



Public Board Meeting Minutes

Wednesday March 16, 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, Reta Morgan, John Deines, Judy Gray, Amy Donovan, Salima Hudani, Meredith Poole

Presenters: Lorne McDonald, Preston Lowther, Shelley Murray

Gallery: Kara Maucieri, Rhonda Rempel

6:00 CALL TO ORDER – REGULAR PUBLIC MEETING

1. Review of Meeting Agenda – Add Items 8.4 Preferred Future, 8.5 Board Work Plan

MOVED by Pamela Wilson and seconded by Andrew Chu that the Board enter Closed Session. **CARRIED.**

2. Approval of Minutes – Feb. 17, 2016

MOVED by Cindy McGlashan-Beaucage and seconded by Cristian Rios as presented. **CARRIED.**

3. Staff Reports

3.1 Sharing our Story – Professional Highlights – John Deines and Salima Hudani shared an overview of the conferences they have recently presented at. 1. Since Salima had double-booked herself, John took over presentation duties, with NEE Gr. 4 Erin Petley, on “Social Media in the K-Gr. 12 Classroom” at the 2016 Annual CASS Learning Conference. They gave some historical context in relation to the use of Social Media at FFCA, and talked about its implementation in the Gr. 4 classroom, what policies and procedures need to be in place to support the use of Social Media, and how teachers can be prepared and supported in its use. At that same conference the following day, SEE Phys. Ed. teacher Chris Shaw presented with U. of C. Kinesiology professor Dr. Larry Katz on their research which compares the Western and Eastern approaches to teaching how to throw. (It is hoped that Chris and Dr. Katz will be available to present this research on behalf of FFCA at the May TAAPCS meeting.)

At the same time, Salima was presenting at the Central East Alberta Teachers’ Association Conference (CEATCA) in Edmonton on the topic of Digital Citizenship (DC). She described our own journey at FFCA, our parent survey results in relation to DC, and its integration with the cross-curricular competencies and the Learning & Technology Policy Framework. Salima also announced that she had been contacted by Twitter Canada and that FFCA will be profiled by them, on the occasion of their 10th anniversary next Monday, as one example of the ways in which Twitter is being used extensively in “non-branded” environments.

4. Campus/ASC Reports

4.1 Teacher Professional Growth Plan/Coaching Model – Lorne McDonald and Preston Lowther showed the Professional Development Model they developed and implemented at NWE; it incorporates PGP’s and Coaching in a way that enhances teacher engagement and reflection. The groundwork was set last August/September with conversations about coaching, surveying the staff, matching coaches with teachers and setting up coaching “pods”, and has continued since with opportunities for discussions, written reflections and feedback, as well as planning activities. They feel that the process has had many indirect benefits, including increased trust, collegiality and communication among the staff.

4.2 The Association of School Councils Report (ASC) – ASC has been looking into Scholarships and the possibility of them being funded through casino dollars; they are currently awaiting information from AGLC. The next meeting is tomorrow night, at which they will be considering a joint NMS/NEE proposal

for amendments to the bylaws. As well, the ASC agenda will include discussion on 3 questions developed by ASCA relating to the Teaching Quality Practice Standards.

5. Correspondence

Letter to Superintendent from Marlene Lambe regarding our AERR/AEP
Retirement Notice re FFCA High School Principal Educator John Picard

6. Policies

6.1 Policy B-101 Role of the Charter Board

MOVED by Cindy McGlashan-Beaucage and seconded by Wayne Weinheimer that original Policy B-101 Role of the Charter Board (last revised March 14, 2012) be rescinded, and the Policy B-101 Role of the Charter Board policy approved on May 20, 2015 be renamed Policy 2 Role of the Charter Board and placed on the FFCA website. **CARRIED.**

6.2 Policy B-103 Role of the Director

MOVED by Amish Patel and seconded by Cindy McGlashan-Beaucage that Policy B-103 Role of the Director be rescinded. **WITHDRAWN.**

6.3 Policy 1 - Foundational Statements

MOVED by Cindy McGlashan-Beaucage and seconded by Pamela Wilson that Policy 1 - Foundational Statements be approved for Third Reading as amended. **CARRIED.**

6.3.1 Policy A-101 Vision and Mission

MOVED by Cindy McGlashan-Beaucage and seconded by Wayne Weinheimer that Policy A-101 Vision and Mission be rescinded. **CARRIED.**

6.3.2 Policy A-102 Guiding Principles

MOVED by Wayne Weinheimer and seconded by Amish Patel that Policy A-102 Guiding Principles be rescinded. **CARRIED.**

6.3.3 Policy B-401 Being Heard/Policy G-801 Public Interest Disclosure

MOVED by Wayne Weinheimer and seconded by Cindy McGlashan-Beaucage that Policy B-401 Being Heard and Policy G-801 Public Interest Disclosure be rescinded. **CARRIED.**

6.4 Policy 4 Director Code of Conduct

MOVED by Cindy McGlashan-Beaucage and seconded by Wayne Weinheimer that Policy 4 Director Code of Conduct be approved for Third Reading as amended. **CARRIED.**

6.4.1 Policy B-201 Charter Board Member Code of Conduct

MOVED by Pamela Wilson and seconded by Cristian Rios that Policy B-201 Charter Board Member Code of Conduct be rescinded. **CARRIED.**

6.5 Policy 5 Role of the Charter Board Chair

MOVED by Cindy McGlashan-Beaucage and seconded by Amish Patel that Policy 5 Role of the Charter Board Chair be approved for Third Reading as amended. **CARRIED.**

6.5 1 Policy B-102 Role of the Charter Board Chair

MOVED by Cindy McGlashan-Beaucage and seconded by Amish Patel that Policy B-102 Role of the Charter Board Chair be rescinded. **CARRIED.**

6.6 Policy 6 Role of the Vice-Chair

MOVED by Wayne Weinheimer and seconded by Cristian Rios that Policy 6 Role of the Vice-Chair be approved for Third Reading as amended. **CARRIED.**

6.7 Policy 8 – Charter Board Committees

MOVED by Cindy McGlashan-Beaucage and seconded by Wayne Weinheimer that Policy 8 Charter Board Committees be approved for Second Reading as presented. **TABLED.**

6.8 Policy 9 – Charter Board Representatives

MOVED by Cindy McGlashan-Beaucage and seconded by Amish Patel that Policy 9 Charter Board Representatives be approved for Second Reading as presented. **TABLED**.

7. Superintendent's Report – 1. Focus lately has been on staffing: coffee meetings with administrators (22), the COO position has been filled by Kurtis Leinweber, rest of admin staffing will take place after the break, HR Committee meeting tomorrow; 2. Attended: Senior Girls' basketball game, Career Fair at SMS, Discovery Centre at Lake Louise with HS, CASSA Conference in Toronto (focus on Mental Health), CASS Conference in Edmonton (commitment by Minister to have *Education Act* done this year), New Horizons Charter School 20th Anniversary in Sherwood Park with Vice-Chair Cindy McGlashan-Beaucage; 3. five out of seven campus visits complete; 4. Meeting with CBE facilities people; 5. Consideration of Bill 10 Guidelines, which incidentally emanate directly from the Premier's office.

8. Discussion Items

8.1 Q2 Report

MOVED by Cristian Rios and seconded by Amish Patel that the Board receive for information the FFCA 2015-2016 Second Quarter Financial Report as presented. **CARRIED**.

8.2 Capital Plan

MOVED by Cindy McGlashan-Beaucage and seconded by Wayne Weinheimer that the Board approve the 2017-2020 Capital Plan as presented. **CARRIED**.

8.3 Staff Resignations

MOVED by Amish Patel and seconded by Cindy McGlashan-Beaucage that the Board accept the resignations of the following staff members: 10356, 10376, 10281, and 10631. **CARRIED**.

8.4 Preferred Future – Shelley, Cindy and Roger met today with Marc Prefontaine, whose circumstances now allow for him to resume work on our Preferred Future document. He will begin by conducting 3 sessions: 1. a Board refresher, 2. a meeting with administrators, and 3. a focus group.

8.5 Board Work Plan – In the Board's meetings with Terry Gunderson, he suggested that it would be beneficial for them to have an Annual Work Plan with monthly expectations identified. Pamela has been working on a template that would carry the Board through March 2017; she will email it out when complete.

8:57p.m. **MOVED** by Shelley Schroh, seconded by Amish Patel that the meeting be extended to 9:15. **CARRIED**.

9. Information Items

9.1 Report Cards – The Middle School campuses have initiated some very preliminary conversations about what constitutes an "ideal" report card by holding open-ended discussions with teachers. The Board will be kept apprised of any developments.

9.2 AERR/AEP – Feedback from Marlene Lambe on the AERR/AEP was very positive, particularly around our sharing with the rest of the educational community, the allocation of resources to research and innovation, presentations at conferences, our blog, and our dual-credit pursuits and other post-secondary connections.

9.3 CIRTeam – On March 1, FFCA hosted a meeting for our counsellors, other FFCA personnel, and representatives from all Calgary charter schools to explore the creation of a Critical Incident Response Team (CIRTeam). The presenter was Denise Still from CBE, who has a very rich background in the area of Critical Response. All schools expressed interest in pursuing this, so a Steering Committee will be formed to work out the details, determine financial requirements, review and short-list applications, and ultimately choose the team by the end of June, for a September launch.

9.4 TAAPCS Update – Judy, Dianne McBeth and Dr. Garry Andrews met today with Marcella Munro, Stakeholder Engagement and Communications Manager for the Alberta Government, and have a meeting this Friday with an MLA (Annie McKittrick, Edmonton Sherwood Park), the Deputy Minister of Education (Lorna Rosen) and 2 Assistant Deputy Ministers (Ellen Hambrook and Dean Lindquist). A meeting with Minister Eggen has been scheduled for April 1 in Calgary. It is significant to note that the

charter schools – Westmount, Aurora and CAPE - that had applied for renewal were approved for 15, 5 and 5 years respectively, with several conditions attached. (All had applied for 15 year renewals.)

9:16 p.m. **MOVED** by Shelley Schroh, seconded by Andrew Chu that the meeting be extended by a further 15 minutes. **CARRIED**.

10. Committees

10.1 Charter Board Committee of the Whole – The Committee of the Whole met last on Feb. 23, and have upcoming meetings (T-8's) scheduled. It was agreed that at these meetings some time should be devoted to the review of policies.

10.2 Community Relations Committee – The School Council Appreciation event was held on February 18 at the Coast Plaza Hotel; feedback was very positive. The newsletter will be distributed tomorrow, and our second Service Learning event is scheduled for this coming Saturday at the Food Bank.

10.3 Executive Committee – See Item 8.4. As well, the committee has met with Associate Minister of Health Brandy Payne and has a meeting scheduled for this Friday with Stephanie Mclean, Minister of both Service Alberta and Status of Women.

10.4 Human Resources Committee – The HR Committee met last night; their focus is on 1. the Superintendent Performance Evaluation (an external party is being contracted and a meeting scheduled for early April), and 2. the Board/Board Chair Performance Evaluations, which will be conducted by a former FFCA Board member and completed by May. There is a tentative plan for a Working Session on April 1, and the next regular meeting will be held on April 12.

10.5 Audit Committee – Amish will be communicating the names of some potential external members and will present the Terms of Reference for approval at the April meeting.

10.6 Expulsion Committee – No report.

10.7 Director Highlights – Pamela Wilson, Andrew Chu, Wayne Weinheimer: School Council Appreciation event; Cristian Rios – Visit to NEE; Amish Patel – participation in selection committee for COO; Shelley Schroh – tonight's presentation by NWE.

11. Open to Gallery – Rhonda Rempel expressed her thanks to the Board for everything they do to create the supportive and welcoming environment at FFCA. She expressed her concerns and those of other parents in relation to the Bill 10 guidelines. She was informed that FFCA has submitted its policy as required by the Minister and has had no feedback to date, and was assured by the Superintendent that the guidelines are being treated as guidelines only at this point.

12. Talking Points (Standing Item)

13. Chairperson's Remarks – None.

ADJOURNMENT: 9:30 p.m.

NEXT PUBLIC MEETING: April 16, 2016

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: April: Staff Report - Literacy Project; Policy 7 Charter Board Operations, Policy 8 Charter Board Committees, Policy 9 Charter Board Representatives, Policy 13 Appeals and Hearings with Regard to Student Matters, Policy 14 Uniforms, Policy 15 Campus Closures, Policy 17 Transportation of Students to Campus, Policy 18 Parent-School Partnerships