

Horizon School Division No. 67

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The Board of Trustees of Horizon School Division No. 67 held its Regular Board meeting on Tuesday, December 20th, 2016 beginning at 1:15p.m. in the Eric Johnson Room.

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Marie Logan, Board Chair
Bruce Francis, Board Vice-Chair
Blair Lowry, Jennifer Crowson, Rick Anderson, Terry Michaelis

ALSO PRESENT: Dr. Wilco Tymensen, Superintendent of Schools
Phil Johansen, Associate Superintendent of Finance & Operations
Amber Darroch, Associate Superintendent of Learning
Anita Richardson, Associate Superintendent of Programs & Human Services
Nikki Jamieson, Taber Times
Sheila Laqua, Recording Secretary

PRESENTATION

Lisa Sowinski, Horizon School Division's First Nations Metis & Inuit Liaison, shared with the Board her role within the Division. She presented to the Board the work she is doing within the schools to help them gain a cultural understanding of Canada's Indigenous people.

ACTION ITEMS

- | | | |
|-----|--|---|
| A.1 | Moved by Blair Lowry that the Board approve the agenda as presented with the following addition: | AGENDA APPROVED
140/16 |
| | <u>Under Correspondence:</u>
C.4 – Boot Camp | |
| | Carried Unanimously | |
| A.2 | Moved by Rick Anderson that the Board approve the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held Tuesday, November 29th, 2016. | BOARD MEETING
MINUTES APPROVED
141/16 |
| | Carried Unanimously | |
| A.3 | Moved by Terry Michaelis that the Board approve the November Payment of Accounts report in the amount of \$2,361,576.67 as provided in Enclosure 2 of the agenda | PAYMENT OF
ACCOUNT APPROVED
142/16 |
| | Carried Unanimously | |
| A.4 | Moved by Jennifer Crowson that the Board approve the first reading of Policy HK- Student Assessment Evaluation and Reporting as provided in Enclosure 3 of the agenda | POLICY HK
APPROVED
143/16 |
| | Carried Unanimously | |
| A.5 | Moved by Bruce Francis that the Board delete Policy DJAA – Purchase Cards as provided in Enclosure 4 of the agenda. | DELETE POLICY DJAA
APPROVED
144/16 |
| | Carried Unanimously | |
| A.6 | Move by Rick Anderson that the Board approve the locally developed Kindergarten through Grade 9 course Biblical Studies from January 1, 2017 to December 31, 2019 as provided in Enclosure 5 of the agenda | LOCALLY DEVELOPED
COURSE
BIBLICAL STUDIES
APPROVED
145/16 |
| | Carried Unanimously | |

DISCUSSION ITEMS

D.1 Board of Trustees/SALT Photo

Existing Board of Trustees/SALT photo, in foyer, will be replaced with a photo of the Board only given the recent retirement of the Associate Superintendent of Programs and Human Services. An updated photo will be taken following the election in the fall of 2017. Senior Administration photo will also be mounted in the entrance of Division Office.

D.2 Board Chair Letter December 5th, 2016 – Rural School Boards' Organization

Horizon School Division Board of Trustees accepted the invitation to join a rural school boards' organization focused on raising common issues and concerns in providing educational programming to students in rural Alberta.

D.3 DAF/WRM Modernization

- At today's Board meeting the Board of Trustees discussed the D.A. Ferguson / W.R. Myers modernization including staff and community feedback regarding space, amalgamating administrations and relocating grade 6 to Taber elementary schools.
- The Board also discussed the \$1.1-million-dollar overage and future infrastructure needs.
- In the end the Board decided to proceed with the modernization including the demolition of the 1949 wing. They felt that moving the grade 6 students to the elementary schools was a decision about space.
- The Board supported moving forward with two administrations and keeping the grade 6 students in D.A. Ferguson. As with all configurations, there is always the possibility of revisiting configurations, should a need arise, but the Board saw no need to make such a decision at this time.
- The Board recognized that further conversations will need to occur about the \$1.1 million overage and what this will look like on a go forward basis. The Board recognized that this conversation is the role of the modernization committee including the architects, Alberta Education and Alberta Infrastructure and that staff have already provided some areas that could be part of this conversation.
- The Board is committed to prioritizing "phase 2" within their capital plan and looking at how this can further enhance the complex.

INFORMATION ITEMS

I.1 Superintendent' Progress Report

Educational Leadership and Student Welfare

- Dialogue between schools and division office are ongoing. Conversations/topics typically focus on processes that ensure student safety and well-being, financial management, instructional leadership, and legal matters. This month they also included staffing, and facility use.
- C.U.P.E. negotiations are ongoing, with three meetings having taken place to date.
- Senior leadership and school administration attended a Leadership and Learning Session hosted by Apple.
- The jurisdiction family school liaison counselling program hosted Headstrong – a student conference that aims to address and eliminate the stigma associated with mental health issues.

Fiscal Responsibility

- Our finance department has been hard at work preparing for the fall budget update and audited financial report, both of which will be presented to the Board at the November 29th Board meeting.
- Consultation and strategic planning is also underway regarding revisions to the current funding allocation model.

Personnel Management

- Evaluation meetings including conversations about school three-year education plans, annual education results reports, and principal professional growth plans have occurred with all principals.

Policy and Strategic Planning

- Policy Committee met to discuss Policy JG: Community Use of Facilities and Policy HK – Student Assessment, Evaluation, and Reporting. Work has also begun on revisions to Policy IE – Student

Attendance, Policy EBCE, School Security, Policy HGBJ Early Childhood Services, and Policy HGB Special Education.

- The Superintendent and Board attended the Alberta School Board Association Fall AGM.
- Barnwell's Library board contractual discussions relating to the Library's occupancy occurred.

Organizational Leadership and Management

- Significant work has been undertaken related to consultation and communication around the DAF/WRM modernization. A community forum took place on December 12.

Communications and Community Relations

- A number of meetings and celebrations were attended over the last month. These include but are not limited to:
 - Admin Meeting
 - Division Office staff meeting
 - Senior administrative leadership team meeting
 - ACE Place 20 anniversary
 - Christmas concerts
 - Christmas family
 - CASSIX meeting

I.2 Trustee/Committee Reports

I.2.1 Zone 6 ASBA Report

Marie Logan, Zone 6 Representative reported that Zone 6 did not have a meeting in December.

I.2.2 Admin. Meeting Update

Bruce Francis reviewed the highlights of the December 13th, 2016 Administrators' meeting as presented in Enclosure #8 of the agenda. [Click here](#) to review the entire December 13th Administrators' meeting summary.

I.2.3 Facilities Committee Update

Bruce Francis, Facilities Committee Chair, provided a report to the Board on the work undertaken during the past month within the Facilities Department and included the following highlights:

- 3- year Capital Plan
- Capital Project
 - Barnwell – The Barnwell Modernization construction process is proceeding as planned and on schedule. With the conclusion of the first phase upcoming, weekly site meetings have been scheduled to address last minute details. Horizon School Division No. 67 facilities crews have engaged in by-owner construction work for the past six weeks working overtime and weekend hours as the needs have arisen. Contract crews are completing the flooring installation as rooms are made available. Facility crews continue to work on site as different levels of construction are met, as well as continue regular visits for review and inspection purposes. Clean up processes are being prepared and some are underway.
Time line is as follows

Phase 1, substantial completion	December 2016
Phase 2, substantial completion	September 2017
 - Warner – While demolition uncovered a number of challenges, the current schedule still governs with a substantial completion date for phase one being July 2017.
- Ongoing Maintenance work has been ongoing throughout the Division
- The Horizon School Division Board of Trustees and S.A.L.T. will Tour Barnwell School @ 10:00 a.m. on January 17th, 2017.

I.3 Associate Superintendent of Finance and Operations Report

Phil Johansen provided the following update to the Board:

- Conducted a Professional Learning session at the December 13th Administrator's meeting. The topic of discussion was Budget Allocation Review
- Along with the Director of Finance, attended Annual ASBOA Issues Forum in Edmonton

- Participated in 3 CUPE Negotiation Meetings
- Spent time working on and submitting the Transportation Grant

I.4 Associate Superintendent of Programs and Human Services Report

Anita Richardson’s December report to the included the following information:

Human Resources

- Attended CASSIX Meetings in Lethbridge on November 24 and 25 – initiated discussion in regards to sub shortage
- Some staffing fluctuations – Maternity, Extended Health, Personal Leave
- Assisted with School Interviews for temporary contract
- Participated in 3 CUPE Board Negotiation Meetings

Leadership Practices

- Attended principals’ school goals and professional growth plan meetings with Senior Admin Leadership Team
- Continuing with teacher evaluations for probationary teachers
- Attended CASS “Boot Camp” with Senior Admin Leadership Team

Stakeholder Engagement Impacts Student Success

- Attended Community Forum on DAF/WRM modernization
- Attending special events, celebrations, and performances at schools
- Attended Career Transitions AGM as board member

FNMI

- Held first meeting of the Indigenous Committee
- Collected information from school principals in regards to their needs from the Indigenous Committee
- 3 members attended the Blanket Exercise at the Interagency meeting in Lethbridge
- Hali Heavy Shield presenting and facilitating the Treaty 7 Blanket Exercise at the Jan. 10 Admin Meeting.

I.5 Associate Superintendent of Learning Report

Amber Darroch’s report included the following information:

Representing Learner Services team members:

Amber Darroch, Associate Superintendent.....	AD
Terri-Lynn Duncan, Director of Learning (Curriculum & Instruction)	TLD
Robbie Charlebois, Director of Learning (Inclusive Education)	RC
Angela Miller, Clinical Team Lead	AM
George Epp, Low German Mennonite Liaison Worker.....	GE

KEY ACTION AREA #1:

Strong core instruction that develops student competencies

AD

- Attended Alberta Education “School Technology Advisory Committee” (STAC) meeting in Edmonton on November 22
- Facilitated Assessment Committee meeting on December 7 to debrief on the first reporting period and opportunities for future growth and development
- Attended CASSIX Meetings in Lethbridge with TLD and RC on November 24 and 25
- Organized the Annual CASSIX/ASBOA Christmas Banquet and Retirement Recognition on November 24
- Presented Session 2 of the Leadership & Learning Series (Learning and Technology Policy Framework) with guest facilitator Suhayl Patel from Apple Education. 33 principals and vice principals attended.
- Facilitated Tech Guide Meeting on November 30 with representatives from all schools to support technology integration and technical support
- Consulted on and visited Head Strong Student Summit (student attendees from Horizon, Holy Spirit, and Peigan Board) on December 8

TLD

- Coached/consulted with staff at 3 schools this month working on guided reading and what that can look like in the classroom
- Held a session for staff at a school who recently purchased new literacy materials and have been working on in servicing them on how to best use the resources
- Attended Scholastic's two-day literacy presentation in order to help teachers to utilize the resources that they have in their schools

RC

- Worked with several learning teams in schools to develop individual student programs to support valuable learning experiences and growth, as well as school capacity to support students with exceptional needs
- Worked with Learning Support Teachers to build capacity in the Dossier system for meaningful and accountable ISP development
- Supported report card and assessment practices for students with ISP's, modified and adapted programming. This area continues to need further support and clarification

KEY ACTION AREA #2:

Response to Instruction and Intervention Framework to improve literacy and numeracy proficiency

AD

- Consulted on complex student needs with AM and RC
- Attended Alberta Family Wellness Initiative Community Engagement session in Lethbridge with RC and AM (hosted by the Palix Foundation)

TLD

- Facilitated full day workshop with school literacy leads in the development of a division wide literacy framework. 100% of the leads believe that our division needs a framework to provide best instructional strategies for all teachers in all subject areas.
- Facilitated half day workshop with school numeracy leads in the development of a numeracy assessment that can detect gaps in students learning as well as questions that will better fit the assessment practice and uses Blooms Taxonomy.

RC

- All school based assessment be completed and entered into Dossier. Data will be used to drive individual intervention, systematic intervention, and quality teaching instruction.
- Working with literacy and numeracy committee to support framework development that is inclusive, and provides opportunities to support all students, specifically, students with diverse learning needs
- Schools have completed or are working on a pyramid of interventions or continuum of supports to provide a school framework for teachers
- Terri-Lynn and Robbie presented to VHS EA staff regarding re-thinking the role of educational assistants and how they can best support all students.
- Continued work with MRE and the Collaborative Care pilot in the grade 2 classroom. Overwhelmingly positive work and progress is being made to support the students. A large collaborative team has met twice this year, as well as made classroom visits to provide feedback, strategies, support and intervention.
- Work with CASSIX group to streamline the Dossier software to best meet the needs of all students requiring additional strategies and supports. First meeting was November 7th. Next Meeting January 16th - both hosted at Horizon Division Office.

KEY ACTION AREA #3:

Stakeholder engagement impacts student success

AD

- Attended Community Forum on DAF/WRM modernization
- Contributing to division website, social media and staff intranet to promote Horizon events and other relevant content with the community

TLD

- Attended the Healthy Active School Symposium (HASS), a student health and wellness full day Southern Alberta event, with students and staff supervisors from three Horizon schools

RC

- Southwest Regional Collaborative Service Delivery continues to work with multiple stakeholders to provide support and services for students in the region. Currently, we are actively involved in engaging our FNMI partners to sit at the leadership and executive table with us so that they are included and supported.
- Five by Five Early Years Coalition meets monthly at Horizon School Division and includes partners such as FCSS, Holy Spirit Catholic School Division, Public Library, and Parents as Partners. The grant application was sent and the group was approved once again for funding. The coalition puts on a variety of activities for parents and children in and around the Taber area.
- Woodcock Munoz (academic assessment for ELL students) - will be meeting with ELL leads from both Lethbridge School District 51 as well as Holy Spirit to discuss some alternative options for level B assessment.

LEADERSHIP PRACTICES

AD

- Attended principals' schools goals and professional growth plan meetings with Senior Admin Leadership Team
- Facilitated collaborative meeting on December 15 between Horizon's tech department and Livingstone Range School Division IT staff to share best practices and maximize efficiencies

AD, RC, TLD

- Continuing teacher evaluations for probationary teachers
- Attending special events, celebrations, and performances at schools

FAMILY SCHOOL LIAISON & FAMILY CONNECTIONS SUMMARY

Clinical Team Leader – Angela Miller

- One FSLC on medical leave until January 9
- Completed a day and a half Go To Educator Training Oct. 13 & 14 for teachers, admin. and community agencies.
- Completed Growth Plans with all FSLC's and Family Connections Workers total of 14 staff. As well as met twice a month with each staff for supervision.
- Attended 2 Collaborative Meetings at Milk River Elementary in October and November.
- Attended 1 RCSD Mental Health Meeting in October, and 2 RCSD Counselling lead conference planning meetings in October and November.
- Met with Milton at FCSS in October about FCSS contract and increased funding.
- Attended a CYC Accreditation Meeting at Lethbridge College in October.
- Attended 2 TCAPS meetings in September and October.
- Attended RCSD PD Oct. 27 – Dr. Mark Ragins – Mental Health and Client engagement.
- Conducted 3 Case consultations with FSLC staff and community agencies which are ran the first Tuesday of every month.
- Conducted 3 FSLC staff Meetings the last Friday of every month which is a full day.
- Attended 2 south zone Mental Health Capacity Building meeting in Brooks in September and November.

- Meeting with Bob Johnston Regional Mental Health and Addictions Manager, Holy Spirit, Robbie, RCSD to discuss mental health gaps and needs in Taber and rural areas. Set another meeting for Dec. 9.
- Ran a Level 1 VTRA refresher Nov. 24.
- Ran a level 1 training for staff Dec. 1 and Dec. 2.
- 8 VTRA's
- Ran an Advisory Meeting Nov. 28.
- Ongoing meetings for Headstrong which runs Dec. 8
- Ongoing meetings for Ignite UR Spark which runs May 4
- Monthly Family Connections staff meetings.
- Attend Admin Meetings.
- Attended GAIN SS assessment training Nov.2 to try to streamline referrals to Mental Health and Addictions.
- Ongoing phone and face to face consultations. On average consult with FSLC's/CYCW's and Family Connections staff 5 times a day.
- Planning a Counselling conference for Marc 30.
- Hired a new .6 CYCW from temporary funding from RCSD. Completed orientation and will be taking around to rural schools to introduce her. This position will help alleviate some high needs areas.
- Completed Mental Health Capacity Building Project Year Work Plan in October.
- Liaise with Taber Mental Health and Addictions, Child Services and Safe Haven to work collaboratively on open cases and to streamline referrals.
- Ongoing on call support for School Administration.

Kelsey Atkinson DAF – Family School Liaison Counsellor

- We have started mentorship and it has been off to a great start
- We are helping Michelle Sawchuk plan the Girl's Retreat for March
- We are just about to start a social skills group in three parts (games, skills/learning and practicing/ and then we are hoping to end with the third part of relationships and have you and rossi come in)
- Angel Tree has been submitted
- Random Acts of Kindness day went really well!

TMS – Betty Adkins – FSLC

- 5 students will be attending the Youth Summit
- Girls Group for grades 7 and 8. Divided into 2 groups and each week alternates for the groups.

Central – Betty Adkins - FLSC

- Mentorship - every Wednesday after school for 10 weeks
- Very busy school for one-on-one counselling

Dr. Hamman and Chamberlain – Glenn Jankowiak – FSLC

- For Chamberlain and Dr Hamman: 20 clients
 - Dr Hamman: walking club and mentorship
 - Helped Angela do the VTRA refresher

Enchant/Lomond/Hays/Barnwell – Tara Odland – FSLC

- I have 22 students on my caseload right now and I'm taking 7 students from my schools to the Headstrong summit

MRES/ERHS/Warner – Jennifer Hengeveld – FSLC

- I have done 1 suicide assessment at Erle Rivers and 1 at Warner. 1 VTRA at Milk River Elementary that turned out to be a worrisome report.
- I am currently running 2 friendship groups for girls grades 6&7 (11 Girls) and 8&9 (5 Girls) at Erle Rivers.

- I am also involved in mentorship at Milk River Elementary and I believe that there are 12 students in that.
- I spoke in classrooms at Erle Rivers and Warner regarding Headstrong and I also spoke at Community Helpers at Erle Rivers on the FSLC role.
- I currently have 28 open kids on my caseload. Warner is sending 7 students and Erle Rivers is sending 2 students to Headstrong

Joel Blake – CYCW Vauxhall

- 1 Suicide assessment this year at MAP
- Took 3 students out in the community for RAK day handing out candy and a RAK card. Kids really enjoyed it so did the community.
- Sending 6 VHS students to the Headstrong Summit.
- Looking to implement 7 Habits at MAP.
- Ashley has been doing great work with the Academy boys around team building, maybe she can touch on this more.
- Ashley and Lynda brought 6 students to the HASS.
- Have been looking at implementing some sort of 'mentorship' program at MAP that would involve alumni interacting with students about the challenges and benefits of school for LGM students.

Amy Davis – W.R. Myers – FSLC

- Amy will be starting to do a Community Helpers program with Lethbridge Family Services a Myers.
- GSA meets three times a month generally with 5-12 students that attend.
- CYCW and FSLC will be starting 4 presentations in the next couple of weeks with grade 9-12 on Mental Health.
- Groups will be starting that new CYCW will be running around depression and anxiety.
- In the past month FSLC estimates that she has conducted 10-14 Suicide Assessments.
- CYCW has conducted around 5

Brandon Petite – TCS and ACE/Family Connections

- 2 Suicide Assessments at Ace
- Counselling case load at Taber Christian and Ace Place have been steadily increasing each week. Student needs have been from grief and loss, anxiety and depression, self esteem, and social skills.
- In Taber Christian, Kelso's Choice will be in full swing on December 7th in the grade 2 class. After Christmas holidays grade 5's will be starting resiliency.
- At Ace, I have been setting up and co-facilitating multiple presentation on topics such as addiction, positive mental health, sexual education. I have also been attending more outings with Ace and building relationships though various school activities.
- With Family Connection's, The headstrong event is shaping up nicely and the little pieces are starting to fall into place.

Ashley Otte – FSLC – Vauxhall High/MAP

VHS- 0 VTRAs

2 Suicide Assessments

MAP- 1 VTRA

2 Suicide Assessments

Lisa Sowinski – FMNI

- Angel Tree list
- Registering new students
- Making sure families are signing up for their Christmas hampers
- List for head strong
- Interagency meeting
- First FNMI committee admin meeting and setting goals
- Meeting new Elders and contacts

- Checking on gr 12 students making sure they are on track to graduate
- Working with career councilors
- Exercise Blanket making contact

Dionne Sawatzky – Family Connections – Westlake/Central

Backpack Program:

Family Connections hosted the first annual Back-to-School Backpack Program for Horizon Schools. The Backpack Program is centered on providing complementary items and services to families during the “Back to School,” time of year.

In addition to being provided with a new backpack and supplies, children and families were able to access other resources in the community to help get the school year off to a successful start.

There were different agencies that we have in the Taber Community who attended the Back-To-School Backpack Program to give the Families different resources going into the 2016/2017 school year.

Some of the agencies were FCSS, Public Health, AHS Addictions and Mental Health, Family Connections, AHS Health Promotion Coordinator, Taber Dental, AHS Child Mental Health Therapist, Safe Haven, Taber Food Bank, Eye Health Clinic, Kids Sport, and Escape Salon & Salon. There were 55 students referred the Back-to-School Backpack program from FSLC, FMNI, Safe Haven and Family Connections.

Resiliency Campaign

Family Connections had their first Resiliency Meeting on November 30, 2016. The Resiliency Program is offered to grade 4/5 students. The topics that are discussed in this program are emotional management, positive thinking, problem solving, and asking for help. Near the end of the program students will write a postcard to a mentor in their life. The postcards who have consent are taken to Post Card Selection Night where the top 20 post cards are picked. There are about 8 schools that participate in this program. The students whose postcards are selected are invited to the Celebration Night where they will read their postcard to their Mentor. The Celebration Night is open to the community.

Families First

Central School and D.A Ferguson hosted Families First again this year. There were 6 families that attended. The guest speakers were Dave Gyepesi (Prescription Drug Safety), Kim Andrus (Nutrition) and Kim Forchuk from FCSS (Messy Play)

There will be another Families First on March 8, 15, and 22. We are always looking for volunteers.

Other Programs:

The FSLP team has submitted their Angel Tree Lists

Dionne Sawatzky is starting to plan Lunch Time Learning for the students at Central School.

Kelso’s Choice in Kindergarten, Grade 1 and 2/3

Kimochis in Grade 1

Project Happiness in Grade 1

Second Step in Grade 3/4

K.C’s Choice in Grade 5/6

Home Alone Program in 3 grade 4/5 classes

Targeted Friendship Group at LT Westlake

Mentorship Started on Nov 16

Breakfast Program and Lunch Program at Central School

Sara Luskey Family Connections – Vauxhall/Chamberlain

Chamberlain: Kelsos Character Building (K) Kelsos Choice (5) Mental Health Tool Kits Presentations (grades 3, 7-12) Lunch Time games and crafts Executive functioning check ins grade 7 and 12 Resiliency (grade 5 January) 2nd step grade 2 (January)	Vauxhall Elementary: Bucket filler campaign Kelsos choice (2) 2nd step(1-3) German 2nd step (4) Superflex (3) KCs (4) KCS (5)
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Social skills girls group grade 6-8 Power of being a girl Headstrong Spark (May) Lunch time gym games Vauxhall elementary	Cooking group Healthy snack day group (January) Mentorship Resiliency (January) Cook up a story (1-3) German
VHS Headstrong Mentorship 4th R (Feb) Anti stress presentations (exam week)	MAP 7 habits (December) Girls group (January)

Amy Stroeve Family Connections – MRES/Warner/ERHS/Dr. Hamman

Dr. Hamman Gr. 2s - Kelsos choices and project happiness Gr. 3s - project happiness Gr. 4s - second step Gr. 5s - kcs choices Mentoring 2 students	MRE Mini-Mentorship with gr. 2 and gr. 5
Warner Gr. 1-2 - kimoichis Gr. 3-5 - second step	After Christmas Families First at MRE Resiliency at dr. Hamman

MENNONITE LIAISON SUMMARY

LGM population count 2016 – In October 2014, I put together a summary showing the number of LGM students in various grades for all the Horizon schools and that will be updated as of the end of 2016.

Home Schooling Matters (Wisdom Home Schooling)

Last month I reported about a specific family and their experience with Wisdom Home Schooling. Then there was the news regarding Trinity (Wisdom Home Schooling) and the Alberta Education Minister. There has been some public conversation about that and I have had several calls from parents who have their children in the Reinlander church school, supported by the Wisdom group. They are calling me to ask what I know about that system and for some guidance of what they should do regarding education and their own children.

Last Sunday night there was an Education meeting at the church. The reports I have about that are very interesting. A major discussion was about school money matters and validity of High School Diplomas. They guaranteed people that the High School Diploma (Wisdom) they are giving out is as valid as an “Alberta High School Diploma” issued by Alberta Education. It seems like the best approach I can take is to respond to those inquiries and help the LGM parents understand the truth, so they can make the right choices. I am following the Alberta Government’s response regarding withdrawing support for Trinity, after the Jan 2 date by when Trinity’s affairs will have been reviewed.

MCC Canada - Low German Mennonite Program meeting

In November I attended a networking meeting in Winnipeg with MCC Directors from Ontario, Manitoba, Saskatchewan, Alberta, as well as the program staff overseeing the work from Bolivia and Mexico.

We covered a variety of subjects such as:

- Education
- Health, Addictions and Mental Health concerns
- Child protect issues
- Conservative churches and our MCC connection to them
- Community integration issues

- Building trust while holding them accountable to comply with Government rules and regulation. (CRA, Child tax, EI, Canadian Border Services, etc) What are you teaching your young people?
- Ideas to engage with LGM young people
- Employment in Canada, Self-Employment and financial literacy
- Citizenship and Immigration matters
- Our relationship with Service Providers

SAKA (Southern Alberta Kanadier Association)

This is an organization that I have been involved for over 15 years. We are a group of service providers who work directly with LGM people. I have been president for about 5 years. We have meetings quarterly via AHS telehealth video conferencing. People from Redcliff, Medicine Hat, Bow Island, Taber and Lethbridge get together for discussion regarding the LGM and various issues facing the LGM people and the agencies that serve them. The AGM is planned for Jan 2017.

MCC – Services for Newcomers (Mennonite Central Committee)

Our relationship with the MCC office continues to be critical to a strong connection to newcomers and many of the LGM families. Enclosed is a sheet showing program activity and people traffic. The important factor is that they are helping people with basic critical matters such as employment, healthcare, housing, friendship and just helping them find their way. MCC also provides a valuable connection to LGM matters, across Canada, Mexico and Bolivia.

Calling on past HSD students

I use lists of former students to follow up on families who left Horizon and are now home schooling or working. It is important to keep the door open and find out what they are saying about their education. Sometimes these families make positive changes as a result of a call.

LGM programs in Horizon

In the next few weeks, I will again be gathering information from schools about how they are responding to the LGM people's request for "German" and "Bible" instruction. The goal is to have some consistency between schools and ensure that it is useful to the students. Also, that parents understand and support these programs. I often hear about these programs from parents who do not yet have their children in our schools, so need to ensure the public perception.

Other Southern Alberta School Divisions

I maintain a strong connection with other school divisions, so that LGM families can be referred to public schools when they move around and so we can compare notes regarding LGM matters. I certainly use my MCC connection to provide them updates on the LGM population.

Community Connections

I live in Taber and make an effort to watch, listen and have conversations with and about LGM people to encourage healthy integration in our communities. That work is in the community, in homes, churches, retail stores and businesses and in coffee shops.

School Connections

I will keep a connection with new staff that are working with LGM students. Also, I have offered some formal PD for staff and have more booked. I will offer to attend school staff meetings and facilitate discussion about the LGM people. I have attended some school events, including the German Christmas programs.

Summary

This is often the most difficult time of the year for families, including the LGM people. I have been involved in situations where people have financial difficulty, addictions, mental health issues, family discord and loneliness being new to Canada and away from family for Christmas.

I.6 2nd Annual First Nations & Inuit Education Gathering

CASS/Alberta Education First Nations, Metis & Inuit Symposium will be held April 26-28, 2017 in Edmonton. Anita Richardson, Superintendent of Programs and Human Services and Amber Darroch, Superintendent of Learning are confirmed to attend.

- The following resource "They Came for the Children" was shared previously with all Horizon staff. The book was published by the Truth and Reconciliation Commission and is available in electronic format via the following link
 - http://www.myrobust.com/websites/trcinstitution/File/2039_T&R_eng_web%5B1%5D.pdf

I.7 W.R. Myers Christmas Breakfast

Board members and Senior Administration have been invited to attend the W.R. Myers Christmas Breakfast hosted by Parent Council members. Bruce Francis, Rick Anderson and Terry Michealis will be attending

CORRESPONDENCE

1 items of discussion came forward from Correspondence as provided in Enclosure #11 of the agenda.

C.4 – Boot Camp – January 18th 2017 in Calgary – Calgary

Jennifer Crowson, Board Trustee along with Phil Johansen and Anita Richardson will be attending.

COMMITTEE ITEMS

Moved by Jennifer Crowson that the Board meet in Committee.

Carried Unanimously

COMMITTEE
146/16

Moved by Blair Lowry that the meeting reconvene.

Carried Unanimously

RECONVENE
147/16

Moved by Rick Anderson that the meeting adjourn

Carried Unanimously

MEETING
ADJOURNED
148/16

Marie Logan, Chair

Sheila Laqua, Executive Secretary