

NEW HORIZONS CHARTER SCHOOL SOCIETY
MINUTES

Type of Meeting:	Board	Date:	February 21, 2024	Initials:	Chair	AA
Approved:	FINAL	Recorded By:	A. DeJong		Secretary	VT

February 21, 2024, 7:00 p.m.

Board Members Present at Call to Order:

Adam Asquini
CHAIR

Kristie Derkson
VICE CHAIR

Trevor Panas
DIRECTOR

Jason Clarke
DIRECTOR

Dan Hanson
DIRECTOR

Adam Koziak
DIRECTOR

Board Members Absent:

Vincent Tong
BOARD SECRETARY-TREASURER

Administration Present at Call to Order:

Terry Moghrabi
SUPERINTENDENT

Patti Dundas
SECRETARY-TREASURER

Lori Vigfusson
PRINCIPAL

1. Call to Order

Chair Asquini 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.

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3. Adoption of Agenda

Item 8.5 - Retreat Agenda was added to the agenda by Superintendent Moghrabi.

<i>Motion 2024-02-21-01</i>	<p><i>Moved that the agenda for the Board Meeting of February 21, 2024 be adopted as amended.</i></p> <p><i>Moved: Director Hanson</i> <i>Seconded: Director Koziak</i> <i>Carried</i></p>
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4. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest

None.

5. Approval of Minutes

5.1 Minutes of January 24, 2024

<i>Motion 2024-02-21-02</i>	<p><i>Moved that the Board Meeting minutes January 24, 2024 be approved as presented.</i></p> <p><i>Moved: Director Clarke</i> <i>Seconded: Director Koziak</i> <i>Carried</i></p>
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6. Administration Reports

6.1 Principal's Report

Principal Vigfusson provided a summary of her report, including the Stakeholder Forum, school counselling support, admissions, teachers' convention and the Alberta Assurance Surveys, as included in the meeting package. She also indicated that Kass Miller will be an in-house Artist in Residence in the school over the next few weeks, provided by School Council. MLA Kasawski has contacted the school and indicated interest in participating in career week in May. The proposed school calendar was shared with School Council and the staff; no additional feedback was received. Discussion followed.

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6.2 Secretary-Treasurer's Report

Secretary-Treasurer Dundas provided an overview of the Five Year Comparative Financial Reporting Profile, as included in the meeting package. Discussion followed.

- *Action: Secretary-Dundas will email the Comparative Financial Report to Board members.*

6.3 Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Moghrabi summarized his written report including the Stakeholder Forum, Charter Review, Value Scope Update, Board PD Event at Suzuki Charter School and the staff breakfast, as included in the meeting package. Discussion points included:

- high school programming
- grade expansion
- Value Scope focus on high school

7. Board Reports

7.1 Board Chair's Report

Chair Asquini thanked Board members who participated in the staff breakfast. The Stakeholder Forum was well attended and allowed for engaging discussion with Board members, parents and students. He indicated that he had attended the Charter Review and thanked Directors Koziak and Clarke for also attending and participating; the GOA team indicated positive interactions with the interviewees, particularly with the students.

7.2 Committee Reports

Finance and Audit Committee

No report.

Policy Guidelines and Bylaws Committee

The committee is planning a meeting the week of March 11.

- *Action: Committee Chair Clarke will contact members of the committee to confirm a meeting date prior to the next Board meeting.*
- *Vice Chair Derkson put her name forward to attend the policy discussion regarding virtual attendance.*

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Survey Committee

Director Panas and Principal Vigfusson indicated that the survey will be sent out in March after the deadline for the Assurance Survey has passed. There was discussion about including questions relating to high school expansion on the survey, consensus is to leave it out of the survey.

Public Relations Committee

There was discussion about the history of the committee. Director Clarke indicated that Policy 103 contains additional committee information.

- *Action: Director Hanson will forward previous committee documents to Chair Asquini.*

Personnel Committee

No report.

High School Ad Hoc Committee

Consensus is to meet after the Value Scope, possibly immediately prior to a Board meeting.

8. New Business

8.1 Approve 2024-25 School Calendar

Superintendent Moghrabi summarized the proposed 2024-25 school calendar previously approved in principle. The calendar was shared with School Council and staff since its approval in principle; no additional feedback was provided.

<i>Motion 2024-02-21-03</i>	<p><i>Moved that the Board approve the 2024-25 School Calendar as presented.</i></p> <p><i>Moved: Director Koziak</i> <i>Seconded: Director Panas</i></p> <p><i>Carried</i></p>
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8.2 Mid-Year Progress Report on Three Year Education Plan

Principal Vigfusson provided a verbal mid-year progress report on the Three Year Education Plan and highlighted the following:

- There has been positive response to new curriculum implementation in Language Arts and Math (began in 2022-23 for K-3 and in 2023-24 for grades 4-6). No information on when the implementation of new curriculum at Junior High levels has been received.
- Financial Literacy is embedded in the new math curriculum, beginning in grade one. ATB Financial is coming to present to Life Skills students.
- Provincial Achievement Tests will be administered digitally and preparation with students has begun.
- Individual investigation projects are underway.
- There has been focus on how to utilize artificial intelligence resources as teaching aids and in working with students to utilize the technology ethically and purposely.
- Social and emotional learning remains a focus.

Discussion followed. Director Clarke asked if there are areas that can be removed from the Ed Plan as they have become embedded in practices and new curriculum.

8.3 Review Policy 210 and Student Code of Conduct

The committee has not met. It was agreed that discussion and approval should be tabled until the committee meets to review.

<i>Motion 2024-02-21-04</i>	<p><i>Moved that the Board defer approval of Policy 210 until the policy committee reviews the documents and brings them to the subsequent Board meeting for approval.</i></p> <p><i>Moved: Vice-Chair Derkson</i> <i>Seconded: Director Clarke</i></p> <p><i>Carried</i></p>
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8.4 Request for Superintendent Professional Development

Superintendent Moghrabi summarized his request for attendance at the CASS spring (March) and summer (August) conferences, as included in the meeting package. Discussion followed. A decision on attendance at the August conference is deferred until later in the year.

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<i>Motion 2024-02-21-05</i>	<p><i>Moved that the Board approve the request for Superintendent Moghrabi to attend the CASS Spring Conference.</i></p> <p><i>Moved: Director Clarke</i> <i>Seconded: Director Panas</i></p> <p><i>Carried</i></p>
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8.5 Board Retreat Agenda

Superintendent Moghrabi indicated that planning is underway for the upcoming Board Retreat and is seeking input from the Board on discussion topics. Discussion followed. Consensus is to postpone the Retreat until April 6 to allow for additional pre-planning.

- *Action: Superintendent Moghrabi will prepare a list of possible discussion topics and bring them to the Board for input and consideration.*

9. Board Work Plan

The Board reviewed the Work Plan for 2023-24, as included in the agenda package.

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

Director Koziak indicated that numerous charter schools have withdrawn membership from TAAPCS. Focus has been on revising and adopting new bylaws. An SGM has been called for March 13, 2024 to adopt the bylaws. Discussion followed.

- *Action: Review of TAAPCS viability annually on Work Plan*

<i>Motion 2024-02-21-06</i>	<p><i>Moved that the Board direct system administration to investigate financial implications (particularly toward alternative costs of insurance and advocacy) for NHS in the absence of TAAPCS.</i></p> <p><i>Moved: Director Clarke</i> <i>Seconded: Director Hanson</i></p> <p><i>Carried</i></p>
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11. Receipt of Reports

<i>Motion 2024-02-21-06</i>	<p><i>Moved that all reports be received as presented during the meeting.</i></p> <p><i>Moved: Director Clarke</i> <i>Seconded: Director Koziak</i></p> <p><i>Carried</i></p>
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12. Correspondence Sent

12.1 Value Scoping Invitation

13. Correspondence Received

None.

14. Motion to Move In Camera

<i>Motion 2024-02-21-07</i>	<p><i>Moved that the meeting move in-camera at 9:21 p.m.</i></p> <p><i>Moved: Director Panas</i> <i>Seconded: Director Hanson</i></p> <p><i>Carried</i></p>
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Motion to Move Out of Camera

<i>Motion 2024-02-21-08</i>	<p><i>Moved that the meeting move out of camera at 10:46 p.m.</i></p> <p><i>Moved: Director Hanson</i> <i>Seconded: Vice Chair Derkson</i></p> <p><i>Carried</i></p>
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15. New Business

15.1 Matters Arising from In Camera Meeting

<p><i>Motion 2024-02-21-10 first</i></p>	<p><i>Moved that the Board ratify the substitute teacher employment offer for the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Employee #0356</i> • <i>Employee #0358</i> • <i>Employee #0359</i> <p><i>Moved: Director Panas</i> <i>Seconded: Director Clarke</i></p> <p><i>Carried</i></p>
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<p><i>Motion 2024-02-21-10 second</i></p>	<p><i>Moved that the Board ratify the substitute educational assistant employment offer for the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Employee #0357</i> <p><i>Moved: Vice Chair Derkson</i> <i>Seconded: Director Koziak</i></p> <p><i>Carried</i></p>
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<p><i>Motion 2024-02-21-10 third</i></p>	<p><i>Moved that the Board ratify the request for unpaid leave for the following:</i></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • <i>Employee #0273</i> <p><i>Moved: Director Hanson</i> <i>Seconded: Director Panas</i></p> <p><i>Carried</i></p>
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16. Adjournment

Chair Asquini adjourned the meeting at 10:48 p.m.

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, March 20, 2024 at 7:00 p.m.