



Public Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday Jan. 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, Wayne Weinheimer, Pamela Wilson, Roger Nippard, John Deines, Judy Gray, Deanna Werklund, Jeff Cullen, Salima Hudani, Meredith Poole

Presenters: Shelley Murray, Jesse Classen, Brian Crouch

6:00 CALL TO ORDER – REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING

1. Review of Meeting Agenda
2. Approval of Minutes – Dec. 16, 2015
MOVED by Cristian Rios and seconded by Amish Patel, as amended. **CARRIED.**
3. Campus/ASC Reports
 - 3.1 High School – Extreme Dialogue: Jesse Classen and Brian Crouch gave a presentation on a program being used in the Social Studies curriculum to help students identify and talk about the push/pull factors associated with the recruitment of members to extremist groups. The presentation featured two stories: 1. Daniel Gallant, who was himself a White Supremacist, and 2. Christianne Boudreau, whose son was killed fighting for ISIS. It was indicated that these subjects are introduced gradually and sensitively, as the details can be somewhat graphic/disturbing.
 - 3.2 ASC Report – Recent initiatives include: 1. Finalizing the guidelines for the 2 ASC Scholarships; feedback on the latest drafts will be presented at the Jan. 28 meeting and the guidelines are intended to be in place for this year's graduating class, 2. Food Bank Drive – boxes will be dropped off to campuses and Central Office next week, and 3. SC Bylaws: updated and passed at Dec. meeting and now on the website. At next week's meeting, discussion about the ASC Bylaws will resume, and Superintendent Roger Nippard will be present to talk about the government's mandated Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning and Working Environments Policy and related guidelines.
4. Staff Reports
 - 4.1 Student Teacher Update: In the current school year, FFCA will have hosted 77 student teachers from 4 universities: Ambrose, U. of C., St. Mary's and Charles Sturt in Australia. Some very positive feedback has been received from participants.
5. Correspondence

Copy of letter to Minister Eggen from TAAPCS Board Chairs
Letter from Sheldon Kennedy Centre re FFCA donation in memory of Manmeet Bhullar
6. Policies
 - 6.1 Policy 19 - Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning and Working Environments
MOVED by Cristian Rios and seconded by Pamela Wilson that Policy 19 - Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning and Working Environments, excluding the Appendix Student Code of Conduct, be approved for Second Reading as amended. **CARRIED.**
 - 6.2 Policy 16 - Recruitment and Selection of Personnel
MOVED by Cindy McGlashan-Beaucage and seconded by Wayne Weinheimer that Policy 16 - Recruitment and Selection of Personnel be approved for Second Reading as amended. **CARRIED.**

6.3 Policy 10 - Policy-Making

MOVED by Cristian Rios and seconded by Wayne Weinheimer that Policy 10 - Policy Making be approved for Second Reading as amended. **CARRIED**.

6.4 Policy 1 - Foundational Statements

MOVED by Cindy McGlashan-Beaucage and seconded by Amish Patel that Policy 1 - Foundational Statements be approved for First Reading as amended. **CARRIED**.

6.5 Policy 3 - Role of the Director

MOVED by Cristian Rios and seconded by Cindy McGlashan-Beaucage that Policy 3 - Role of the Director be approved for First Reading as presented. **MOTION WITHDRAWN**.

7. Superintendent's Report – 1. Visited all campuses except SEE since the break. 2. Got to meet the Therapy Dog at the High School. 3. Attended NMS Winterfest. 4. Along with John Deines, met with Marlene Lambe (AB ED) re AERR. 5. Participated in CASSA Teleconference on Mental Health. 6. FFCA hosted 2 sessions with AE regarding the TQS and School Leadership Standards. 7. The Superintendent and Secretary Treasurer Expense Disclosures are on the website. 8. Have been engaging in Tech review discussions.

8. Discussion Items

8.1 Restricted/Unrestricted Reserves – It is advisable that we conduct a similar process as last year's to determine what upcoming expenditures might be funded through our Unrestricted Reserve balance.

8.2 Revised Wait List Process – It is important that we connect with those currently on our wait list about our switch to a lottery system in 2021-2022 in order to provide assurance that no one on our current wait list will be impacted. A Q&A forum to gather feedback might be helpful.

8.3 Chief Operating Officer Role Description

MOVED by Wayne Weinheimer and seconded by Cindy McGlashan-Beaucage that the Board approve the Chief Operating Officer Role Description as presented. **CARRIED**.

9. Information Items

9.1 Interpretive Services – With assistance from John Deines, Judy provided a pie chart depicting the diverse primary languages of FFCA households and the percentages of same. A proposal to engage Interpretive Services through CIWA will be presented to Admin Council at their next meeting; as well, there will be discussion of the possibility of provision of translation services (through CIWA), and the ESL vs. Learning difficulties issue (Almadina has also been asked for their advice on this).

9.2 HR Overview – The HR Committee met to look at the Employee Handbook, the Code of Conduct and staffing process/timelines.

9.3 TAAPCS Report – Meetings were held over Jan14/15 in Red Deer. At the banquet, Connect Charter students provided a very entertaining and informative science presentation, and there was a display of outstanding Connect artwork for viewing. A large portion of time at the meetings was devoted to discussion of the Board Chairs' recent request for a meeting with the Minister in an effort to determine this government's attitude toward, and plans for, Alberta's charter schools. (Shelley and Cindy have followed up since then by attempting to make contact with MLA's and the Minister.)

10. Committees

10.1 Charter Board Committee of the Whole – Two sessions have taken place in the past month, the most recent being this past Monday to discuss concerns arising from the TAAPCS meetings, and an earlier one which was devoted to completion of FFCA Finance 101.

10.2 Community Relations Committee – A conference call was conducted on Jan. 8; points of discussion: 1. SC appreciation event (Feb. 18); menu and gift TBD. 2. Staff appreciation event (May 17): Meredith will try to book the Grey Eagle. 3. Board service project: there are several options but Pamela will look into coordinating with the Food Bank Drive being spearheaded by Nancy Narang. Please email questions/ comments to Pamela.

9:02 p.m. Pamela Wilson **MOVED that the Board extend the meeting by 10 minutes to accommodate the remaining agenda items. Cristian Rios seconded. **CARRIED.****

10.4 Human Resources Committee – Has met once since the last Board meeting to discuss: 1. new position description (COO), and 2. engagement of a third party re the Superintendent Performance review. Next meeting is scheduled for Feb. 16.

10.5 Audit Committee – Edits are currently being made to the draft Terms of Reference.

10.6 Expulsion Committee – Training will be provided by our attorney Damon Bailey at the Board Retreat.

10.7 Director Highlights – Cristian Rios: the fact the Pamela has rejoined the Board; Pamela Wilson: the ASC Meeting, the Community Service Project and the NMS Winterfest; Cindy McGlashan-Beaucage: the TAAPCS meetings in Red Deer; Wayne Weinheimer: Visit to NWE and tonight's food; Andrew Chu: the NEE SC meeting; Shelley Schroh: sitting in on a Creative Writing class at the high school.

11. Open to Gallery – No comments.

12. Talking Points (Standing Item)

13. Chairperson's Remarks: Shelley thanked the remaining gallery for sticking through to the end of a long meeting.

ADJOURNMENT: 9:12 p.m.

NEXT PUBLIC MEETING: February 17, 2016

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS:

Policy Work: A-102 Guiding Principles, A-401 Growth Principles, C-102 Administrative Leadership Standards, C-103 Administrator Growth, Supervision and Evaluation, G-201 Employee Growth, Supervision and Evaluation, G-102 Reduction of Staff: School Authority Reputation, Delegation of Authority, Director Code of Conduct, Role of the Chair, Role of the Vice-Chair, Charter Board Committees, Charter Board Representatives, Foundational Statements, Parent/School Partnerships, Campus Closures