



Mother Earth's Children's Charter School

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees
held via Zoom Cloud Meeting
May 17, 2021

- PRESENT:** Dale Friedel, Chair
Wendy Cunningham, Trustee
Cindy Paul, Trustee
- ALSO PRESENT:** Ed Wittchen, Superintendent
Erin Danforth, Principal
Anita LeMoignan, Secretary-Treasurer
- ABSENT:** Terry Regamey, Trustee
Emil Durocher, Trustee
- GUEST:** Richard Bird

Chair Friedel called the meeting to order at 6:10 pm

AGENDA APPROVAL

#890-20/21 "To approve the agenda as circulated."

CUNNINGHAM

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

#891-20/21 "To approve the minutes of the April 12, 2021 Board Meeting as presented."

PAUL

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

TAAPCS ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING

Trustee Paul - The TAAPCS Annual General Meeting was held May 8, 2021 via Zoom Cloud Meeting. Trustee Paul and Superintendent Wittchen took part. They both feel that much of the meeting content is not always pertinent to MECCS, but that it is beneficial for us to maintain contact in order to connect with the charter schools that have more in common with MECCS and our challenges.

SCHOOL REPORT

ST LeMoignan - On the evening of May 12, 2021, tenant Keith McKay notified Odus Information that the internet was down. Following discussions with Axia FibreNet and The Internet Centre, attempting to determine the cause, Daniel Ward made a trip to the school to investigate the issue. The school router was down. He was able to get it working again, but it is aging and will likely need to be replaced at some point soon.

Plans are underway that would allow the Durochers access to MECCS' internet. Daniel will explore possibilities for direct access using old phone lines. If that fails, he will attempt to extend WiFi access. The direct method relies on use of old telephone lines (if there are any); WiFi access is dependent upon a sight line through the trees.

Partitioning off the internet into separate areas is part of summer IT plans. One segment for the tenants, one for students and one for staff and administration, thereby bringing more security to the school network. Daniel will also clear the remaining redundant cables to provide better school networking.

Principal Danforth - The students have been working from home since Alberta Education mandated that all schools move to at-home learning commencing May 7, 2021. Success of at-home learning is dependent upon which grade you are working with. Paper-pencil packages were sent out to students at the outset, as internet is sketchy in many homes on the reserve. Teachers are on Google Meet everyday experiencing minor success. Ms. Anderson is experiencing the best outcome with her students.

There has been positive feedback from parents in several areas. They are reporting that students are using Stoney and Cree at home. It has also been noted that students prefer in-person schooling to online.

Superintendent Wittchen - Other Superintendents have commented that teachers, parents and students have had enough of at-home/online learning. There is a definite decline in participation.

Principal Danforth - Noah Danforth has been coming to the school twice a week working primarily with grades 5-9 teaching them various sports (badminton, pickle ball, etc.). Ms. Anderson and Mr. Ehnes' students have also participated. A Slackline was purchased, and the students have been having a great time with it.

We are exploring a partnership with EverActive Schools for Loose Parts Play activity in the fall.

ANNUAL BUDGET 2021-2022

ST LeMoignan - The 2021-2022 Budget is very similar to the current year budget in that we are budgeting for 50 students and the Alberta Education Profile is almost identical in funding as well. The budget must be submitted to Alberta Education by May 31, 2021.

#892-20/21 “To approve the 2021-2022 Annual Budget as presented.”

CUNNINGHAM

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

EDUCATION PLAN

Superintendent Wittchen - Alberta Education has come up with a new format; there is no template as in previous years. The Education Plan sets out what needs to be done, including determining priorities, outcomes, measures and strategies using the most recent results. The Plan also needs to address responsibilities in the key assurance domains. The three-year education plan is due in the Spring; the AERR is due in the fall. Superintendent Wittchen and the teachers have put together a Four-Year Plan for submission by May 31, 2021.

#893-20/21 “To approve the 2021-2024 Education Plan as presented.”

PAUL

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The next meeting will be meeting June 14, 2021.

Chair Friedel adjourned the meeting at 7:00 pm.



CHAIR



SECRETARY-TREASURER