MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF
LETHBRIDGE SCHOOL DISTRICT NO. 51 HELD APRIL 26, 2016.

IN ATTENDANCE:

Trustees: Mich Forster; Donna Hunt; Tyler Demers; Jan Foster; Keith Fowler; Don Lacey; Lola Major

Administrators: Cheryl Gilmore; Wendy Fox; Don Lussier; Sharon Mezei
LeeAnne Tedder (Recorder)

Regrets:

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:30 p.m.

1. Approval of Agenda
Trustee Jan Foster moved:
“that the agenda be approved as amended.”
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Approval of Minutes
Trustee Keith Fowler moved:
“that the minutes of the Regular Meetings held on March 22, 2016 be approved and signed by the Chair.”
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Business Arising from the Minutes
No business arising from the previous minutes.

4. Presentations
4.1 FNMI Programming
Over the past several years, there has been a significant increase in the number of FNMI students in District schools. Programs and services to support the students have also increased, and numerous strategies related to enhancing student achievement have been implemented. These strategies include the development of a comprehensive strategic plan, an increase in the number of Elders present in schools, an attendance improvement incentive, a mentorship program, literacy projects, staff professional learning activities, and high school completion supports. As a result of these efforts and others, the high school graduation rate has almost doubled. The 2015 – 2016 school year will see the highest number of graduates in more than a decade.
Sarah Heimbecker, the District FNMI Consultant, was in attendance and provided a PowerPoint slideshow report on the strategies that have been implemented, the impact of those supports and answered questions of the Board.

**Action Items**

5.1 **Policy Review**

District policies are reviewed on a continuous basis to ensure they reflect the position of the Board. The Policy Advisory Committee has representation from the Board, District School Council, each of the employee groups, and District and school administration. District Principal Teresa Loewen coordinates the meetings. In the current year, the Policy Advisory Committee will:

- Finish review of policies in the 600, 800, 900, 1000, 100 sections which were held over from last year.
- Approve new policies in these areas: Learning Commons, Copyright, Use of Technology/Digital Citizenship.
- Ensure that the policy manual is current, according to the new Education Act.

District Principal Teresa Loewen was in attendance to provide an overview, share any feedback received and respond to questions of the Board for the policies listed below:

- 502.2 – Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Gender Expression
- 608.1 – Counselling Services
- 1005.3 – Advertising, Distribution, and Merchandising In and Through Schools
- 1001.3 - Communications

Trustee Lola Major moved:

“that the Board approve 2\textsuperscript{nd} Reading of Policy 502.2 Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Gender Expression as amended.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Trustee Lola Major moved:

“that the Board approve 3\textsuperscript{rd} and Final Reading of Policy 502.2 Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Gender Expression as presented.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
Trustee Lola Major moved:
“that the Board delete the current Policy 608.1 Guidance and Counselling Services”.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Trustee Lola Major moved:
“that the Board approve 1st Reading of Policy 608.1 Counselling Services as amended.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Public Forum

- Genevieve Steed offered thanks and gratitude to the Board. The process allowed her to get to know the school Board and processes. She expressed gratitude for the concern and care of students.
- Bill Zwartbol noted the good experience on the committee. He shared gratitude to the Board as they have invested into the next generations by what they are doing here. It is an example to Lethbridge and beyond by taking the time and weighing the feedback. Whole heartedly thank the Board for their integrity.
- Laura Scarpelli extend heartfelt gratitude to Wendy, Jan and other committee members. She gained a better understanding. Laura noted the policy is benefiting to all. The heart of the matter is protecting all students. Listening and hearing – both being done well.
- Antonia Ormston sent an email earlier and thanked the Board and Executive for their tireless efforts. Not been a smooth process. Grateful for their advocating for students in the district. Post by a trustee on social media was a concern.
- Kerry Draxlir noted the focus on policy as it relates to teens and high schoolers. Parents of elementary students are the voice for those students. Thank you for making that effort. The phrase was very necessary. Be aware of what you post on Social Media.
- Nancy Bly was grateful for the input knowing that the policy was going to be fine due to the work gone into it. She asked the Board to go back to 502.1 and look at 502.2 regulations – could they be added to 502.1? 502.2 could be your template for changes to 502.1. Grateful for the improved communication. At the least of the School Councils have had greater attendance. Getting our community talking even if we come out with differing opinions.
- Jesy Malik thanked the board for the work done. You are passionate and she appreciates that. LGTBQ community – not meant as an attack on you. Some of her friends in that
community do not believe these policies will protect them. Commend you for your strong support system.

- Hollie Tarasewich thanked the trustees and administrators and the district for realizing the importance of the stand-alone policy. The process has been hard. Thank you for keeping diversity there.

- Brooke Culley echoed everything thankful for the process. The process has brought about community relationships being built with different groups. Engagement is now at the top of people’s lists. Thank you for doing your job. Commends to Cheryl. The rest of the province can now see that Lethbridge can work through things.

- Mich Forster noted in reference to School Council, it is important parents have the opportunity to become involved. This has added a dimension to what School Councils can do.

Trustee Lola Major moved:
“that the Board approve Policy 1005.3 Advertising, Distribution, and Merchandising In and Through Schools as amended.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Trustee Lola Major moved:
“that the Board delete Policy 1001.3 Media Relations”.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Trustee Lola Major moved:
“that the Board approve Policy 1001.3 Communications as amended for 1st reading.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. District Highlights
Trustees Lola Major and Jan Foster mentioned the excellent school productions put on by Chinook and Wilson students.

7. Information Items
7.1 Board Chair Report
7.1.1 Art’s Alive and Well in Schools
The 39th year of the Art’s Alive and Well in Schools student art exhibition will run from Sunday, May 1 to Sunday, June 12, 2016. Approximately 425 pieces of student art, representing thirty schools within the city of Lethbridge, will be on display. All Lethbridge School District No. 51 schools participate in this event, along with Holy Spirit city schools, and
École la Verendrye. Lethbridge School District No. 51 and Holy Spirit collaborate to present two awards of merit for the junior high/middle school students. In addition, Beta Sigma Phi continues to offer two awards to Art 30 students and all participating schools contribute financially to support the other awards and prizes given out at the opening ceremony.

District staff member Phyllis Furukawa coordinates this annual event and has extended an invitation to all trustees and District staff members to attend. The opening ceremony will be held on Sunday, May 1, beginning at 1 p.m. at the Southern Alberta Art Gallery (601 – 3 Avenue South). Karen Rancier will serve as MC for the opening ceremony and Don Lacey will bring greetings on behalf of the District.

The Board extended their appreciation to Phyllis Furukawa for a job well done in coordinating this celebration of student art in Lethbridge.

**7.1.2 Breakfast with the Board**

Breakfast with the Board has been scheduled at Senator Buchanan Elementary School on Wednesday, May 4, 2016 from 7:50 a.m. – 8:20 a.m. Following the breakfast, Principal Dawn Ronne will provide a tour of the school for trustees.

**7.1.3 Preliminary 2016/2017 Budget – Presentation to the Public**

Associate Superintendent Don Lussier shared that As part of its community engagement mandate the Board annually hosts a public meeting to provide all stakeholders an overview of the preliminary budget. This year the public meeting has been scheduled for Tuesday, May 24, 2016 beginning at 6.30 p.m. at the Education Centre.

At the meeting Director of Finance Christine Lee will provide an overview of the preliminary budget which will be reviewed and debated at the Board Budget meeting scheduled for May 30, 2016.
The approved budget will be forwarded to Alberta Education, and will be updated prior to November 30th, once the official September 30th enrolment counts are confirmed.

An invitation will be extended to staff, parents and the public to attend the Public Budget Presentation through social media.

7.2 Superintendent Report

7.2.1 Snacks with the Superintendents
All the staff of General Stewart Elementary School have been invited to have Snacks with the Superintendents on Wednesday, May 11, 2016 beginning at 7:45 a.m.

7.2.2 Education Week, May 2 - 6, 2016
Education Week provides all Albertans with an opportunity to highlight the important role education plays in shaping the future of our province.

The theme for this year established by Alberta Education is “Learning Together”.

The theme of the Alberta Teachers’ Association this year’s Education Week is “We Are Teachers.”

To celebrate Education Week at the District level this year, Lethbridge School District No 51 will feature a web gallery on the website comprised of student representation endeavours. Teachers grow minds and cultivate passions. They further the development of attributes that make us human and essentially good. One way students express thinking and their humanity is through representation. Creative thinking is highlighted as a core competency in curriculum re-design under the umbrella of Inspiring Education and an attribute recognized as essential by education futurist thinkers and authors.

A call for submissions has been put out to schools. Schools can submit representations of student work to be posted on a Lethbridge School District No. 51 “Web Gallery” launching May 2, 2016. Representations may include the following: visual
art, photos, or videos of performance – music – drama – dance, class projects associated with any subject, students working on assignments in a practical arts context such as automotive, foods, auto body, cosmetology, fashion, computer design, or construction .... The ideas are limitless – anything that can be described as a visual representation of thinking or expression fits.

The Board will send apples to each district location for staff to enjoy.

7.2.3 Board Priorities Report
Superintendent Cheryl Gilmore provided the Board with a progress report of the Board Priorities.

The board will put FNMI funding as a topic for the next Committee of the Whole meeting in May.

7.2.4 Acknowledgements of Excellence

**Dr. Probe School** Senior and Junior choirs received Distinction marks at the Kiwanis Festival.

Kiwanis Festival results for **LCI**:
LCI Grade 9 Band Superior
LCI Gold Concert Band Superior
LCI Jr. Green Jazz Band Excellent
LCI Jazz Combo Superior
LCI Sr. Gold Jazz Band Superior
LCI Brass Quintet 88% 1st place.

LCI Grade 12 student, **Liam Hyland**, is headed to Antigonish, Nova Scotia next year to play football.

Chinook High School Grade 12 student, **Zachary Wigand**, was honoured at the Leaders of Tomorrow 2016 awards night through Volunteer Lethbridge.

**WCHS Students in ELL Canadian Studies 15** at Winston Churchill (Teachers **Greg Skelton** and **Janice Brown**) are working with Galbraith School’s **Josie Rahim**’s grade 4 and 5 students to make an ABC colouring book of each Canadian province and territory. This is a collaborative project using Google Docs. These books will be read and shared with **Tricia Harris**’s grade 1 students at
Galbraith. All students are learning more about their country and making new friends!

Winston Churchill student **Tyler Killoran** who finished third in the Southern Alberta cabinetry competition April 8.

**Winston Churchill** students (15) and staff members (5) on hosting the 3rd Annual Spaghetti for the Soul event at the Lethbridge Soup Kitchen April 8. The group cooked and served a spaghetti dinner for 85-100 clients as well as setting up a table of donated clothes from the Churchill family. A special thank you to teacher **Patrick Shackleford** for coordinating the event.

Winston Churchill grade 12 student **Isabel Benke** on being selected as one of 6 local students to participate in an exchange trip with La Ville St-Laurent this summer.

Winston Churchill grade 12 student **Katie Fyfe** on winning the silver medal at the Southwest Regional Skills Canada competition April 13 in the Baking category. Katie qualifies for the Provincial Skills Canada competition in Edmonton May 11-12.

Winston Churchill math teacher **Andrea Lammers-Pottage** on qualifying for, and competing in, the 120th Boston Marathon on April 18.

Winston Churchill Career Practitioner **Lettie Croskery** on encouraging and facilitating 53 young women to participate in the World of Choices event through Junior Achievement on April 7. Churchill had the largest contingent of participants from the region in attendance.

7.2.5 **Donations and Support**

Lethbridge School District No. 51 is fortunate to be in a community that strongly supports programs and services for students. The District is appreciative of the difference the support makes to the lives of children. These partnerships and support further the efforts of helping children come to school ready to learn, providing opportunities for engagement, and facilitating student growth and well-being. Listed below and attached are the donations and support received by the District.
Community Foundation of Lethbridge and Southwestern Alberta Grants:

- **Senator Buchanan Elementary School** received a $5,000 Community Priorities Grant for their *Supporting FNMI students through literacy interventions project*. A portion of this grant ($1,200) was provided through the generosity of the Lethbridge Auto Dealers Association (LADA).
- **Lethbridge Collegiate Institute** received a $5,000 Community Priorities Grant for their *LCI Band Instrument Inventory Enhancement project*. $440 of the funds provided for this grant came through the Kevin and Trish Kindley Fund.
- **Chinook High School** received a $5,000 Community Priorities Grant for their *Drumline project*.
- **Lakeview School** received $500 for the *Recess Bins project*.

7.2.6 **Enrolment Summary – March 31, 2016**
Superintendent, Cheryl Gilmore shared an enrolment summary for District schools, broken down by grade as of March 31, 2016 for the Board to receive as information.

7.2.7 **Calendar of Events**
The Calendar of Events was reviewed for the period of May 2, 2016 to May 24, 2016. Additions:
- May 1, 2016 Arts Alive
- May 11, 2016 Edwin Parr Banquet – 5:30 in Taber
- May 30, 2016 Budget Debate – 10:00 a.m.

8. **Reports**
8.1 **ATA Local 41 – April 4, 2016**
Trustee Don Lacey provided an oral report on the ATA Local 41 Meeting held on April 4, 2016.

8.2 **District School Council – April 4, 2016**
Trustee Keith Fowler provided a written report on the District School Council Meeting held on April 4, 2016.

8.3 **NSBA Conference – April 9 – 11, 2016**
Trustee Jan Foster provided a written report on the NSBA Conference held April 9 - 11, 2016.
Trustee Tyler Demers provided an oral report on the sessions he attended.
8.4 Policy Advisory Committee – April 13, 2016
Trustee Lola Major provided an oral report on the Policy Advisory Committee Meeting held on April 13, 2016.

8.5 District Student Advisory Council – April 14, 2016
Trustee Lola Major provided an oral report on the District Student Advisory Council Meeting held on April 14, 2016.

8.6 Facilities Committee – April 14, 2016
Trustee Tyler Demers provided the minutes of the Facilities Committee Meeting held April 14, 2016.

8.7 Joint Committee of City of Lethbridge and Lethbridge School Boards – April 20, 2016
Trustee Lola Major provided an oral and written report on the Joint Committee of City of Lethbridge and Lethbridge School Boards Meeting held April 20, 2016.

8.8 Community Engagement Committee
Trustee Jan Foster provided an oral report on the Community Engagement Committee Meeting held on April 25, 2016.

9 Correspondence – Received
9.1 Alberta Municipal Affairs Minister
9.2 OUTreach Southern Alberta

10 Correspondence - Sent
None at this time

Adjournment
Trustee Keith Fowler moved:
“that the meeting be adjourned at 6:05 p.m.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Mich Forster, 
Chair

Don Lussier, 
Associate Superintendent 
Business Affairs