



## Mother Earth's Children's Charter School

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees  
held via Zoom Cloud Meeting  
September 13, 2021

**PRESENT:** Dale Friedel, Chair  
Wendy Cunningham, Trustee  
Cindy Paul, Trustee  
Emil Durocher, Trustee (6:35)  
Terry Regamey, Trustee (via telephone)

**ALSO PRESENT:** Ed Wittchen, Superintendent  
Erin Danforth, Principal  
Anita LeMoignan, Secretary-Treasurer

**ABSENT:** Terry Regamey, Trustee (left the meeting at 6:35)

**GUEST:** Richard Bird

Chair Friedel called the meeting to order at 6:23 pm

### AGENDA APPROVAL

**#897-21/22** "To approve the agenda as amended."  
4.5 Alberta Parenting for the Future Association

**CUNNINGHAM**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### APPROVAL OF MINUTES

**#898-21/22** "To approve the minutes of the May 17, 2021 Board Meeting as presented."

**CUNNINGHAM**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

### CALENDAR CHANGE

Superintendent Wittchen - In June, Ottawa declared September 30, 2021 the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation – a federal statutory holiday that is meant to give public servants an opportunity to recognize the legacy of residential schools. The Province of Alberta leaves National Day for Truth and Reconciliation stat holiday up to employers. We are recommending it should be included in this and future years on the school calendar.

**#899-21/22**

“To approve the addition of the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation be added to the 2021-2022 and future school calendars.”

**REGAMEY**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

## **PLAYGROUND IMPROVEMENTS**

ST LeMoignan - In June we called in a playground inspector to assess the condition of the school playground. The inspection resulted in several required repairs and deficiencies. The quote from a qualified playground contractor, recommended by both Black Gold Schools and the Parkland School Division, has quoted \$15,844.50. We have been scheduled for the week of October 19-22 for the repairs. In the meantime, staff and students will use alternate spaces to ensure the safety of the students.

## **SCHOOL REPORT**

Superintendent Wittchen - Maxine Hildebrandt and Erin Danforth went to Medicine Hat during the summer and met with the people from CAPE Charter School who are interested in a partnership with MECCS. The partnership with Suzuki Charter School continues. Wildwood and Academy at King Edward are

ST LeMoignan - Ed, Maxine and Erin met with Connect Charter School as well. They have acquired the former Calgary Boys and Girls Club camp at Sibbald Lake and our team visited the camp. We are hoping to take some students there for a retreat; perhaps joining in with CAPE and Suzuki. So a partnership is formed with Connect too.

Daniel Ward our IT professional has determined that he will be able to provide internet to the Durocher cabin. He hopes to have it operation later this fall.

Principal Danforth - We brought in the Jumpy Things in on September 10<sup>th</sup> and the entire school will be going to the Edmonton Corn Maze at the end of the month. Fall feast will be on September 17<sup>th</sup>.

## **CULTURE CAMP UPDATE**

Superintendent Wittchen - After Erin and Maxine drafted a detailed plan, Dale LeMoignan and Mark Hildebrandt have done a lot of the initial groundwork at the Culture Camp. Work started at the end of August and is ongoing. There are plans for a firepit, tipi and a wooden structure. A portable washroom is in place provided by Kopala Towers from Bonnyville, AB. Weather permitting, we anticipate it being finished and fully useable by mid to late October. Erin will be starting a Facebook

information blitz and a Twitter blitz this week to get the information to current and prospective families. Maxine has been working on the programming all summer and the plan is for staff to use the facility daily and during all weather conditions. Maxine and her husband Mark have put in countless hours getting the project up and running.

## **MAINTENANCE ISSUES**

ST LeMoignan - This summer has seen its share of maintenance issues:

1. The current fire system inspection contract has expired, and we have three quotes for renewal - However, they come with various problems so we will seek more quotes. The two lowest quotes are \$5,000.
2. Sensors/Smoke detectors - all are more than 10 years old and must be replaced - estimated cost **\$20,915.35**
3. Playground - An inspection was performed in August and it was determined that the playground (2009) needs various repairs and replacements in order to be compliant with current safety standards. Quote - **\$15,844.50**
4. Kitchen Fire Suppression - The summer fire inspection revealed that this need to be replaced - Quote - **\$4200.00**
5. Water line replacement - The water lines to the washrooms under the school need replacement. Estimates to follow at a later date.
6. Furnace Repairs - Upon fall start-up two furnaces in the gym would not start and a rooftop unit would not shut down. All have been repaired and are now functioning properly. The total invoice has not been received.
7. Gymnasium lights - Seven lights no longer work. Estimated cost - Estimated cost **\$3013.50**
8. Gate - There is more traffic in the area, and with the McKays leaving in October, it is perhaps time to address the need for a more secure gate system. That in mind, Dale LeMoignan is acquiring quotes for replacement of the gate; one that would have keyless access. Two quotes **\$14,000.**

## **EDUCATION PLAN**

Superintendent Wittchen - Alberta Education commented that they weren't in favor of the format of our submission. After pointing out that there was no template to follow, they agreed and accepted it as submitted. Changes will be required for this year.

## **ALBERTA PARENTING FOR THE FUTURE**

Superintendent Wittchen - They have various programs that would benefit our parents and students. It would be great to be involved with them, but at this time we must turn them down until we can allow people back into the school. We will table it until Covid settles down.

Chair Friedel adjourned the meeting at 7:23 pm.



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CHAIR



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SECRETARY-TREASURER