



MINUTES

BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE PALLISER SCHOOL DIVISION REGULAR MEETING BT20220920

DATE: Tuesday, September 20, 2022
9:00 a.m - Virtual

Trustees in Attendance: Trustee Lorelei Bexte, Chair
Trustee Tony Montana, Vice-Chair
Trustee Debbie Laturus
Trustee Mike Oliver
Trustee Sharon Rutledge
Trustee Louise Schmidt

Staff in Attendance: Dave Driscoll, Superintendent
Dexter Durfey, Secretary Treasurer

Recording: Michelle Taylor

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair, Lorelei Bexte called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

2. ADOPTION OF CONSENT AGENDA

Resolution # BT20220920 - 01

Moved by: Trustee Tony Montana

That the agenda be adopted as amended.

CARRIED

3. MOVE TO IN-CAMERA


Resolution # BT20220920 - 02

Moved by: Trustee Tony Montana

That the meeting move In-Camera, at 9:04 a.m., pursuant to Section S64(3) of the Education Act, and Division 2 of Part 1 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, and Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, Chapter S-3 and amendments thereto, to discuss Privileged Information with regards to identified In-Camera Items.

CARRIED

Chairperson: 

Secretary Treasurer: 

MOVE OUT OF *IN-CAMERA*

Resolution # BT20220920 - 03

Moved by: Trustee Tony Montana

That the meeting move out of in-camera at 9:43 a.m.

CARRIED

4. MOTIONS ARISING FROM *IN-CAMERA*

There were no motions arising from *in-camera*.

5. ADOPTION OF BOARD MEETING MINUTES

Resolution # BT20220920 - 04

Moved by: Trustee Mike Oliver

That the Minutes of the August 23, 2022, Board of Trustees of the Palliser School Division Organizational Meeting be approved as presented.

CARRIED

Resolution # BT20220920 - 05

Moved by: Trustee Debbie Laturus

That the Minutes of the August 23, 2022, Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of The Palliser School Division be approved as presented.

CARRIED

6. PRESENTATIONS

6.1. Area Director, Dr. Adam Browning, presented to the Board the plans that are in place for recognizing National Truth and Reconciliation Day in the division. As September 30 is a non-operational day, schools will recognize National Truth and Reconciliation Day on Thursday, September 29 or Monday, October 3. The Central Office will recognize it on Monday, October 3. In the past, the focus was on one day, but now acknowledgements and learning take place throughout the week and throughout the year as schools build connections with elders and knowledge keepers. Administration is in communication with teachers and has shared ideas and activities and is forwarding on to schools the great ideas and events that are happening throughout the division. During the site-based Professional Development day on Friday, September 23, a group of teachers are participating in a land based learning initiative where they will explore the Indigenous uses of the land and plants. The final steps are in place to hire a new Indigenous success coordinator who will be joining the division in the near future.

Resolution # BT20220920 - 06

Moved by: Trustee Tony Montana

That this report be accepted as information.

Chairperson:



Secretary Treasurer:



CARRIED

7. INFORMATION ITEMS

7.1. *SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Attached to the agenda was the Superintendent's monthly activities report.

7.2. *SECRETARY-TREASURER'S REPORT

Attached to the agenda was the Secretary-Treasurer's monthly activities report.

7.3. *ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT, HUMAN RESOURCES REPORT

Attached to the agenda was the Associate Superintendent's monthly activities report.

7.4. *DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT, LEARNING SERVICES REPORT

Attached to the agenda was the Deputy Superintendent's monthly activities report.

7.5. *TRUSTEE REPORTS

Attached to the agenda were the Trustees' monthly activities reports.

7.6. *SCHOOL FIELD TRIP REPORT

Currently, there are no field trips underway.

8. ACTION/DISCUSSION ITEMS

8.1. *Administrative Procedure 308: Nutrition

Attached to the agenda was the revised version of Administrative Procedure 308. Administration described the background of how this procedure was created and the impact on schools. The intention of this procedure is to be a guide for schools in encouraging healthy food choices, safe food handling processes and is intended to provide guidance and be a reflection of the focus of foods and health classes.

8.2. Consideration of Final Approval of Policies

At the August 23, 2022, Regular Meeting of The Board, The Board directed Administration to disseminate the following draft policies for stakeholder review: Policy 4: Trustee Code of Conduct and its appendix, Policy 4 Appendix: Trustee Code of Conduct Sanctions, Policy 10: Safe, Caring and Respectful Learning and Working Environment, and Policy 14: Policy Making.

Resolution # BT20220920 - 07

Chairperson:



Secretary Treasurer:



Moved by: Trustee Debbie Laturus

That the Board adopts Policy 4: Trustee Code of Conduct and its appendix, Policy 4 Appendix: Trustee Code of Conduct Sanctions, Policy 10: Safe, Caring and Respectful Learning and Working Environment, and Policy 14: Policy Making as presented.

CARRIED

8.3. School Calendar and Professional Development for Staff

Superintendent Driscoll provided information on how Professional Development (PD) Days are designated in the calendar and who sets the content for these days. The division has seven site-based days, three of which are scheduled in August and the other four throughout the year, two of which are Teacher Directed Days. Sites set the content of these days to align with their school goals or to work with topics they are passionate about. There are three Divisional PD Days in a school year; Opening Day, Summit Day and a third district-wide day in the late winter/early spring. Division days are days of staff collaboration for professional and personal development. The schedule of PD days is aligned with the calendar set by Alberta Education which considers the number of mandated teacher working day, instructional hours and assignable time. Final calendars for each site may look different as schools add PD days based on their own bell schedule.

8.4. Alberta School Boards of Alberta (ASBA) Awards

ASBA recognizes excellent first-year teachers, long-serving trustees, outstanding school boards and citizens who contribute to public education in Alberta. Discussion about the types of awards and nomination procedures and deadlines were discussed for Board awareness and future consideration of anyone from our division eligible for nomination.

8.5. Confirmation of ASBA Fall Meeting

The ASBA Fall General Meeting will be held in Edmonton from November 20-22, 2022. This will be a hybrid General Meeting that will allow for attendance virtually and in-person. Representatives from the Board will attend.

8.6. Highlights of Meeting with Minister of Education

Chair Lorelei Bexte provided a summary of the discussion that took place with Minister Adriana LaGrange on September 1, 2022, in Taber, AB. The Board was pleased to speak to the Minister about mental health services and supports and about financial matters pertaining to funding and grants. Now that the government has moved away from the Regional Collaborative Service Delivery

Chairperson:



Secretary Treasurer:



model the Board feels there is a lack of supports available for rural schools. The Minister stated she has been working with other ministries for collaboration and supports and discussed that grant opportunities and new grants are available for mental health supports. Grant money will be available for new initiatives for Boards that were not already receiving funding. The Board also brought to the Minister's attention that grant funding opportunities that were available this summer had short timelines causing difficulty in the completion of applications. The Minister assured that this was the only way money could be given out quickly but that in the future these funds will be embedded. The Board requested clarification and advance notice on any changes to the bridging grant. The Minister suggested that the bridging grant will still remain but could not speak to the magnitude. The Board appreciated the opportunity to meet face to face with the Minister to discuss these topics.

The new Communications Officer, Wesley Lebeau was introduced to the Board.

8.7. **The Alberta School Councils' Association (ASCA)**

School divisions have received a request from the ASCA to provide sponsorship dollars to the ASCA. As the division's budget is in a deficit, the Board has stated that the division is not in a position to make a donation. However, the division will support the ASCA's training initiatives by booking ASCA workshops to support board chairs and councils through a Council of School Councils that will be created within the division. This will allow School Councils to utilize the Alberta School Council Engagement (ASCE) for other priorities. School Council Chairs will be receiving a letter regarding the Council of Councils with a copy to be sent to the ASCA to inform them of the plan Palliser has moving forward.

8.8. **Audit Committee Training**

The Board discussed training for the Audit Committee and whether this training should be for only committee members or for the entire Board. Senior Administration is in the process of gathering information on cost and availability of training and will report back to the Board.

8.9. **Canadian School Board Association (CSBA Conference)**

The Canadian School Boards Association Conference will be held in Banff, AB July 3-5, 2023. The Board discussed having representation at the conference this year. The Trustees who represented the Board at the summer 2022 conference reported it was a very positive event with many worthwhile professional development sessions. The ability to network with school board trustees from across the country was another highlight of the conference. The Board will decide their representation at this Conference at a later date.

Chairperson:




Secretary Treasurer:



9. ADJOURNMENT

Being no further business before the Board, the meeting was adjourned at 10:45 a.m.

Chairperson: 

Secretary Treasurer: 