

NEW HORIZONS CHARTER SCHOOL SOCIETY
MINUTES

Type of Meeting: Board

Date: April 22, 2020

Initials: Chair _____

Approved: FINAL

Recorded By: A. DeJong

Secretary _____

April 22, 2020, 7:00 p.m.

Board Members Present at Call to Order:

Dan Hanson
ACTING CHAIR

Vincent Tong
TREASURER

Shari Morin
SECRETARY

Chris Burrows
DIRECTOR

Jason Clarke
DIRECTOR

Ijeoma Ukiwe
DIRECTOR

Administration Present:

Dean Lindquist
SUPERINTENDENT

Patti Dundas
SECRETARY-TREASURER

Ted Zarowny
PRINCIPAL

Members Present:

Elizabeth Macve

Sarah Jane Lovgren

Vicky Qualie

1. Call to Order

Chair Hanson called the virtual meeting to order at 7:02 p.m. and made opening remarks.

2. Statement of Territorial Acknowledgment

The Board of Directors of the New Horizons Charter School Society respectfully acknowledges that the land on which we meet is Treaty 6 territory, a traditional home, gathering place, and travelling route for diverse Indigenous Peoples, including Cree, Saulteaux, Blackfoot, Nakota, and Sioux, as well as the homeland of the Métis Nation. We recognize our responsibility as Treaty members and honour the heritage and gifts of the First Peoples of this land.

3. Adoption of Agenda

Principal Zarowny joined the meeting at this point.

Motion 2020-04-22-01 Moved that the agenda for the Board Meeting of April 22, 2020 be adopted as presented.

*Moved: Director Tong
Seconded: Director Burrows
Carried*

APPROVED

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4. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest:

None

5. Approval of Minutes

5.1 Minutes of March 18, 2020

Motion 2020-04-22-02 Moved that the Board Meeting minutes of March 18, 2020 be approved as presented.

Moved: Director Clarke

Seconded: Director Burrows

Carried

6. Administration Reports

6.1 Principal's Report

Principal Zarowny provided an update regarding at-home learning and admissions for next year. Current projections show 410 students with short waiting lists in most grade levels. Discussion followed.

6.2 Superintendent's Report

Director Tong temporarily stepped away from the meeting.

6.2.1 Staffing Decisions During the Pandemic

Superintendent Lindquist spoke to the reduction of the basic education grant and subsequent staffing decisions, as outlined in the attachment. Discussion followed.

6.2.2 Specialized Learning Supports

Director Tong returned to the meeting.

Superintendent Lindquist spoke to the new funding framework and how it affects funding for specialized learning supports, as outlined in the attachment.

In addition, one official appeal has been received regarding assessment and intake for next year as well as one unofficial appeal may be coming.

Superintendent Lindquist will provide more information as it becomes available. Discussion followed.

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7. Board Reports

7.1 Board Chair's Report

Acting Board Chair Hanson provided a brief summary of his activities in the Acting Board Chair role since Director Pasemko's departure.

7.2 Committee Reports

Policy Committee

Director Clarke indicated that the Policy Committee has not yet met but intends to meet in the near future.

Survey Committee

Director Morin indicated that the Survey Committee has not moved forward with the survey at this point due to all of the recent changes with at home working and learning. It will be revisited in the near future; the delay will allow the committee to include survey questions about at-home learning and assessment.

Finance and Audit Committee

Director Tong indicated that the Finance and Audit Committee report will be covered in item 8.2.

Public Relations

Acting Chair Hanson indicated that a meeting of the committee is scheduled for April 30. One participant has withdrawn, a request has gone to parents inviting additional participants.

8. New Business

8.1 Appointment of Board Officers

Superintendent Lindquist spoke to the vacancy of the Board Chair position resulting from Director Pasemko's relocation, as outlined in the attachment. Discussion followed.

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Motion 2020-04-22-03 Moved that under Bylaw 6.1.6.2, Director Pasemko be removed from the Board due to her relocation and withdrawal of her child from the school.

Moved: Director Burrows

Seconded: Director Clarke

Carried

Superintendent Lindquist stepped into the role of Acting Chair.

Motion 2020-04-22-04 Moved that Vice-Chair Dan Hanson be appointed as Board Chair for the New Horizons Charter School Society Board.

Moved: Director Burrows

Seconded: Director Clarke

Carried

Acting Chair Hanson resumed the role of meeting chair as Chair Hanson.

Motion 2020-04-22-05 Moved that the Board appoint Director Clarke as Vice Chair for the New Horizons Charter School Society Board.

Moved: Director Burrows

Seconded: Director Morin

Carried

There was discussion of process for filling the Board vacancy. Consensus was to revisit the topic at the next Board meeting.

8.2 Second Quarter Financial Report

Director Tong and Secretary Treasurer Dundas spoke to the second quarter financial report, included in the agenda package. Discussion followed.

Motion 2020-04-22-06 Moved that the Board accept the Second Quarter Financial Report as presented.

Moved: Director Tong

Seconded: Director Ukiwe

Carried

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8.3 Provisional Approval to Education Plan

Principal Zarowny spoke to the Education Plan document as distributed by email along with a summary of ranking results from the Board Retreat. Discussion followed.

Motion 2020-04-22-07 Moved that the Board provide provisional approval for the Education Plan as presented at the meeting.

Moved: Vice Chair Clarke

Seconded: Director Tong

Carried

8.4 Advocacy Plan

Chair Hanson spoke to the Advocacy Plan as outlined in the attachment. Discussion followed.

Action: Board members are asked to review and provide feedback, suggestions and/or questions to Chair Hanson prior to the April 30 Public Relations Committee meeting.

9. Board Work Plan

The Board reviewed the Work Plan for 2019-20, as included the agenda package.

10. The Association of Alberta Public Charter Schools (TAAPCS)

10.1 May 2, 2020 SGM Email and attachments

Chair Hanson spoke to the email and attachments regarding the upcoming TAAPCS SGM. Board members are invited to attend and participate in the virtual SGM on May 2, 2020. Discussion followed.

11. Receipt of Reports

Motion 2020-04-22-08 Moved that all reports be received as presented during the meeting.

Moved: Vice Chair Clarke

Seconded: Director Morin

Carried

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12. Correspondence Sent

- None

13. Correspondence Received

13.1 Deputy Minister Email – March 28, 2020

13.2 Follow up email on 2019-20 AEP and AERR

14. In Camera

No in camera meeting.

15. New Business (con't)

15.1 Matters Arising from In Camera Meeting

No in camera meeting.

Chair Hanson opened the floor to questions from the attending members. Discussion included: modular classroom, potential future use of the Learning Commons as a classroom, misperception of Charter Schools as private schools, and teacher burnout.

16. Adjournment

Chair Hanson adjourned the meeting at 9:35 p.m.

Next Board Meeting: May 20, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.