MINUTES FROM THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF

IN ATTENDANCE:

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

Administrators:  Cheryl Gilmore; Don Lussier; Wendy Fox; Sharon Mezei; Michelle Loxton (Recorder)

Regrets:  Tyler Demers

The Chair called the meeting to order at 3:37 p.m.

1. Approval of Agenda
   Trustee Keith Fowler moved:  
   “that the agenda be approved.”
   CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Approval of Minutes
   Trustee Jan Foster moved:  
   “that the minutes of the Regular Meetings held on January 26, 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 Edwin Parr Nomination
   On an annual basis, each school jurisdiction is invited to submit the name of one first year teacher as its nomination for the Edwin Parr Award, which is sponsored by the Alberta School Boards Association. Nominees from Zone 6 jurisdictions will be recognized at the May 11th Zone 6 ASBA meeting in Taber. One nominee from the zone will then be selected as the zone nominee for the Fall General Meeting of the ASBA.

   The Lethbridge School District nominee for the 2016 Edwin Parr Award is Dawson Kennedy, who teaches at Fleetwood Bawden School. Dawson as well as Broc Higginson, Principal of Fleetwood Bawden School attended the Board Meeting. Broc provided a brief summary highlighting Dawson’s accomplishments in his
first year of teaching. Dawson shared his background with the Board. The Board congratulated Dawson on his nomination and provided well wishes.

5. Action Items

5.1 Approval of International Trip

Chinook High School (CHS) is requesting permission to take their Robotics Team to St. Louis, Missouri, USA to compete in the FIRST Robotics Competition (FRC) World Championships from April 25th, 2016 to May 1st, 2016. Information regarding the educational benefits of the trip and the proposed itinerary are attached. The estimated cost per student is $1,000.00. Fundraising opportunities will be available to students to offset the cost of the trip. Kevin Schenk, teacher from Chinook High and Matt Drenth, student from Chinook High School were in attendance and shared information with the Board about the program, as well as the Robot and game they are building. Matt also shared his experience from last year when he attended the FRC World Championships.

Trustee Keith Fowler moved:
“that the Board approve the CHS Robotics Team trip to the FRC World Championships in St. Louis, Missouri, USA providing they win regionals from April 25th, 2016 to May 1st, 2016 on the condition that all district policies and procedures are strictly followed.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5.2 New Student Information System

The Board is aware that our current student information software vendor has decided to drop out of Alberta because of the cost of becoming PASI (Provincial Approach to Student Information) compliant.

This necessitated the District to invite qualified firms possessing the expertise, proven experience and financial and personnel resources, to submit a Written Statement of Qualifications demonstrating their ability to provide a Student Information System in accordance with the specific needs of the District, which included PASI compliance.

Only two vendors were PASI compliant and met the specific needs of the District and they were Power School Group LLC and Maplewood Computing Ltd.
The review analysed corporate profile, project team, industrial certification, references, scope, project schedule, timelines, and value added.

Power School Group LLP was rated as superior over Maplewood Computing Ltd’s satisfactory in the review. The total cost of all fees and services for year one of Power School Group LLP is $108,040 US and this includes license, annual maintenance and support, basic and school set up, product education, and training. The future estimated annual costs would be approximately $53,050 US.

Trustee Keith Fowler moved:
“that the Board approve Power School Group LLP as the District’s new Student Information System provider at the cost of $108,040 US.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

5.3 Tender for Roof at Mike Mountain Horse
This funding is to address the necessary roof replacement at Mike Mountain Horse School.

Funding will come from the Infrastructure Maintenance Renewal Program.

The following tenders were received:

<table>
<thead>
<tr>
<th>Tenderer</th>
<th>Base Bid</th>
<th>Separate Cost Item</th>
<th>Total</th>
</tr>
</thead>
<tbody>
<tr>
<td>Charlton and Hill Limited</td>
<td>$574,590.00</td>
<td>$76,468.00</td>
<td>$651,058.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Plato’s Superior Roofing Ltd.</td>
<td>$738,860.00</td>
<td>$120,428.00</td>
<td>$859,288.00</td>
</tr>
<tr>
<td>Peddie Roofing &amp; Waterproofing Ltd.</td>
<td>$866,000.00</td>
<td>N/A</td>
<td>$866,000.00</td>
</tr>
</tbody>
</table>

We estimate the cost to be $877,014.00 plus GST.

Trustee Donna Hunt moved:
“that the Board awards the contract for the roof replacement at Mike Mountain Horse School to Charlton and Hill Limited in the amount of $651,058.00 plus GST.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
5.4 Policy Review

District policies are reviewed on a continuous basis to ensure they reflect the position of the Board. The Policy Advisory has representation from the Board, District School Council, each of the employee groups, and District and school administration. 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:

- 608.3 – Learning Commons
- 601.2.1 – School Year
- 607.4 – Responsible Use of Technology
- 502.1 – Appendix A Student Code of Conduct
- 502.2 – Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Gender Expression

Trustee Lola Major moved:
“that the Board approve 1st Reading of Policy 608.3 Learning Commons as presented.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Trustee Lola Major moved:
“that the Board approve 1st Reading of Policy 601.2.1 School Year as presented.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Trustee Lola Major moved:
“that the Board approve 2nd Reading of Policy 607.4 Responsible Use of Technology as presented.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Trustee Lola Major moved:
“that the Board approve 3rd and Final Reading of Policy 607.4 Responsible Use of Technology as presented.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Trustee Lola Major moved:
“that the Board approve 1st Reading of Policy 502.1 Appendix A Student Code of Conduct as presented.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
Trustee Lola Major moved:
“that the Board approve 1st Reading of Policy 502.2 Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Gender Expression as presented.”

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Public Forum

The Board was presented with a petition in accordance with Section 269 of the School Act calling for a public meeting regarding Policy 502.2 Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Gender Expression. The date for the public meeting will be established and communicated within 21 days.

During the Public Forum section of the Board Meeting the Board received questions and comments from a number of parents, students, former students and teachers with respect to Policy 502.2 Sexual Orientation, Gender Identity and Gender Expression.

Genieve Steed spoke as a parent, requesting that there be another opportunity for discussion. Requested the Board look at protection of Parent Rights, inclusiveness for all children, and opportunity to speak to the guidelines, protective language. She also asked that the Board hold the public meeting previous to the next reading of the policy.

Matt Story, Grade 12 Student at WCHS thanked the Board for approving first reading of the policy, he started the GSA at WCHS 3 years ago. The GSA has provided support. Matt felt the Policy necessary and will save lives.

Peter Kellett, parent as well as a U of L faculty member of the Faculty of Health and Science, he spoke in favour of the policy. He would also like to see the provincial guidelines worked into the policy.

Peter Story, parent strongly supported the policy as drafted. He felt the policy was warranted and needed.

Brooke Culley, parent expressed his gratitude to the Board and Administration for the work they have completed with regard to the Policy. He shared his support of the policy and how he felt it will save lives.
Brooklyn Odia, parent requested clarification of 2.3: how can a policy make someone value something? Families have values; you cannot force a value.

Victoria Orsa, appreciates that all parents have the rights to be heard. Respects that the Board, thanked them for the opportunity to share her thoughts.

Vanessa Canospy, parent requesting that the Board say in the policy that there will be no shared changerooms as it states in the Guidelines from the Government. She would also like to see a change to 1.8 in the policy as she felt the way it is worded encroaches on her parental right. She would like it to read “in all aspects of education” because the policy has no bearing on students outside of school. She wants the Board to hold a public meeting previous to the next reading of the policy.

Ryan Tanner, parent discuss guidelines 6 – 8 would like them addressed specifically. Would like to know how the district will address the guidelines, and how district will make decisions about gender neutral change rooms. He felt that if there were transgender students on sports team this could possibly be unfair.

Tanya Bolokoski, parent concerned with how teachers will be teaching with respect to transgender.

Justin Jubber, parent was not apposed to a Policy, but felt the Policy could be written better in order to protect all students not the LBGTTQ students. He felt that all students should be protected.

Mike Lowe, parent would like to know how the procedures will be formed from the Policy. Requested that no further readings of the Policy be made until after the Public Meeting be held. He also reminded the Board that they are accountable to the voters.

Sean Desrochers, a teacher in the District, applauded the Board and thanked the Board for creating this Policy and felt it will save lives.

Hollie Tarasewich, parent thanked the Board and hopes that the Policy goes forward speedily. She shared her feelings and reasoning as to why she felt it important to be a stand alone the same as with FNMI Policy, Special Needs Policy, and other Policies within the District.
Kerry Draxler, parent firmly supports the request for a public meeting before the policy goes to another reading. She was also looking for clarification.

Kayla Kirk, Graduate of WCHS was in favour of the Policy and felt it is important. She also shared that not every child has a safe place to go home.

6. **District Highlights**

   None at this time

7. **Information Items**

   7.1 **Board Chair Report**

   7.1.1 **Breakfast with the Board**

   Breakfast with the Board has been scheduled at Chinook High School on Tuesday, March 8, 2016 from 7:30 a.m. – 8:00 a.m. Following the breakfast, Principal Kevin Wood will provide a tour of the school for trustees.

   7.2 **Superintendent Report**

   7.2.1 **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. Attached are the donations and support received by the district.

   - **Lakeview Community Park Society** received a donation of $2,500 from **Investors Group** to help them build a new playground for Lakeview School and surrounding area.

   - **Gilbert Paterson Tiger Society** received a donation of $5,000 from **Scotia Bank Lethbridge Main Branch**.

   7.2.2 **Board Priorities Report**

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

Wilson Middle School students Julien Todd, Nathaniel Meyer, Cody Lanz, Jacob Capp, Quinton Fehr, Michelle Flanagan, Anna Hatch, Maxine Macaraig, and staff Drew Andreachuk and Jeff Hirsche had an impressive first performance for their robotics team, the Wolvo-Bots, at the FTC Championships in February. The Lethbridge Middle school teams were amongst the youngest.

Wilson Middle School students Nixon Ordway, Mason Phillips and Jase Molnar with their Peewee Tier 3 hockey team won their home tournament recently.

Chinook High School curling team won the South Zone High School Curling championships and move on to provincials. Team members are: Kathryn Harkness (skip), Kalli Hansen (lead), Brianne Slomp (second), and Hannah Terry (third). Coaches are Matt Strikwerda and Chris Morden.

7.2.4 Snacks with the Superintendents
All the staff of Victoria Park and Lethbridge Alternate School Programs have been invited to have Snacks with the Superintendents on Wednesday, March 2, 2016 beginning at 8:00 a.m.

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

7.2.6 Calendar of Events
The Calendar of Events was reviewed for the period of March 3-4, 2016 to March 22, 2016.

8. Reports

8.1 Joint City of Lethbridge and School Boards – January 20, 2016
Trustee Tyler Demers provided a written report on the Joint City of Lethbridge and School Boards Meeting held on January 20, 2016.

8.2 ATA Local 41 Council – February 3, 2016
Trustee Jan Foster provided a written report on the ATA Local 41 Council Meeting held on February 3, 2016.
9 Correspondence – Received
  • Alberta Government

10 Correspondence - Sent
None at this time

Adjournment
Trustee Keith Fowler moved:
“that the meeting be adjourned at 5:54 p.m.”
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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Mich Forster,             Don Lussier,
Chair                   Associate Superintendent
                      Business Affairs