Minutes of a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools, held February 24, 2015.

Present: A. LaGrange

 M. Hollman

 D. MacKay

 A. Watson

 L. McNiff and

 D. Bouchard, Trustees

 V. P. Mason, Superintendent of Schools

 R. Ledene, Assoc. Sup’t – Faith Development

 K. Finnigan, Assoc. Sup’t – Inclusive Learning

 J. P. Stewart, Assoc. Sup’t - Personnel

 K. Jaeger, Supervisor of Support Services

 D. Khatib, Division Principal

 R. Steeves, Secretary-Treasurer

 J. Heidt, Executive Assistant

 Absent: G. Pelletier

The meeting was called to order at 6:40 p.m.

ENCOUNTERING JESUS, THE LIVING WORD: Mr. Ledene, Associate Superintendent of Faith Development and Division Support, led Trustees in opening scripture, meditation and prayer.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

 The following items were added to the agenda:

 #8 Board Resolution to ratify the current collective agreement

 #9 Last day of school

15/02/24-10-Watson **THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED AS AMENDED**

**CARRIED.**

1. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

15/02/24-11- Bouchard **THAT THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR**

**MEETING OF JANUARY 27, 2015 BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED**

**CARRIED.**

1. SCHOOL DIVISION CAREER PLAN

The Division Principal presented to Trustees the Division Career Plan - Scope and Sequence chart. He explained that the program begins with career planning in grade 4 and carries through to grade 12. The chart is revised each year and our ACOL (Alberta Commission on Learning) results continue to steadily improve.

1. NAMING OF THE NEW BLACKFALDS SCHOOL

The feedback for the naming of the Blackfalds school closed on February 23 and the names are currently being compiled. A final list will be brought to Trustees for short-listing, with these names will be submitted to Archbishop Smith for approval. Following the approval of short listed names by Archbishop Smith, Trustees will select the name for our new school in Blackfalds.

1. BOARD ADVOCACY

 The Communications Department reviewed with Trustees a

Google Calendar for Trustees to input the events they are attending on behalf of Red Deer Catholic Schools. This will allow the Communications Department to keep current on events Trustees are attending throughout the Division. The events that Trustees are attending will also be shared with stakeholders.

The Superintendent also spoke to a proposal from 24/7 Media.

Trustees agreed to discuss this topic at a future board retreat.

1. SCHOOL BUS DRIVER SHORTAGES

The Supervisor of Support Services presented a report from the STAA (Student Transportation Association of Alberta) which indicates a province-wide bus driver shortage in several divisions. A survey was done in which 57/60 boards responded and of those that responded, 41 schools currently experience driver shortages. Red Deer Catholic has experienced driver shortages but currently are not short drivers on a regular basis. Red Deer Catholic Schools continue to remain competitive in the industry in order to maintain current drivers as well as provide incentives for new hires.

1. POLICY REVIEWS - POLICY 18 - EARLY RETIREMENT FOR TEACHERS

 As part of the Board’s Annual Work Plan, Trustees reviewed

 Policy 18: Early Retirement for Teachers. No revisions were

made.

1. BOARD RESOLUTION TO RATIFY THE CURRENT COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT

15/02/24-12- McNiff **THAT THE BOARD APPROVES THE**

**COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT DATE**

**SEPTEMBER 1, 2012 TO AUGUST 31,**

**2016.**

**CARRIED.**

1. LAST DAY OF SCHOOL

 Trustee MacKay spoke to the practice of busing students to

school on the last student day solely to pick up report cards.

She proposed that busses not run on the last student day but

that report cards be made available for pick up at the school.

15/02/24-13-MacKay **THAT STUDENTS NOT BE BUSSED IN TO PICK**

**UP REPORT CARDS ON JUNE 30, BUT RATHER THEY BE AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP ON THAT DAY WITH THOSE NOT PICKED UP TO BE MAILED OUT AT NO COST TO THE PARENTS.**

 **CARRIED.**

15/02/24-14-MacKay **FURTHER TO THE PREVIOUS MOTION, IT BE**

**AN ANNUAL PRACTICE THAT STUDENTS NOT**

**BE BUSSED TO SCHOOL TO PICK UP REPORT CARDS ON THE LAST DAY OF SCHOOL, BUT RATHER THEY BE AVAILABLE FOR PICK UP WITH THOSE NOT PICKED UP TO BE MAILED OUT AT NO COST TO THE PARENTS.**

 **CARRIED.**

 INFORMATION ITEMS:

 Trustees wore pink to the Board meeting in support of

solidarity of anti-bullying.

CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE

The Supervisor of Support Services provided updates on the following capital projects:

* St. Marguerite Bourgeoys School

Phase 2 is the beginning stages and currently is

on track to start in the spring.

* Blackfalds K-9 School & St. Joseph High School

 Letters have been sent to the Ministers of

Education and Infrastructure in regards to funding

the Blackfalds school. St. Joseph High School

remains on schedule.

* St. Francis of Assisi Addition

Letters have been sent to the Ministers of Education and Infrastructure in regards to funding of the St. Francis of Assisi addition.

* Modular updates

The development permit application for Fr. Voisin School and St. Teresa School modulars has been submitted.

ASBA UPDATE

Trustee MacKay reported on the recent Zone 4 meeting. -Mr. Terry Gunderson from ASBA did a presentation called Policy Support Workshop.

-Alberta Education reported that curriculum redesign will likely not be ready by 2016.

-Alberta Education is requesting school divisions to put

forward proposals in regards to impact for schools in rural

 communities.

-A Directive for Action has been proposed for ASBA to lobby for zero rated GST for all school boards through CSBA.

-Zone 4 members discussed sharing common themes

between school divisions that can be presented to government officials as issues all school boards face.

 ACSTA UPDATE

 Vice-Chair LaGrange reported on recent a ACSTA

meeting.

-AGM convention speaker will be the Bishop Mark

Hagemoen from Yellowknife.

-Archbishop Henry has approved the development of the new religion curriculum and grade 1 is ready to roll out.

-Father Mike Mireau, who recently passed away, is being nominated for the Higgins award.

-A reminder to nominate for the Principals award as well as the Excellence in Teaching awards. Parents are encouraged to nominate as well.

 EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Trustee Bouchard reported on the Education Foundation happenings.

-Paul Henderson will be the guest speaker at an up-close

and person event on April 30.

CLOSING PRAYER

 Vice-Chair LaGrange led the group in closing prayer.

15/02/24-15-McNiff **THAT THE MEETING OF THE REGULAR MEETING RECESS FOR THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

**CARRIED.**

15/02/24-16-McNiff **THAT THE REGULAR MEETING RECONVENE**

**CARRIED.**

ADJOURNMENT

 15/02/27-17-Hollman **THAT THE REGULAR MEETING ADJOURN, THE TIME BEING 9:15 P.M.**

**CARRIED.**

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 (CHAIR)

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 (SECRETARY-TREASURER)