



## Public Board Meeting

Wednesday, May 12, 2021

6:30-8:30 p.m.

Online via Zoom

[Public Board Meeting Zoom Link](#)

### Attendees

**Board and Executive:** Chair Jeff Wilson, Vice-Chair Jenny Hill, Director Sumara Diaz, Director Naren Makwana, Director Randall Spahl, Director Sam Jin, Director Amanda Fisher, Director Shahid Qureshi, Acting Superintendent Kurtis Leinweber, Secretary-Treasurer Reta Morgan, Coordinator of Instruction Justin Kool, Coordinator of School Services Preston Lowther, Executive Assistant Phoebe Greentree

**Special Presenters:** Principal Educator Denise Budgen, Associate Principal Brian Crouch, Principal Educator Lorie Skaper-Burtch, Associate Principal Pauline Miller, Principal Educator Krista Lee, Associate Principal Salmina Hudani, Principal Educator Shawna Drummond, Associate Principal Michele Newell

**Gallery:** Andrew Chu, Bharati Singh, Inez, Josh Symonds, Kim Kjellbotn, Lisa Beuker, Marja Erkens, Meredith Poole, Michael Slavens, Miyuko, Rachel Bradley, Susan Boyd, Tanya, Tanya, Ashlyn Beatty, Amy Truong-Vuattoux, Rachel Li, Angelina, Crystal, Dawn Ackroyd, Leona Faller, Lijie Ding, Rav Grewal, Sandra Berner, Terri, Tina Skidmore, Ye, Yolanda Zwitzer, Zen, Meghan Miglierina, Blandine, L. Coughlin, JM Class.

## MINUTES

### 6:30 p.m. CALL TO ORDER

1. Review of Meeting Agenda
  - 1.1. Addition of the Oath of Office
2. Board Organization
  - 2.1. Oath of Office for Director Shahid Qureshi, conducted by Chief Returning Officer Leinweber.
3. **2021-05-12-1CA** Approval of Consent Agenda  
MOVED by Director Diaz and seconded by Director Fisher that the Consent Agenda for May 12, 2021, and the minutes of April 14, 2021, Public Board Meeting be approved as presented. CARRIED.
4. Staff/Campus Reports
  - Teaching during COVID-19 – it is as easy as riding a bike! Stories of Adaptability, Resilience and Teamwork: SEE/SWE/NEE/NWE Presentation
    - The administrative teams from SEE, SWE, NEE, and NWE campuses shared teacher stories and inspirational quotes regarding how they learned, unlearned, and relearned 'how to ride their bikes.' As a result of their dedication and hard work, student learning continued, and our community grew even stronger in the face of challenges presented by the pandemic.
5. Superintendent's Report
  - Acknowledged the work of the campus staff and administrators in an extremely challenging year. Since last March, this group of people has epitomized the character and values that we want to develop in our students as they re-thought every aspect of operating a school and teaching online. Administrators have also spent many evenings and weekends contact tracing and sending/receiving communications during the year. Their perseverance, patience and positive attitudes have been outstanding.
  - COVID response update: K-12 shift to online learning until at least May 25. NHS shifted to online earlier due to over 50% of our student and teacher body in quarantine with only 4 cases making

campus operations unsustainable. Current outbreak status at one campus and alert status at six campuses.

- AB Ed update:
  - Bill 55 has passed. The College of Alberta School Superintendents Act establishes the College of Alberta School Superintendents (CASS) as the professional governing body of Superintendents across AB starting in 2022.
  - Draft K-6 draft curriculum pilot: we have submitted a proposal to do a limited pilot in some areas. Details are still to be finalized, and participation is contingent upon Alberta Education providing additional supports for the interested teachers.
  - Transportation Task Force Review Report: two recommendations directly connect to programs of choice
    - i. Recommendation 5: AB Ed to ensure that program choices come with a responsibility for parent and school jurisdictions to participate in the payment of those choices.
    - ii. Recommendation 16: School jurisdictions continue to determine whether to provide transportation to schools of choice and what the cost of transportation should be. AB Ed to maintain the current eligibility requirements for students who attend a school of choice.
- Operations update:
  - Cancelled the writing of grade 6 and 9 ELA Part A PAT. Planning to proceed with the remainder of the PATs. These will gather data to identify possible gaps due to significant learning challenges through the pandemic. They will not be used to evaluate individual students.
  - HS Admin is working to formalize the split of the HS into two distinct campuses. Smaller enrollment will affect the ability to offer some courses (such as second languages, many AP classes, and some electives), but all required academic subjects will still be available.
  - NHS Facility Update: Development Permit application proceeding as scheduled. Meeting with the City of Calgary Friday to review final re-submission.

## 6. Information Items

### 6.1. Standing Item: Administrative Procedures Update

- Required to follow AB Treasury Board's allowable rates rather than the CRA guidelines. Due to that update, the following updated APs were provided to the Board for information and will be posted to the website:

6.1.1 AP-D-101.1.2 Expense Reimbursement (attached)

6.1.1.1 AP-D-101.1.2.1 Schedule A (attached)

### 6.2. Standing Item: Strategic/Education Plan Update

- Currently updating on the Education plan for the next 3 yrs to align with the new AB Assurance Framework. Draft will be provided at the Board Working Session in June and also shared with campus councils to gather feedback

### 6.3. Standing Item: High School Update

- See Superintendent's Report above

### 6.4. Standing Item: COVID Response

- See Superintendent's Report above

### 6.5. Assessment and Reporting Updates and Next Steps

- Postponed parent and staff engagement on report cards until the fall of 2021 due to the pandemic shifting our priorities.

## 7. Discussion Items

### 7.1. **2021-05-12-1RA** 2021-22 FFCA Budget

- 21-22 budget focused on sustainability (Board's top financial planning principle).
- Budget is based on the operation of 8 campuses given approved provincial funding that includes no supplemental COVID funding. As such, this budget includes no provision for the continuation of online classes next year.
- Funding changes since 2018-19 have reduced relative instruction and system administration funding levels by approximately \$2.5 million.

- In response to these ongoing pressures, the balanced 21-22 budget includes a 2.2% reduction in teaching and support. Most of this reduction will be accommodated through natural attrition (e.g. retirements) and the elimination of temporary and interim positions.
- Impacts of the balanced budget include more assigned instructional time for teachers and some reductions in specialty programming, including the phasing out of Spanish in grades 5 and 6 over the next two years.

MOVED by Director Hill and seconded by Director Spahl that the 2021-22 FFCA Budget be approved as presented. CARRIED.

## 8. Committee/Liaison Reports

- 8.1. Executive Committee: met one time to discuss the agenda for the board working session.
- 8.2. Communications and Community Relations (CCR): met one time to discuss upcoming communications regarding the results of the calendar survey. High engagement - 1171 responses to the survey. CCR will also communicate any outcomes from ongoing discussion with AB Education around the curriculum pilot.
- 8.3. Policy and Performance Review (PPR): met one time. PPR reviewed the policy review schedule, superintendent/acting superintendent and board evaluations, the annual board work plan and the four policies below for approval.

No additional feedback was received on the following policies:

- 8.3.1. **2021-05-12-2RA** Policy 07 Board Operations  
MOVED by Director Makwana and seconded by Director Spahl that Policy 07 Board Operations be approved for Third Reading as presented. CARRIED.
- 8.3.2. **2021-05-12-3RA** Policy 15 Managed Growth  
MOVED by Director Makwana and seconded by Director Hill that Policy 15 Managed Growth be approved for Third Reading as presented. CARRIED.
- 8.3.3. **2021-05-12-4RA** Policy 19 Welcoming, Caring, Respectful, Safe and Inclusive Learning and Working Environments  
MOVED by Director Makwana and seconded by Director Qureshi that Policy 19 Welcoming, Caring, Respectful, Safe and Inclusive Learning and Working Environments be approved for Third Reading as presented. CARRIED.
- 8.3.4. **2021-05-12-5RA** Policy 08 Charter Board Committees and Representatives  
MOVED by Director Makwana and seconded by Director Jin that Policy 08 Charter Board Committees and Representatives be approved for Second Reading as presented. CARRIED.

- 8.4. Audit Committee – no update. Next meeting in June.
- 8.5. TAAPCS Board Rep Report – Spring General Meeting was held on May 8. Charter schools were well represented, some reps from new Charter schools opening in the fall. The budget was discussed. Announced they would be working on Strategic Planning Sessions in the spring. Bylaw review in preparation for upcoming AGM.
- 8.6. ASC Rep Report  
Campus councils pre-planning activities for year-end June 2021. ASC working towards the 25th-anniversary celebration in 2022.
- 8.6.1. ASC Advocacy Committee Rep Report – no update

## 9. Director Highlights

- Director Makwana thanks the special presenters tonight! He is grateful to the FFCA staff for coming to work daily during the pandemic, putting yourself at risk, and doing it with such passion. He's happy to report his second child has been accepted from the waitlist after a five-year wait!
- Director Fisher highlighted the ability of the staff to shift to an online situation again with a few days' notice. Teachers have it under control and have it all together. Kudos!!
- Director Qureshi thanks all the board members for being so welcoming and helpful in the transition. Directors were very accommodating with all the questions in learning all the ins and outs of this new challenge.
- Director Diaz really liked today's presentation! She's thankful for the ease with which students went back online. The transition was quick and easy. Teachers are making it so easy to do 'at the drop of a

hat.' She's thrilled that vaccinations are available to kids so that families have the option to take advantage of them.

- Director Jin thanks FFCA for the hard work in handling the difficult time during the pandemic and thanks to the special presenters tonight, very informative.
- Director Spahl is impressed with the dedication and resilience of the students, teachers and administrators. FFCA is a special place for those of us within the system.
- Vice-Chair Hill highlighted the care and compassion shown in the presentation tonight!
- Chair Wilson thanks the elementary schools for the fantastic presentation! It means a lot that this team of administrators and teachers shared these stories of passion, resilience and courage. It's something we all need to hear during these difficult times.

10. Open to Gallery – no questions or comments

11. Chairperson's Remarks – it's been an interesting and odd year. Thank you to the Central Office team for all of your hard work, support and effort.

ADJOURNMENT: 8:32 p.m.

NEXT MEETING: June 9, 2021

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS: