

Minutes of a regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools, held August 29, 2017.

Present: D. Bouchard  
M. Hollman  
A. LaGrange  
D. MacKay  
G. Pelletier and  
A. Watson, Trustees  
V. P. Mason, Superintendent of Schools  
R. Ledene, Assoc. Sup't – Faith Dev & Div Support  
K. Finnigan, Assoc. Sup't - Personnel  
D. Khatib, Assoc. Sup't – Inclusive Learning  
K. Jaeger, Supervisor of Support Services  
R. Steeves, Secretary-Treasurer  
J. Heidt, Executive Assistant  
Absent: L. McNiff

The meeting was called to order at 6:45 p.m.

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

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The following was added to the agenda (Reports):  
Western Canadian Catholic Youth Rally

17/08/29-01-Watson

**THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED AS AMENDED**

**CARRIED.**

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

17/08/29-02-LaGrange

**THAT THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF JUNE 20, 2017 BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED**

**CARRIED.**

## 3. DISTINGUISHED LEADERSHIP AWARD

Trustees congratulated Ms. Jodi Smith, Principal at École Mother Teresa School, who was in attendance at the meeting. She was recently selected as a recipient of the 2016-2017 Distinguished Leadership Award through the Council for School Leadership of the Alberta Teachers' Association.

## 4. DISCOVERY SCHOOL PILOT PROJECT

Mrs. Suzie Potts, Director of Inclusive Learning, presented Trustees with the Discovery School Pilot Project. To date Red Deer Catholic has 23 PreKindergarten programs with enrollment of 426 children. Mrs. Potts proposal of Discovery School encompasses the Reggio Emilia approach to learning which puts the natural development of children as well as the close relationships that they share with their environment at the centre of its philosophy. This project will launch in January, 2018 where a Pre-Kindergarten classroom will be housed at Riverbend Golf and Recreation Area. For one week between January and April 2018, Pre-Kindergarten students in Red Deer will have the opportunity to experience the Discovery School classroom with their classmates and teacher. This will allow for hands-on PD for the teachers as well as the ability to see first-hand how the Pre-Kindergarten students respond to the environment. The concept is expected to expand into Kindergarten next year as well as move into the Division's rural areas.

## 5. APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS

The Secretary-Treasurer sought a board motion approving the accounting firm, BDO, to conduct the 2016-2017 audit. This would be the first year of this 5 year agreement. BDO was selected this summer in an open bid process.

17/08/29-03-Bouchard

**THAT THE BOARD APPROVES THE  
AUDITING FIRM OF BDO, FOR THE FISCAL  
YEAR ENDING AUGUST 31, 2017**

**CARRIED.**

6. JUNE ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT

Trustees had an opportunity to discuss the document and provide feedback.

17/08/29-04-MacKay

**THAT THE BOARD APPROVES THE DIVISION ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT FOR THE PERIOD MARCH 1, 2017 - JUNE 30, 2017 AS AMENDED**

**CARRIED.**

7. MOCK STUDENT EVACUATION EXERCISES

The Associate Superintendent of Faith Development and Division Support updated Trustees with a synopsis of two mock student evacuation exercises that were completed last spring as part of Emergency Preparedness Week. These exercises were done by St. Elizabeth Seton School and Holy Family School and were designed to help both the school and parents learn what needs to happen during an evacuation process. The Division will consider having all schools do this drill once per year.

8. TENTATIVE BOARD SCHEDULE

Trustees reviewed the tentative Board schedule for the upcoming year and additional dates were added. This will be brought forward to the October Organizational meeting. Consensus from Trustees was that the October 31, 2017 Board meeting be changed to October 24, 2017.

17/08/29-05-MacKay

**THAT THE OCTOBER BOARD MEETING BE CHANGED FROM OCTOBER 31, 2017 TO OCTOBER 24, 2017. THIS IS AN AMENDMENT TO THE MOTION ADOPTED AT THE AUGUST 30, 2016 ORGANIZATIONAL MEETING**

**CARRIED.**

9. TRANSPORTATION-KNOW YOUR ZONE CAMPAIGN

Once again, Red Deer Catholic in partnership with Red Deer Public, Chinook's Edge and Prairie Bus Lines will continue to promote transportation safety. This year's safety theme is 'Know Your Zone'. All students will participate in the in the campaign whether they are regular bus riders or not.

10. POLICY REVIEWS - POLICY 8 - HEARINGS ON TEACHER TRANSFERS (E)

Policy 8 - Hearings on Teacher Transfers was again reviewed. Trustees had further questions with regards to the proposed changes and the policy will be brought back to the September Board meeting.

**Capital Projects Update**

*St. Patrick Community School Modernization*

Alberta Education and Alberta Infrastructure have agreed to allow St. Patrick's Community School Modernization be an IPD project. The RFP for architects and general contractors is currently posted and the selection of these will be completed in early September.

*Our Lady of the Rosary Modular Relocation*

Timcon Construction has been making good progress over the summer months and we expect the project to be completed by the end of September.

*St. Elizabeth Seton modular relocation*

Work has progressed nicely on this project and staff now has occupancy of the two new classrooms.

*Fr. Henri Voisin modular addition*

ABC School provided occupancy of these new classrooms in early August.

Facility Master Plan Projects:

Several significant and larger FMP projects took place over the summer:

- École Secondaire Notre Dame High School received a Career Technology Studies (CTS) renovation to the Foods and Mechanics area, as well as some upgrades to lighting and front entrance.
- St. Francis of Assisi Middle School has increased the size of their cafeteria, as they outgrew the existing space.
- St. Martin de Porres School main student washroom was reconfigured to add

extra stalls and allow for increased supervision.

-St. Teresa of Avila School had a main entrance and learning commons renovation. This project will continue into September with after hours and weekend work.

It was noted that two new schools are opening to students this year. To date, St. Joseph High School in Red Deer has approximately 550 students registered and St. Gregory the Great Catholic School in Blackfalds has approximately 420 students registered.

REPORTS:

ASBA UPDATE

No report.

ACSTA UPDATE

Next Director’s meeting will be held on September 14 and 15, 2017.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION FOUNDATION

Next meeting will be held on October 30, 2017.

WESTERN CANADIAN CATHOLIC YOUTH RALLY

Trustee LaGrange informed Trustees that the Western Canadian Catholic Youth Rally will take place at St. Joseph High School on October 28, 2017. It is anticipated that approximately 300 youths will attend the rally and the cost will be \$50/student. If anyone is willing to volunteer to help with this event, please contact Trustee LaGrange.

Vice-Chair Watson lead the group in closing prayer.

ADJOURNMENT

17/08/29-06-Bouchard

**THAT THE REGULAR MEETING RECESS FOR THE MEETING OF THE COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE, THE TIME BEING 9:25 P.M.**

**CARRIED.**

17/08/29-07-LaGrange

**THAT THE REGULAR MEETING RECONVENE**

**CARRIED.**

17/08/29-08-Bouchard

**THAT THE REGULAR MEETING  
ADJOURN, THE TIME BEING 10:00 P.M.**

**CARRIED.**

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(CHAIR)

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(SECRETARY-TREASURER)