

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING OF THE MEDICINE HAT
CATHOLIC BOARD OF EDUCATION held by Google Meet and recorded on
December 8, 2020 at 4:30 p.m.**

TRUSTEES AND OFFICERS PRESENT

Dick Mastel	Trustee, Board Chair
Robert Risling	Trustee, Vice-Chair
Kathy Glasgo	Trustee
Peter Grad	Trustee
David Leahy	Trustee
Dwayne Zarichny	Superintendent of Schools
Chuck Hellman	Deputy Superintendent
Greg MacPherson	Secretary Treasurer
Hugh Lehr	Associate Superintendent Learning Services
Sandra Richard	Religious Education Coordinator
Terri Ball	Coordinator of Early Childhood Services
Derrian Hallas	Communications Coordinator
Chelsey Lybbert	Executive Assistant to the Superintendent (Recorder)

Note: The meeting was chaired by Mr. Dick Mastel, Board Chair.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING – November
10, 2020**

3720 Motion. Robert Risling: “THAT the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held November 10, 2020 be approved as circulated.”

Carried unanimously.

**APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD MEETING – November
24, 2020**

3721 Motion. Peter Grad: “THAT the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held November 24, 2020 be approved as circulated.”

Carried unanimously.

APPROVAL OF THE ACTION AGENDA

3722 Motion. Kathy Glasgo: “THAT the Action Agenda dated December 8, 2020 be approved as circulated.”

Carried unanimously.

BOARD COMMUNICATIONS

Note: Minister Acceptance Letter: Ward Bylaw was presented as information.

Note: AERR and Three-Year Education Plan Letter was sent to all MHCBE staff on December 3rd on behalf of the Board.

CATHOLIC EDUCATION

Note: Excellence in Catholic Education Award 2021
Mrs. Richard indicated that she was looking for a Trustee to join the committee and that they will be meeting in February. Robert Risling volunteered to sit on the committee as the Trustee representative.

Note: Mission Mexico: see attachment in Board agenda package.

Note: Chaplaincy Status Update: see attachment in Board agenda package.

BOARD WORK PLAN

- Note: School Plans
Mr. Zarichny let the Board know that Senior Administration met with all the schools to review their school plans and presentations. Each school created a presentation this year since they were unable to present their plan in person. Feedback has been very positive. This a great way for parents to be engaged. Chair Mastel asked that Mr. Zarichny pass on the Board's thanks for all the hard work put into the plans and presentations.
- Note: 2020-21 First Quarter Financial Update
Mr. MacPherson presented the First Quarter Financial Update (see report in Board agenda package).

INFORMATION ITEMS

Strategic Priorities Update (Zarichny)

- Note: See report in Board agenda package.
Senior Administration assessed each schools' priorities in their school plan meetings to ensure schools are on track. They will continue to monitor the priorities and report to the Board.

COVID-19 and Education (Zarichny)

- Note: See report in Board agenda package.
Trustees asked how the at-home learning students are doing academically. Mr. Hellman reported that there have been very few issues raised and that all at-home learning students received report cards for the first term.

Standards for Special Education (Lehr)

- Note: Mr. Lehr informed the Board that a Provincial committee will be reviewing the Standards for Special Education as they have not been updated since 2004.

New COVID-19 Health Measures (Lehr)

- Note: Mr. Lehr let the Board know that certain students in grades 7-12 are continuing to come to school for partial days as it is very difficult for them to learn from home and they have special needs. There will be some students in elementary continuing to come to school from January 4th – 8th as well due to certain circumstances. These considerations and decisions are being made by the administrators at each school.

Communications Report (Hallas)

- Note: See report in Board agenda package.
Mrs. Hallas thanked the schools for being so helpful in providing social media content since there have been so many restrictions on entering schools.

ACTION AND DISCUSSION ITEMS

Three Year Plan Update (Zarichny)

- Note: Senior Administration will be meeting with Alberta Education Wednesday, December 9th to review the plan. Congratulations to our MHCBE staff for excellent work that they are doing!

Chamber of Commerce (Mastel)

- Note: Decision to revisit and review in the spring of 2021.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA) Negotiation Committee (Grad)

Note: Nothing to report.

Canadian Union of Public Employees (CUPE) Negotiation Committee (Mastel)

Note: Nothing to report.

Teacher Board Advisory Committee (Glasgo)

Note: The committee met on December 3rd and discussed concerns from teachers. High School teachers were concerned about the difficulty of getting into the portal when they need to self-isolate. Mr. Zarichny responded that a portable encrypted hard-drive may be a viable option for this.

Junior High teachers were concerned with the time it takes to get set up in each class as the teacher is moving from class to class. Unfortunately, due to restrictions not much can be done to help this at this time.

Elementary teachers were concerned with online learning the first week in January and if students will be participating as they may be in daycare or not accessible.

Substitute teacher concerns were protection for them if they get COVID-19 or need to be quarantined. Mrs. Burzminski will be taking this issue to the ATA.

Teachers were thankful for the time they received to prepare their classes for the switch to online.

Support Staff Board Advisory Committee (Risling)

Note: Nothing to report.

CUPE Support Staff Board Advisory Committee (Leahy)

Note: Nothing to report.

Student Board Advisory Committee (Mastel)

Note: Nothing to report.

Audit Committee (TBD)

Note: The Audit Committee has not been constituted yet.

Sisters of Charity of St. Louis Arts and Performance Center Committee (Leahy)

Note: Nothing to report.

Alberta School Boards' Association – Zone 6 Representative (Grad)

Note: See attached report.
Mr. Grad noted that fees have been reduced to \$1500.00 because of savings due to lack of travel.

Alberta Catholic School Trustees' Association (ACSTA) Representative (Mastel)

Note: See attached report.

Medicine Hat Catholic Schools' Education Foundation Representative (Mastel)

Note: See attached report.

Parent Association Representative (Glasgo)

Note: The Association met on November 30th virtually. Ms. Glasgo reported that St. Louis and St. Francis Xavier parent councils will still be providing Christmas Dinner for the school's students and staff. The meals will be catered and individually plated following COVID-19 guidelines. Parents showed concern about having online learning for all grades January 4th – 8th.
The next Parent Association Meeting will be held on January 25th.

Spiritual Leadership Scholarship Committee Representative (Leahy)

Note: Nothing to report.

Teachers' Employer Bargaining Association (TEBA) Representative (Grad)

Note: Mr. Grad brought up a question regarding plans in place if substitutes have to be quarantined due to a close contact and they lose potential wages. This may be considered a central bargaining issue and will be looked into further.

CLOSING PRAYER

Note: The meeting closed with prayer led by Robert Risling.

ADJOURNMENT

Note: The regular meeting was adjourned by the Board Chair.

Note: The meeting adjourned at 5:36 PM.

Dick Mastel, Board Chair

Greg MacPherson, Secretary Treasurer