie Alberta Ed.’s Framework for Learning.
 - 3.2 Technology PD Day Report – The January 6 PD was very well-received in relation to both the keynote speaker (George Couros) as well as the variety and quality of the 21 breakout sessions offered by our own staff. There were even a couple of attendees from other charter schools (Almadina, Westmount). The trailers that were sent out beforehand were very effective in creating interest and enthusiasm.
4. Correspondence
 - 5 Christmas cards
 - Copy of letter from Chair to Minister re meeting request
 - Copy of letter to Deputy Minister from Coordinators of Instruction re Inclusive Education Funding
5. Policies – Review complete for 2013-2014
 - 5.1 AP-B-401.1 Being Heard - A few edits need to be made to the document and then it can be replaced on the website.
6. Superintendent’s Report
 - 6.1 One School in Action – “One school in action” is evidenced by the offerings of our administrators around Learning for All sessions and staff PD re academic language, etc.
 - 6.2 Modernization – A modernization project has been announced for Montgomery School but the details are still unknown.
7. Discussion Items
 - 7.1 Parental Partnership – A draft AP should be available at the February meeting that will likely reflect somewhat of a paradigm shift. In the meantime, conversations re this will be held at School Council meetings.

- 7.2 Campus Crawl – Feedback was positive in relation to scheduling and variety, as well as the amount of student engagement observed, the use of technology, and the “awesome” student ambassadors.
- 7.3 Inclusive Education Funding Update – TAAPCS will be writing a letter to AE requesting equitable funding.
- 7.4 TAAPCS Update – Highlights: 1. U. of C. Research Report: brief summary; the researchers will be presenting a more thorough report to Superintendents on Feb. 5; 2. Directors’ meeting productive re GR focus and opportunities for PD, 3. Welcomed CASS representation at the meeting (Executive Director Barry Litun).
- 7.5 Calendar Feedback re Early Dismissal – Full findings regarding the November break and effect on absence rates will be presented at the February meeting. The feedback around early dismissal days will be sought immediately after the Feb. 7 early dismissal.
- 7.6 Wait List Update – Work has begun on revising the software; the best time to initiate this is in April or May after registration and re-registration have been completed. (Current number on wait list is about 9200.)
8. Information Items
- 8.1 ASC Report – No representative in attendance.
- 8.2 Employee Resignation
Background: Employee # 10832 has resigned their position at FFCA.
Darren Martin **MOVED** that the Board accept the resignation of Employee # 10832. Shelley Schroh seconded. **CARRIED**.
9. Reports of Committees
- 9.1 Finance
- 9.1.1 Finance Committee Update – The committee will meet again on Jan. 29. Please forward to Bill any questions you would like addressed at the meeting.
- 9.1.2 On-line Registration: Donation for Graduation – Admin at the high school are looking into the possibility of have an option to donate to the graduation fund placed on the registration page of the website. Kurtis will prepare a report for the Board on the costs associated with graduation before a decision is made.
- 9.2 Facilities
- 9.2.1 Meeting with CBE – Jay and Reta met with facilities reps from CBE; discussion topics included IMR funding (CBE sets some aside for charter leases), the upcoming Montgomery modernization project (possibility of leasing class space in nearby schools while renos are being done), acquisition of a new NWE facility, access to CBE training opportunities, timely communication re service requests, and the future possibility of charter ownership of schools. It was proposed that these meetings continue on an annual basis; Bill will contact the chair of the CBE Board to initiate similar conversations at a political level.
- 9.3 Community Relations
- 9.3.1 Stakeholder Communications – Work has begun on the next newsletter which will be coming out around the Family Day weekend.
- 9.3.2 Communication Plan – No report.
- 9.3.3 School Council Appreciation – Shelley is designing an invitation and is making plans around a theme for the evening.

9.3.4 Scholarship Fund – The Board scholarship fund will be a topic of conversation at the upcoming retreat. If something is decided, it might be possible to offer the new scholarship as early as this year.

9.3.5 Fund Development – There is still work to be done in making decisions regarding the specific goals of fundraising, and in tailoring a plan to reach those goals.

9.3.6 Board Technology/Media – This will be the topic at the upcoming Board retreat.

9.3.7 Board Social Events – FFCA provided the hospitality and entertainment at the recent TAAPCS meeting in Red Deer.

9.4 Human Resources

9.4.1 Board Performance Review – No report.

9.4.2 Board Chair Performance Review – No report.

9.4.3 Superintendent Performance Review – It has been necessary to cancel the administrator interviews that were originally scheduled for Jan 24. Bruce will come up with a new date.

9.4.4 Bylaw Review – A black-line version will be available at the February meeting.

9.4.5 Director's Handbook Review – No report.

9.5 Executive

9.5.1 Director Updates/Highlights {This report does not include regular Board meetings, incl. T-6 & T-8, or committee meetings. Four of six Directors attended the recent Board Crawl.} - Darrin Whitbread: SMS & NWE SC; Shelley Schroh: SWE SC; Cindy Higa: personal growth plan meetings, met with Sandra Jansen, Tech PD Day, SWE Preferred Future intro, modernization announcement, TAAPCS meetings, SEE SC; Darren Martin: personal growth plan meeting; Bill McGregor: NMS & SEE SC, personal growth plan meetings, met with Sandra Jansen, Tech PD Day, modernization announcement, TAAPCS meetings, number of GR Christmas functions.

9.5.2 Preferred Future – The final staff session will be held on Feb. 7 and the remaining 4 parent sessions during the week of Feb. 10. Collection of student data is also in process. The session focusing on data synthesis will be held on March 18 (location TBD).

9.5.3 Board Retreat Update – The retreat will begin at 6:00 p.m. on Friday night and end on Sunday at noon. Cindy will distribute a map. Please ensure that you bring a device.

10. Open to Gallery – Jesse called attention to a required edit in the *Being Heard AP*.

11. Talking Points – Cindy will distribute.

12. Chairman's Remarks – No remarks.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:23 p.m.

NEXT MEETING DATE: Feb. 19, 2013