

NEW HORIZONS CHARTER SCHOOL SOCIETY
MINUTES

Type of Meeting: Board	Date: January 22, 2025	Initials: Chair AA
Approved: FINAL	Recorded By: A. DeJong	Secretary A

January 22, 2025, 7:00 p.m.

Board Members Present at Call to Order:

Adam Asquini CHAIR	Kristie Derkson VICE CHAIR	Adam Koziak SECRETARY
Paul Jackson DIRECTOR	Praveen Kakkan (virtual) DIRECTOR	Andrea Andrews (virtual and in-person) DIRECTOR

Board Members Joining During the Meeting:

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Board Members Absent:

Trevor Panas (virtual) TREASURER		
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Administration Present at Call to Order:

Terry Moghrabi SUPERINTENDENT	Patti Dundas SECRETARY-TREASURER	Lori Vigfusson PRINCIPAL
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1. Call to Order

Chair Asquini called the meeting to order at 7:01 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

<i>Motion 2025-01-22-01</i>	<p><i>Moved that the agenda for the Board Meeting of January 22, 2025 be adopted as presented.</i></p> <p><i>Moved: Board Secretary Koziak</i> <i>Seconded: Vice Chair Derkson</i> <i>Carried</i></p>
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4. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest

Chair Asquini and Board Treasurer Panas have spouses at the school, other directors have spouses in parent groups within the school; based on the agenda, no conflict is anticipated. No other conflicts of interest were cited.

5. Approval of Minutes

5.1 Minutes of December 18, 2024

<i>Motion 2025-01-22-02</i>	<p><i>Moved that the Board Meeting minutes of December 18, 2024 be approved as presented.</i></p> <p><i>Moved: Director Jackson</i> <i>Seconded: Board Secretary 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 written report, which included early years assessments, information night, and admissions, as included in the meeting package. She also indicated that an anniversary committee is being formed to plan and organize celebratory activities in recognition of the upcoming 30th anniversary of the school. Discussion followed.

6.2 Secretary-Treasurer's Report

Secretary-Treasurer Dundas summarized her written report, which included County of Strathcona meetings, Charter Schools RFP, project proposal, signing authority, enrollment projections, PowerSchool cybersecurity breach, and finance committee meeting, as included in the meeting package. Discussion followed.

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Director Andrews joined the meeting in person during this report.

6.3 Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Moghrabi summarized his written report, which included the school transportation amendment regulation, Bill 27, Field Services, TAAPCS, PowerSchool Cyber Security breach, Policy Committee meeting, Strathcona County meeting, and 2025 Stakeholder Forum, as included in the meeting package. Principal Vigfusson provided an overview of the format being planned for the Stakeholder Forum and spoke to the role that board directors will have during the event. Superintendent Moghrabi provided some information on the proposed 2025-26 school calendar which depends heavily upon the EIPS calendar due to the transportation agreement, additional discussion to occur during the in-camera meeting. He also indicated that Alberta Education will be conducting a survey of random parents, more information to be shared once received. Discussion followed.

7. Board Reports

7.1 Board Chair's Report

Chair Asquini indicated that a letter of support from EICS has been received, which is included under Correspondence Received. He and Superintendent Moghrabi met with Minister Glubish to further develop relations; Minister Glubish continues to offer support for the expansion and renovation project.

7.2 Committee Reports

7.2.1 Finance and Audit Committee

The committee met on January 15 to review the first quarter financials. More information will be provided under New Business.

7.2.2 Policy Guidelines and Bylaws Committee

The committee met on January 9 to review the following policies:

- Policy 210 - Welcoming, Caring, Respectful and Safe Learning and Working Environments, as well as the associated Student Code of Conduct
- Policy 212 - Health and Safety
- Policy 213 - Personal Communication Device
- Policy 410 - Student Assessment, Achievement & Growth

More information will be provided under New Business.

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7.2.3 Survey Committee

No report.

7.2.4 Public Relations Committee

No report.

7.2.5 Personnel Committee

No report.

7.2.6 High School Ad Hoc Committee

Chair Asquini indicated that the committee will be meeting virtually on January 27, 2025.

Action Item: Superintendent Moghrabi will begin creating a slide deck of the high school expansion project to date, including a timeline of activities, for further consideration at the upcoming meeting.

7.2.7 Board Activities

No report.

8. New Business

8.1 Quarterly Financial Report - September to November, 2024

Board Secretary Koziak and Secretary-Treasurer Dundas provided an overview of the Q1 financial report for September to November, 2024. Discussion followed.

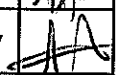
8.2 Policy Approval

Board Secretary Koziak and Superintendent Moghrabi provided an overview and summary of the proposed new policies and policy revisions. Discussion followed.

Vice Chair Derkson left the meeting at 8:15 p.m.

<p><i>Motion 2025-01-22-03</i></p>	<p><i>Moved that the Board affirms the Policy 210 (Welcoming, Caring, Respectful, and Safe Learning, and Working Environments) received its annual review and the Board approves the policy as amended.</i></p> <p><i>Moved: Board Secretary Koziak</i> <i>Seconded: Director Jackson</i> <i>Carried</i></p>
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<i>Motion 2025-01-22-04</i>	<p><i>Moved that the Board affirms that the Student Code of Conduct was reviewed by administration and the Board approves the policy as presented.</i></p> <p><i>Moved: Board Secretary Koziak</i> <i>Seconded: Director Jackson</i> <i>Carried</i></p>
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<i>Motion 2025-01-22-05</i>	<p><i>Moved that the Board approve new Policy 212 Health and Safety as presented.</i></p> <p><i>Moved: Board Secretary Koziak</i> <i>Seconded: Director Andrews</i> <i>Carried</i></p>
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
<i>Motion 2025-01-22-06</i>	<p><i>Moved that the Board approve Policy 213 Personal Communication Device as amended.</i></p> <p><i>Moved: Board Secretary Koziak</i> <i>Seconded: Director Andrews</i> <i>Carried</i></p>
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<i>Motion 2025-01-22-07</i>	<p><i>Moved that the Board approve new Policy 410 Student Assessment, Achievement and Growth as presented.</i></p> <p><i>Moved: Board Secretary Koziak</i> <i>Seconded: Director Jackson</i> <i>Carried</i></p>
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Superintendent Moghrabi indicated that the consensus of previous discussion regarding Bill 20 is to pursue a bylaw revision to require Criminal Record Checks for board members.

<i>Motion 2025-01-22-08</i>	<p><i>Moved that the Board approve the requirement in practice of a criminal record check for Board Directors until such time as the bylaws can be revised.</i></p> <p><i>Moved: Director Jackson</i> <i>Seconded: Director Andrews</i> <i>Carried</i></p>
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8.3 CASS Conference

Superintendent Moghrabi provided background on the upcoming spring and summer CASS conferences. He further highlighted a scheduling conflict between the March Board Meeting date, the spring CASS conference and parent-teacher interviews. Discussion followed. Consensus is to tentatively move the Board meeting to Monday, March 17, subject to formal approval at the February board meeting.

Motion 2025-01-22-09	<p><i>Moved that the Board approve Superintendent Moghrabi's attendance at the annual spring CASS conferences.</i></p> <p><i>Moved: Director Jackson</i> <i>Seconded: Director Andrews</i> <i>Carried</i></p>
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8.4 Funding Opportunities Update

Superintendent Moghrabi provided a verbal update on alternative funding opportunities, as requested by the Board at the December Board Meeting. He outlined various strategies to increase revenue or decrease expenditures including:

- staffing
- programming
- resource allocation
- classroom caps

Discussion followed.

Action Item: Superintendent Moghrabi to continue gathering information for further discussion at the Board Retreat.

8.5 Staff Lunch - January 29, 2025

Superintendent Moghrabi shared a suggestion to host a Bar Burrito buffet lunch for staff. Consensus to have the Personnel Committee take planning responsibility in future years.


Action Item: Board Secretary Koziak and Director Jackson will organize drinks and dessert.

Vice Chair Derkson returned to the meeting at 8:46 p.m.

9. Board Work Plan

The Board reviewed the Work Plan for 2024-25, as included in the meeting package.

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

Board Secretary Koziak indicated that TAAPCS is focussing on restoring membership to include all charter schools. Discussion followed.

11. Receipt of Reports

<i>Motion 2025-01-22-10</i>	<p><i>Moved that all reports be received as presented during the meeting.</i></p> <p><i>Moved: Board Secretary Koziak</i> <i>Seconded: Director Jackson</i> <i>Carried</i></p>
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12. Correspondence Sent

- Education Minister re Reserves

13. Correspondence Received

- EICS Letter of Support
- Alberta Government - Security Alert re Attempted Phishing

14. In Camera


14.1 Motion to Move In Camera

<i>Motion 2025-01-22-11</i>	<p><i>Moved that the meeting move in camera at 8:53 p.m.</i></p> <p><i>Moved: Board Secretary Koziak</i> <i>Seconded: Director Jackson</i> <i>Carried</i></p>
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14.2 Motion to Move Out of Camera:

<i>Motion 2025-01-22-12</i>	<p><i>Moved that the meeting move out of camera at 9:41 p.m.</i></p> <p><i>Moved: Director Jackson</i> <i>Seconded: Vice Chair Derkson</i> <i>Carried</i></p>
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14.3 Matters Arising from In Camera Meeting

<p><i>Motion 2025-01-22-13</i></p>	<p><i>Moved that the Board approve the 2025-26 School Calendar in principle as presented and that it be taken to staff and School Council for feedback prior to formal approval in February 2025.</i></p> <p><i>Moved: Board Secretary Koziak</i> <i>Seconded: Director Andrews</i> <i>Carried</i></p>
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15. Adjournment

Chair Asquini adjourned the meeting at 9:42 p.m.

Next Board Meeting: Wednesday, February 19, 2025 at 7:00 p.m.