

NEW HORIZONS CHARTER SCHOOL SOCIETY
MINUTES

Type of Meeting: Board

Date: May 19, 2021

Initials: Chair _____

Approved: FINAL

Recorded By: A. DeJong

Secretary _____

May 19, 2021, 7:00 p.m.

Board Members Present at Call to Order:

Dan Hanson
CHAIR

Jason Clarke
VICE CHAIR

Vincent Tong
BOARD SECRETARY AND
TREASURER

Shaun Guthrie
DIRECTOR

Michelle Smith
DIRECTOR

Administration Present:

Dean Lindquist
SUPERINTENDENT

Patti Dundas
SECRETARY-TREASURER

Ted Zarowny
PRINCIPAL

Members Present:

Sarah-Jane Lovgren

Elizabeth Macve

Mable Chan-Simons

Andi Kawaguchi

Julia Szweda

1. Call to Order

Chair Hanson called the virtual meeting to order at 7:04 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

Item 8.3 – FANHS Report is being deferred to the June meeting.

Motion 2021-05-19-01 Moved that the agenda for the Board Meeting of May 19, 2021 be adopted as amended.

*Moved: Director Guthrie
Seconded: Board Secretary and Treasurer Tong
Carried*

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4. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest:

None

5. Approval of Minutes

5.1 Minutes of April 21, 2021

Motion 2021-05-19-02 Moved that the Board Meeting minutes of April 21, 2021 be approved as presented.

Moved: Vice Chair Clarke

Seconded: Director Guthrie

Carried

6. Administration Reports

6.1 Principal's Report

Principal Zarowny indicated that staff is looking forward to the return of students on May 25, 2021.

6.2 Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Lindquist spoke to the COVID-19 Re-entry Plan, a correction to a presentation at the previous In-Camera meeting, the TAAPCS Special General Meeting, transportation letter to parents, and the accountability pillar results, as included in the agenda package. Discussion followed.

Motion 2021-05-19-03 Moved that the Board amend motion 2021-04-21-09 to include the Secretary-Treasurer anniversary date of March 1.

Moved: Vice Chair Clarke

Seconded: Director Guthrie

Carried

7. Board Reports

7.1 Board Chair's Report

Chair Hanson indicated that he had a conversation with the Chief of Staff for the Education Minister regarding NHS' approach to reviewing the draft K-6

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curriculum. There is opportunity to pilot portions of the draft curriculum. Chair Hanson also conversed with MLA Glubish regarding space constraints and challenges that NHCSS is facing and invited him to a future meeting for additional discussion with the Board.

7.2 Other Committee Reports

Policy Guidelines and Bylaws Committee

No report.

Survey Committee

Director Burrows is unable to attend. Principal Zarowny indicated that the Board survey was sent to parents in early May with a May 8, 2021 completion deadline. The results are being tallied and will be brought to the Board Retreat for discussion.

Finance and Audit Committee

Committee Chair Tong indicated that the committee had met to review the 2021-22 budget, as included later in the agenda.

Public Relations

No report.

Personnel

No report.

8. New Business

8.1 2021-22 NHS Budget Approval

Board Secretary and Treasurer Tong, along with Secretary-Treasurer Dundas, summarized the 2021-22 NHS budget being presented for decision and approval. Lengthy discussion followed.

Vice Chair Clarke declared a potential conflict of interest regarding staffing discussion for the 2021-22 school year.

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Motion 2021-05-19-04 Moved that the Board approve the Budget Principles as noted in the memorandum from the Secretary-Treasurer, as included in the agenda package.

Moved: Vice Chair Clarke

Seconded: Director Guthrie

Carried

Motion 2021-05-19-05 Moved that the Board approve the 2021-22 NHS Budget as presented.

Moved: Vice Chair Clarke

Seconded: Director Smith

Carried

8.2 Annual Education Plan Approval

Principal Zarowny spoke to the Annual Education Plan as included with the Board meeting package and highlighted the additions and revisions since the Board last reviewed the document. Discussion followed.

Motion 2021-05-19-06 Moved that the Board approve the Annual Education Plan as presented (with noted revisions).

Moved: Vice Chair Clarke

Seconded: Director Smith

Carried

8.3 FANHS Report

Deferred to the June meeting.

8.4 School Council Update

School Council Chair Elizabeth Macve provided an update to Board regarding the resolutions included at the ASCA Annual General Meeting.

9. Board Work Plan

The Board reviewed the Work Plan for 2020-21, as included the agenda package.

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

10.1 TAAPCS Spring General Meeting – May 8, 2021 Report

Chair Hanson provided a brief summary of the May 8, 2021 TAAPCS Spring General Meeting. Superintendent Lindquist, Secretary-Treasurer Dundas, Director Smith and Chair Hanson attended.

10.2 TAAPCS Governance Development Survey

Chair Hanson spoke to the TAAPCS Governance Development Survey, as included in the agenda package. Board members were asked for feedback on which of the options are of the highest priority. The following were identified:

- Advocacy with Political Representatives
- Chief Executive / Educational Officer Performance Reviews

Chair Hanson also shared a letter from TAAPCS to the Education Minister regarding the pilot of the draft K-6 curriculum and discussion on responding to misinformed social media postings.

11. Receipt of Reports

Motion 2021-05-19-07 Moved that all reports be received as presented during the meeting.

*Moved: Director Guthrie
Seconded: Vice Chair Clarke
Carried*

12. Correspondence Sent

13. Correspondence Received

- 13.1 TAAPCS to Minister and Deputy Minister Email – SLS Terms of Reference
- 13.2 AB Ed Email – Mental Health Week
- 13.3 Update on COVID-19
- 13.4 Minister of Education Email – Vaccines for Teachers and Support Staff
- 13.5 Minister of Education Email – Budget 2021 Commitment Letter
- 13.6 Minister of Education Email – Bill 55: The College of Alberta School Superintendents Act

Chair Hanson invited guest attendees to make comments or ask questions. Brief discussion followed.

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14. Motion to Move In Camera

Motion 2021-05-19-08 Moved that the meeting move in camera at 9:31 p.m.

Moved: Director Guthrie

Seconded: Director Smith

Carried

Motion to Move Out of Camera:

Motion 2021-05-19-09 Moved that the meeting move out of camera at 9:35 p.m.

Moved: Vice Chair Clarke

Seconded: Director Guthrie

Carried

15. New Business (con't)

15.1 Matters Arising from In Camera Meeting

Motion 2021-05-19-10 Moved that the Board of Directors ratify the employment contract for the following:

- *Employee #0318*

Moved: Board Secretary and Treasurer Tong

Seconded: Director Smith

Carried

Motion 2021-05-19-11 Moved that the Board of Directors approve the requested leave of absence without pay for the following:

- *Employee #0313*

Moved: Vice Chair Clarke

Seconded: Board Secretary and Treasurer Tong

Carried

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16. Adjournment

Chair Hanson adjourned the meeting at 9:38 p.m.

Next Board Meeting: June 16, 2021