



Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Red Deer Catholic Separate School Division, held June 18, 2024.

- Present:
- S. Heistad
 - M. Hollman
 - C. Leyson,
 - D. Lonsdale
 - K. Pasula
 - A. Watson, Trustees
 - K. Finnigan, Superintendent of Schools
 - L. Latka, Secretary-Treasurer
 - R. Ledene, Associate Superintendent - System Services
 - R. Sawula, Associate Superintendent - Curriculum
 - J. Smith, Associate Superintendent - Human Resources
 - M. St. Pierre, Executive Assistant

Board Chair Hollman called the meeting to order at 5:57 P.M.

Vice-Chair Lonsdale read an opening prayer aloud.

Associate Superintendent Smith read the Land Acknowledgement aloud.

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

06/18/24-01-Heistad

THAT THE AGENDA BE ACCEPTED AS PRESENTED.

CARRIED.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

06/18/24-02-Watson

THAT THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF MAY 24, 2024 BE ADOPTED AS PRESENTED.

CARRIED.

3. DELEGATIONS

There were no delegations at the meeting.

4. ACTION ITEMS

4.1. LOCALLY DEVELOPED COURSES

Associate Superintendent of Curriculum Sawula informed Trustees that the Division supports the local development and authorization of senior high school courses to enhance student learning opportunities. Sawula stated that the courses being discussed are all courses that have previously been acquired by the Division and approved by Alberta Education but require reauthorization as the Division’s authorization to offer them is set to expire.

06/18/24-03-Pasula

THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES APPROVE THE RENEWAL AND RE-AUTHORIZATION OF THE SELECTED LOCALLY DEVELOPED COURSES.

Course Name	Version	Course Code	Re-Authorization Start Date	Authorization Expiry Date
Biology (Advanced) 35	3 Credits (2024-2028)	LDC3202	August 31, 2024	2027-2028
ESL Expository English Level 1 15	5 Credits (2024-2028)	LDC1271	August 31, 2024	2027-2028
ESL Expository English Level 2 15	5 Credits (2024-2028)	LDC1276	August 31, 2024	2027-2028
ESL Introduction to Mathematics 15	5 Credits (2024-2028)	LDC1350	August 31, 2024	2027-2028
Reading Development 15	3 Credits (2024-2028)	LDC1311	August 31, 2024	2027-2028
Reading Development 15	5 Credits (2024-2028)	LDC1311	August 31, 2024	2027-2028
Reading Foundations 15	3 Credits (2024-2028)	LDC1296	August 31, 2024	2027-2028
Reading Foundations 15	5 Credits (2024-2028)	LDC1296	August 31, 2024	2027-2028
Traditional Land Based Learning 25	5 Credits (2024-2028)	LDC2248	August 31, 2024	2027-2028
Traditional Land Based Learning 35	5 Credits (2024-2028)	LDC3248	August 31, 2024	2027-2028

CARRIED.

1.1. BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION UPDATE

Board Chair Hollman presented the Board and Superintendent Evaluation Update report and informed Trustees that the Trustee sub-hoc committee met and reviewed the proposals from independent consultants based on submissions to a Request for Proposals. Hollman stated that the committee recommends that the Board engage the Alberta School Board Association under the guidance of Mr. Terry Gunderson to support the Board and Superintendent evaluation process. Trustee Pasula mentioned that the Trustee sub-committee inquired about the feasibility of including more interviews for data collection and was informed this would be done at no extra cost.

06/18/24-04-Pasula

THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES ACCEPTS THE COMMITTEE'S RECOMMENDATION TO ENGAGE WITH THE ALBERTA SCHOOL BOARD ASSOCIATION UNDER THE GUIDANCE OF TERRY GUNDERSON TO SUPPORT THE BOARD AND SUPERINTENDENT EVALUATION PROCESS.

CARRIED.

Recorded vote requested by Trustee Leyson.
In Favour: Pasula, Hollman, Watson,
Heistad, Lonsdale
Opposed: Leyson.

4.3 NAMING OF NEW BLACKFALDS SCHOOL

Associate Superintendent Ledene presented a written report and shared the messaging that was shared with the Blackfalds community regarding the naming of the new school. He stated that there were a total of nine names submitted by the community through an online submission form and included the rationale behind each of the names that were suggested. Ledene provided Trustees with an opportunity to vote for their preferred schools.

06/18/24-05-Lonsdale

THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE RED DEER SEPARATE SCHOOL DIVISION HEREBY NAMES THE NEW SCHOOL BEING BUILT IN BLACKFALDS, ST. VERONICA CATHOLIC SCHOOL.

CARRIED.

5. DISCUSSION ITEMS

5.1. RDCRS QUARTERLY REPORT

Associate Superintendent Sawula presented the Quarterly Report and invited the Trustees to ask questions. Superintendent Finnigan highlighted the work being done by the students in the Career Pathways program. Trustees acknowledged the excellent work that has happened in the last quarter and thanked the senior administration team for an excellent last quarter.

5.2. SUPERINTENDENT AND BOARD OF TRUSTEES SCHOOL VISITS - 2024-2025

Superintendent Finnigan presented a schedule to visit the Division's schools and facilities in the 2024-2025 school year. Finnigan stated that she would like to increase the visibility of the Superintendent and Board of Trustees in the Division and have more opportunities to connect with staff. The visits are scheduled to occur three times in the year and she invited Trustees to join if their schedules permit. Finnigan stated that the visits are intended to reconnect with staff in our division.

5.3. CASA CLASSROOMS REPORT

Associate Superintendent Smith presented the CASA Classrooms Report and provided reasons why our division is currently not involved with the program. Trustees thanked Smith for the informative report.

Trustees requested more information on why our Division would choose not to utilize the resources being offered by the province. Smith explained that the model only supports 12 students and doesn't support the entire division. She added that it is essential to be able to have teachers trained with the skills to be able to help students. In addition, Smith noted that the program with the province has experienced difficulty staffing professionals trained in mental health whereas the Red Deer Catholic School Division currently has many of these professionals on staff. Trustees requested that this be reviewed again next year to see if there is a way our Division can access the resources being offered.

5.4. AUDITOR REPORT AND THIRD-PARTY AUDIT COMMITTEE ADVISOR

Secretary-Treasurer Latka reported that this is typically the time of year when the Board would approve an auditing firm to conduct auditing services for the next school year, but that the Division is currently in an approved three-year contract with an auditing firm and this will not be required this year. Additionally, Latka informed Trustees that one public member of the audit committee needs to be replaced. Latka stated that she would post an advertisement and share it with the Trustees.

5.5. BOARD CHAIR YEAR-END MESSAGE

Board Chair Hollman sought the Board's approval to send out a letter to staff, believing that staff needed to hear from the Board and to provide an update on the Board's current status. It was considered a good idea and Trustees provided their support in the Board sending out a year-end message.

6. INFORMATION ITEMS

6.1. CLASSROOM CONFIGURATIONS REPORT

Superintendent Finnigan presented the Classroom Configurations Report explaining that the report was initiated as a result of parental concerns regarding class sizes and pre-kindergarten programming in rural areas for the next school year. She stated that the report provides an overall look at the Division's class sizes, class configurations and pre-kindergarten numbers in the Division's schools. Trustees requested that the information be communicated out to communities where programming is not viable.

6.2. SECRETARY-TREASURER REPORT

Secretary-Treasurer Latka presented the Secretary-Treasurer report as information.

6.3. TRUSTEE REPORTS AND UPDATES

■ Alberta School Councils' Association Report - Trustee Watson

Trustee Watson presented a written report on the Alberta School Councils Association conference she recently attended. She shared that she attended a Trustee School Council Relationship session and stated that she would like to explore this further at a future board retreat.

■ CCSTA Conference and AGM - Vice-Chair Lonsdale

Trustee Lonsdale presented a written report on the CCSTA Conference and AGM she attended recently.

■ Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA)

Trustees Watson and Heistad provided an oral report from their last ASBA meeting.

■ Alberta Catholic School Trustees Association (ACSTA)

Leyson provided an oral report from the last ACSTA meeting.

■ Rural Caucus of Alberta School Boards

Trustee Heistad informed Trustees that the Rural Caucus had an opportunity to discuss issues with the premier at the ASBA SGM.

- Catholic Education Foundation
Trustee Pasula presented a written report for the Red Deer Catholic Education Foundation.

6.4. CORRESPONDENCE REPORT

- ASEBP Letter to Board Chair - May 27, 2024
A letter from ASEBP to the Board Chair was shared as information.

6.5. Upcoming Events:

- June 20, 2024 - Central Alberta Collegiate Institute Showcase Event
- June 22, 2024 - Grade 12 Indigenous Celebration
- June 25, 2024 - Grad Mass - St. Dominic High School
- June 26, 2024, Graduation Ceremony - St. Dominic High School
- June 27, 2024 - Graduation Ceremony & Celebration - École Secondaire Notre Dame High School
- June 27, 2024 - Graduation Ceremony & Banquet - St. Joseph High School
- July 3-5, 2024 - National Trustee Gathering on Indigenous Education & Canadian School Boards Association Congress
- August 27, 2024 - Regular Board Meeting
- August 30, 2024 - Division Opening Mass for 2024-2025

Board Chair Hollman called for a break at 7:02 p.m.

06/18/24-06-Leyson

THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES GO INTO CAMERA AT 8:03 P.M.

CARRIED.

06/18/24-07-Heistad

THAT THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES MOVE OUT OF CAMERA.

CARRIED.

06/18/24-08-Lonsdale

THAT THE MEETING ADJOURN, THE TIME BEING 9:15 P.M.

CARRIED.

(CHAIR)

(SECRETARY-TREASURER)