

Minutes of a Regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Red Deer Catholic Regional Schools, held May 26, 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 5:42 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:  
#6. ST. PATRICK'S COMMUNITY SCHOOL CALENDAR 2020/2021  
#7. ATA MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT 2018-2020

20/05/26-01-Lonsdale

**THAT THE AGENDA BE APPROVED AS AMENDED.**

**CARRIED.**

2. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

20/05/26-02-Heistad

**THAT THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF APRIL 28, 2020 BE ADOPTED AS CIRCULATED.**

**CARRIED**

3. EARLY RETIREMENT INCENTIVE PROGRAM - APPLICATION

The Board has received one application to participate in the Division's Early Retirement Incentive Program since applications were extended to May 15 at the April board meeting. A Board motion is required to approve this application.

20/05/26-03-Pasula

**THAT THE BOARD APPROVES THE APPLICATION FROM EMPLOYEE NUMBER 012 TO PARTICIPATE IN THE DIVISION EARLY RETIREMENT ALLOWANCE FOR TEACHERS.**

**CARRIED**

4. DIVISION BUDGET 2020-2021

The Secretary -Treasurer proposed a balanced budget for the upcoming 2020-2021 school year which saw some difficult decisions being proposed by administration and the Board after much collaboration. Due to a \$5.3M shortfall from the previous year (due to not using operating reserves to balance the budget and a new funding formula from the Government of Alberta), the main areas that will reflect change in the upcoming year in order to balance the budget are:

- Removing embedded professional development Mondays each week in Red Deer, Sylvan Lake and Blackfalds schools. There will be five professional development days added throughout the year.
- Closing the Discovery Learning Centre which was used for professional learning for the past two years.
- Eliminating full-day/everyday Kindergarten at three schools.
- Changing some staffing allocations.

The Board chose to retain the Mental Health Support (MS2) Model as the mental health of students and staff remains a high priority. In addition, they chose to continue offering a robust Pre-Kindergarten program.

20/05/26-04-Maloughney

**THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE 2020-2021 DIVISION BUDGET AS PRESENTED.**

**CARRIED**

5. NOTICE OF MOTION TO CLOSE ST. GABRIEL ONLINE SCHOOL (E)

Notice is hereby given that, at the June 23, 2020, Regular Board Meeting, a motion will come before the Board to permanently close St. Gabriel Online School, due to a change in the provincial funding formula that makes this school no longer financially viable. A Town Hall meeting will be held for stakeholders to attend on May 28, 2020 at which time trustees will have the opportunity to hear stakeholder feedback followed by three weeks of deliberating. The Interim Superintendent explained to trustees the steps that have been taken to date in order to align with Policy 13 - Closure of School.

6. ST. PATRICK'S COMMUNITY SCHOOL CALENDAR 2020/2021

The Interim Superintendent proposed that due to Covid19 and the uncertainty of how the relaunch of school will look in September, trustees consider changing the 2020-2021 St. Patrick's Community School start date to coincide with all schools in the Division. This would be for this year only and year-round schooling would resume for the 2021-2022 school year.

20/05/26-05-Lonsdale

**THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE  
THAT THE 2020-2021 YEAR ROUND SCHOOL  
CALENDAR FOR ST. PATRICK'S COMMUNITY  
SCHOOL BE CHANGED TO THE REGULAR  
SCHOOL CALENDAR FOR THE 2020-2021 SCHOOL  
YEAR ONLY.**

**CARRIED**

7. ATA MEMORANDUM OF AGREEMENT 2018-2020

An agreement between the Board and ATA Local has been reached and ratified by the ATA Local #80. Vice Chair Hollman and Trustee Pasula removed themselves for possible conflicts of interest.

20/05/26-05-Heistad

**THAT THE BOARD RATIFY THE PROPOSED  
AGREEMENT WITH ATA LOCAL #80 FOR 2018-2020.**

**CARRIED**

6. MONTHLY FINANCIAL INFORMATION

The Secretary-Treasurer indicated that the division is approximately \$1M over budget at present time, however with some school and transportation fees presently being reimbursed he continues to forecast that the Division will end the year with a \$2M deficit as planned.

The Secretary-Treasurer was pleased to inform the Board that \$2.5M in capital funding was released by Alberta Education for Capital Maintenance and Renewal (CMR funding) for the Division. The funds will be used immediately in various capital maintenance projects throughout the Division and will not affect IMR funding in the future. This funding was introduced by the Alberta Government in order to stimulate the Alberta economy.

7. 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 10 - The Role of the Superintendent.

20/05/26-06-Leyson

**THAT THE BOARD APPROVES DRAFT POLICY 10 -  
THE ROLE OF THE SUPERINTENDENT, AS  
AMENDED.**

**CARRIED.**

INFORMATION ITEMS:

CAPITAL PROJECTS UPDATE

**New Red Deer Middle School**

We are awaiting a meeting with Alberta Infrastructure to find out the construction method of delivery for the new middle school.

**St. Benedict the Moor Centre**

St. Benedict the Moor Centre is ready for occupancy other than furniture which will be repurposed from other buildings. Trustees will tour the building before the June 23 board meeting.

REPORTS:

ACSTA

- Trustee Pasula provided a written report.

ASBA

- Trustee Hollman provided a written report.

RURAL CAUCUS

- The executive plans to meet with the Education Minister with regard to the school relaunch.
- SGM is cancelled.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION FOUNDATION

- Scholarship disbursement will take place in early June.

STAKEHOLDER ENGAGEMENT

1. Budget - continue to dialogue with the Minister for the ability to use maintenance dollars for other things while transportation dollars are lacking as a whole.
2. Relaunching of schools in September.

Trustee Hollman led the group in closing prayer.

20/05/26-06-Lonsdale

**THAT THE REGULAR MEETING RECESS FOR THE COMMITTEE MEETING THE TIME BEING 7:25 P.M.**

**CARRIED.**

20/05/26-07-Leyson

**THAT THE REGULAR MEETING RECONVENE**

**CARRIED.**

20/05/26-08-Hollman

**THAT THE REGULAR MEETING ADJOURN, THE TIME BEING 9:41 P.M.**

**CARRIED.**

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(CHAIR)

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(SECRETARY-TREASURER)