



Public Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday April 20, 2016

6:00 – 9:00 p.m.

FFCA Central Office Boardroom

#240, 688 Heritage Dr. SE

Calgary, AB

Attendees:

Board & Administration: Shelley Schroh, Cindy McGlashan-Beaucage, Andrew Chu, Amish Patel, Cristian Rios, Pamela Wilson, Roger Nippard, Reta Morgan, John Deines, Judy Gray, Amy Donovan, Salima Hudani, Meredith Poole, Jeff Cullen

Presenters: Justin Kool, Sue Boyd, Kurtis Leinweber, Shawna Drummond, Olana Thomson, Joan Burke, Krista Lee, Denise Budgen, Preston Lowther

6:00 CALL TO ORDER – REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING

1. Review of Meeting Agenda – Reverse Items #3 & 4; Add *in camera* session following Item #5.
2. Approval of Minutes – March 16, 2016
MOVED by Amish Patel and seconded by Andrew Chu as presented. **CARRIED**.
3. Campus/ASC Reports
 - 3.1 Building Bridges – Representatives of the 2 middle school campuses described their intentional strategies to facilitate the sometimes stressful transition of Gr. 4 students to the middle school environment. At NMS, that involves a tour of the building, fun events, class and individual pairings with Gr. 7 students, and speeches from the Gr. 5 students. The Gr. 4 students from NEE and NWE are also given a couple of opportunities to get to know each other during the course of the year, and prior to coming to the middle school, with each hosting the other. At SMS, as well as being very intentional in assuring the students that mixed emotions are quite natural, they provide a number of opportunities for visits beginning when students are in G. 3 at SEE and SWE (nickel carnival, Terry Fox Run, end-of-year Field Day, assemblies), and information sessions for parents to increase their comfort as well! Shawna Drummond also described the purposeful efforts made to ease the transition of the Gr. 8's to the high school. The presentation ended with a video of students describing their experiences in navigating these important milestones.
 - 3.2 ASC Report – No report.
4. Staff Reports
 - 4.1 FFCA Literacy Project – The “Leads” from FFCA’s Literacy Project (John Deines, Joan Burke, Denise Budgen, Krista Lee, Preston Lowther) described the objective and work-to-date on the FFCA Literacy Project which began last May. Year One is devoted to Capacity Building in the areas of essential skills, use of resources and time to collaborate, with the goal of creating consistency in the K-4 program. The group initially worked with Robin Bright from U. of L., and subsequently with Patty Noble, who had also helped Westmount with their literacy needs. This initiative integrates PGP goals, data collection, campus mentoring sessions, system PD days, external connections and an online collaboration site, and is showing significant results in terms of reading gains/enjoyment of reading.
5. Correspondence – None.
6. Policies
 - 6.1 Policy 8 Charter Board Committees
MOVED by Cindy McGlashan-Beaucage and seconded by Cristian Rios that Policy 8 Charter Board Committees be approved for Second Reading as amended.

6.2 Policy 9 Charter Board Representatives

MOVED by Pamela Wilson and seconded by Cristian Rios that Policy 9 Charter Board Representatives be approved for Second Reading as presented.

MOVED by Pamela Wilson and seconded by Cristian Rios that Policy 9 Charter Board Representatives be tabled. **CARRIED**.

6.3 Policy 13 Appeals and Hearings re Student Matters – This draft policy will be reviewed at the next T-8 meeting and brought back for First Reading at a later date.

7. Superintendent's Report – 1. Focus over Easter and since has been staffing for next year; current phase is mutually-agreed transfers and administrative staffing, which it is hoped will be completed by May 4. Chloe has accompanied to campuses to discuss staffing needs; 2. Budget calls/debriefing; 3. Next campus visits May 2/3 with David Townsend; 4. FFCA hosted a delegation of Australian educators and toured them around the high school and NEE. FFCA has been invited to participate in a series of symposia in Australia in July.

8. Discussion Items

8.1 Budget – Grant rates have remained the same; government is funding a 2.3% growth increase. The Board will engage in in-depth discussion of the budget at a meeting tomorrow night.

8.2 Wait List Proposal – Discussion tabled.

8.3 Preferred Future – Marc Prefontaine will be re-engaging in this initiative beginning next Tuesday with the Board, Wednesday with the Admin council and on Thursday with members of the original focus group. Marc has posed 2 questions for discussion re thoughts on changes and impacts within both the government and FFCA contexts.

9. Information Items

9.1 Tech Review – Outside consultants have been engaged to 1. Evaluate our infrastructure and Tech processes, and 2. Look at ways of dealing with student/staff records. Jeff hopes to have a report for the May meeting, but that may be a bit optimistic.

9.2 KPMG Report – There is currently a review of provincial capital projects being undertaken by KPMG to look at capital planning processes, implementation, management etc. They have conducted a 3-hour on-line survey process using a program called Think Tank Tracker, which gives immediate feedback re survey responses. (This feedback loop provided the information that self-managed projects were evaluated very favorably, and provincially-managed projects very negatively.) FFCA's 2 approved project phases are still in the list of projects, which is good news.

9.3 Board Crawl – John distributed the schedule for the North campuses Board Crawl on Tuesday April 26.

9.4 TAAPCS Update – 1. 3 goals this year relate to governance, communication and research, 2. Becky Kallal has been asked to speak on governance at the May 6 meeting, 3. The Ed Minister and all CS MLA's have been invited to attend our breakfast on May 6, 4. Hill & Knowlton reps will be attending to report on their observations over the course of their GR contract, 5. Chris Shaw (FFCA) and Larry Katz will be present to report on their research, 6. Conversations with the Deputy Minister and Minister went well.

10. Committees

10.1 Charter Board Committee of the Whole – Met on April 4 and are devoting time to discussion of policies during these meetings.

10.2 Community Relations Committee – The main focus currently is on the Staff Appreciation event May 17; Amish will emcee. The next and final newsletter for the year will be out in June. The committee is also talking about holding another service learning project and a wind-up BBQ.

10.3 Executive Committee – Two meetings were scheduled with MLA's (one will have to be rescheduled), and a couple more have been requested. Budget discussions have been happening and will figure prominently in the next little while.

10.4 Human Resources Committee – Met April 9. Current initiatives are 1. Board PD – with other charter schools (e.g. on-line FOIP training), 2. Board Performance Review (meeting scheduled with Terry Gunderson for May 7), 3. Superintendent Performance Review – meeting scheduled for June 11 (see attachments; the Board will be using an interim process based on Appendices 2 & 3 (distributed).

MOVED by Andrew Chu and seconded by Cristian Rios that, as recommended by the Human Resources (HR) Committee, in the absence of a process defined in policy, the HR Committee proceed with an interim process for this year's Superintendent Performance Review, based on the GTEC format, facilitated by Terry Gunderson, and using the Performance Assessment Guide (Appendix B) and Interview Guide (Appendix C) as presented. **CARRIED.**

10.5 Audit Committee – The Terms of Reference are complete and will be presented for approval at the May meeting.

10.6 Director Highlights – Andrew Chu: 2.3% provincial budget increase to cover growth; Pamela Wilson: SEE & NEE SC meetings, budget information, Ric McIver motion (504); Amish Patel: recent T-8; Cristian Rios: HS SC meeting, Ric McIver motion, One-Acts at HS; Cindy McGlashan-Beaucage: work with Terry Gunderson, SMS Heritage Fair; Shelley Schroh: NMS SC meeting; Aladdin play at NMS.

11. Open to Gallery – No gallery left.

12. Talking Points (Standing Item)

13. Chairperson's Remarks – None.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:40 p.m.

NEXT PUBLIC MEETING: May 18, 2016

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: Policy 11 Delegation of Authority, Policy 14 Uniforms, Policy 15 Managed Growth, Policy 17 Transportation of Students to Campus, Policy 18 Parent-School Partnerships