

Minutes of a Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools, held April 28, 2020.

- Present:
- A. Watson
 - S. Heistad
 - M. Hollman (via google meet)
 - C. Leyson (via google meet)
 - D. Lonsdale (via google meet)
 - R. Maloughney (via Google Meet) and
 - K. Pasula (via Google Meet), Trustees
 - R. Ledene, Assoc. Sup't – Faith Dev & Div Support (via google meet)
 - K. Finnigan, Interim Superintendent
 - D. Khatib, Assoc. Sup't – Inclusive Learning (via google meet)
 - R. Steeves, Secretary-Treasurer
 - J. Heidt, Executive Assistant

The meeting was called to order at 5:35 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
Additions to agenda:
 - #9. STUDENT ASSESSMENT DURING SCHOOL CLOSURE
 - #10. EARLY RETIREMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAM
 - #11. BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS FOR 2020/2021 BUDGET

20/04/28-01-Maloughney

THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED AS AMENDED.

CARRIED.

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

20/04/28-02-Lonsdale

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MARCH 31, 2020 BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED.

CARRIED

3. EDWIN PARR NOMINEES

Chair Watson welcomed and introduced the Edwin Parr nominees and congratulated them on their nomination. Nicole Adrian (St. Gregory the Great Catholic School) has been chosen to represent Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools in the Zone 4 Edwin Parr selection process where a winner is chosen from all Zone 4 nominees. The other nominee was Brittany Glover (St. Matthew Catholic School). Trustees were able to personally thank these teachers (via Google Meet) for their hard work and dedication during their first year of teaching.

4. MONTHLY BUDGET INFORMATION

The Secretary-Treasurer indicated that the financial statements to date remain on track for a planned \$2M deficit at year end. Mr. Steeves shared that the division has also applied to the provincial government for \$2.2M for capital expenditures as they have released some funds for school divisions to use in order to stimulate the economy.

5. 2020/2021 SCHOOL CALENDARS

Due to cost saving measures of the elimination of embedded PD Mondays, Trustees were presented with adjusted calendars for the 2020/2021 school year for Red Deer/Sylvan Lake/Blackfalds and St. Patrick's Community School (year round). September 25, October 23, March 22, May 7 and June 4 were added as full day PD days to make up for 34 hours of PD that were previously used on Mondays.

20/04/28-03-Leyson

**THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVES
THE DRAFT 2020/2021 RED DEER/SYLVAN
LAKE/BLACKFALDS AND ST. PATRICK'S
COMMUNITY SCHOOL (YEAR ROUND) CALENDARS
ARE PRESENTED.**

CARRIED.

6. MODULAR ANNOUNCEMENTS

The Secretary-Treasurer announced the addition of four modulars for the upcoming year. Two are going to École Our Lady of the Rosary School in Sylvan Lake which will allow Grade 4 classrooms that would have moved to École Mother Teresa School to remain at École Our Lady of the Rosary School. There will also be two modulars added to St. Thomas Aquinas Middle School which is currently at 135% occupancy.

7. CATHOLIC EDUCATION WEEK (MAY 18-22)

The Interim Associate Superintendent of Personnel shared the many ways the Division will celebrate Catholic Education week (May 18-22) and World Catholic Education Day (May 21, 2020).

8. POLICY REVIEW

Due to the implementation of the *Education Act* it is required that several Board Policies are reviewed to align with the *Act*. Trustees reviewed Draft Policy 11 - Board Delegation of Authority.

20/04/28-04-Hollman

THAT THE BOARD APPROVES DRAFT POLICY 11 - BOARD DELEGATION OF AUTHORITY, AS AMENDED.

CARRIED.

9. ASSESSMENT DURING SCHOOL CLOSURE

The Associate Superintendent of Inclusive Learning updated Trustees on student assessment during the school closures due to the COVID-19 pandemic. Although many situations have to be looked at on an individual basis by teachers the following structures are in place:

- The division is following the Minister's requirements which can be found in the Education Continuity Plan for COVID-19.
- Students are being supported through virtual learning and for those who do not have access, printed course material is provided.
- There is a focus on keeping students engaged. If students are engaged they are more likely to be successful.

Dr. Khatib stressed that this is new to both staff and students and the Interim Superintendent reiterated that statement adding commendations to students and teachers for the excellent work they are doing in this time of crisis. Senior Administration continues to be very pleased with how exceptional the entire staff of Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools has adapted so quickly to meet student needs.

10. EARLY RETIREMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAM

The Interim Superintendent brought forward a request for trustees to consider a deadline extension for the Early Retirement Incentive Program for this year only.

20/04/28-05-Pasula

THAT THE BOARD REOPEN POLICY 18 - EARLY RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE FOR TEACHERS WITH THE DEADLINE BEING EXTENDED TO APRIL 20, 2020. ANY NEW APPLICATIONS WILL BE BROUGHT TO THE MAY 26, 2020 BOARD MEETING.

CARRIED.

11. BUDGET ASSUMPTIONS FOR 2020/2021 BUDGET

Senior Administration and Trustees have been engaged in preparing the upcoming 2020/2021 budget. The process has involved understanding Alberta Education's new funding framework while considering the RDCRS Education Plan, The Board of Trustees' Strategic Plan, and Principles of Practice. The Secretary-Treasurer noted that although an additional \$1.249M will be received for the upcoming year, those dollars will be used in additional staffing for student population increases. He also noted that for the past several years the division has been spending down reserves to keep the programming status quo and this is no longer feasible and the budget must be balanced. The final 2020/2021 budget will be presented to the Board of Trustees at the May 26 Board meeting.

INFORMATION ITEMS:

CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE

St. Benedict the Moor Centre

St. Benedict the Moor Centre is scheduled to be completed by mid-May. Flooring, doors and ceiling tiles are all completed and painting and completing small jobs is currently taking place. We will need to outfit the facility with office furniture using some of the furniture from St. Gabriel Learning Centre.

Our Lady of the Rosary Modulars

Two modulars will be added to the north end of École Our Lady of the Rosary School and will be attached to the current modulars. The new modulars will allow us to move the Grade 4 students from École Mother Teresa school to École Our Lady of the Rosary School. This project went out for tender on April 22.

St. Thomas Modulars

Two modulars will be added to St. Thomas Aquinas Middle school directly behind St. Benedict centre between the parking and the basketball courts. The new modulars, along with St. Benedict Centre, will allow us to reduce the overcrowding until we complete our new Middle School in Kingsgate. This project will go to tender during the week of April 27 to May 1.

REPORTS:

ACSTA

- Next meeting will be held in May.

ASBA

- Trustee Leyson provided a written report.

RURAL CAUCUS

- No report.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION FOUNDATION

- At present the Foundation is holding off on accepting applications for endowments for schools but are still accepting student scholarship applications.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

1. Government involving trustees in the relaunching of school when it happens.
2. Calendar changes for Red Deer and area schools due to the elimination of embedded PD Mondays.

Trustee Leyson led the group in closing prayer.

20/04/28-06-Leyson

**THAT THE REGULAR MEETING RECESS FOR
THE COMMITTEE MEETING THE TIME BEING
8:00 P.M.**

CARRIED.

20/04/28-07-Hollman

THAT THE REGULAR MEETING RECONVENE

CARRIED.

20/04/28-08-Hollman

**THAT THE REGULAR MEETING
ADJOURN, THE TIME BEING 8:50 P.M.**

CARRIED.

(CHAIR)

(SECRETARY-TREASURER)