

**GRANDE PRAIRIE RCSSD #28 BOARD MEETING**  
**Minutes of the Board Meeting held on Monday, January 28, 2008**

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**Present:**

**Board of Trustees**

Ralph Wohlgemuth, Chair  
Gerry Lettner, Vice Chair  
Alice Brick, Trustee  
Laureen Lushman, Trustee  
Eldon Wyant, Trustee

**Executive Officers**

Karl Germann, Superintendent  
Ed Buckle, Assistant Superintendent: Human Resources  
Marlene Stefura, Assistant Superintendent: Curriculum & Assessment  
Bryan Turner, Associate Superintendent of Business Operations  
Violet Dettling, Executive Assistant

**Other**

Father Cyril Joseph  
Chris Watson, Teacher  
Alicia Stone, Teacher  
Trudy Headon, Parent, St. Patrick Catholic School  
John & Heather Valen, Parent, St. Patrick Catholic School  
7 Students from St. Patrick Catholic School  
Cindy Hughes, Parent, Ecole St. Gerard  
Viviane Servant, Parent, Ecole St. Gerard  
Damien Wood, DHT

**Regrets**

Jamie Schoorlemmer, Trustee  
Jennifer Wrzosek, Trustee

**A.1. Opening**

The Meeting was called to order at 5:07 p.m. with an opening prayer led by Trustee Alice Brick.

**A.2. Delegations**

• **St. Patrick Catholic School – Sports Academy presentation**

Chris Watson and Alicia Stone, Teachers at the Sports Academy introduced the students and parents attending for the presentation. Four students attending the Sports Academy reported on their successes. Trudy Headon, a parent of a grade 4 student attending the academy thanked the board for their support of this initiative and spoke of the difference that this academy has made in her child's attitude

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towards school and learning. Chair Ralph Wohlgemuth thanked the group for an amazing presentation. Trustees personally thanked Chris & Alicia for the commitment, energy and dedication to the academy and their students.

• **St. Gerard Parent Group – Basketball Court presentation**

A parent group attended and addressed the Board on the plans to install an outdoor basketball/multi-use court at Ecole St. Gerard. Chair Ralph Wohlgemuth thanked the parent group for the dedication to Ecole St. Gerard and asked that they contact Associate Superintendent of Business Operations, Bryan Turner so that they can follow the procedure required by the district for playground/outdoor projects.

**A.3. Correspondence**

Chair Wohlgemuth presented:

1. Information regarding Conference for NDC;
2. Letter from Minister of Education regarding modules at St. Mary's Sexsmith
3. Copy of Minister of Education Rural Progress report;
4. NRLC Annual Report;
5. Copy of Social Curriculum implementation;
6. ACSTA information regarding Spice & Blueprints 2008;
7. Letter from Harry Chase regarding Infrastructure.

The originals of the reports presented will be left in the Boardroom for ease of reference.

**A.4. Requests for Information**

1. No written requests for information were received.

**A.5. Adoption of Agenda**

#108- 07/08 LETTNER

That the agenda be adopted with the following additions:

D.15- ATA Memorandum of Agreement

D.16 – Appointment of Education Foundation Board Members

CARRIED

**B. ADOPTION OF MINUTES**

#109- 07/08 BRICK

That the Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held on December 17, 2007 be approved as amended and the Minutes of the Special Board Meeting held on October 30, 2007 be approved as presented.

CARRIED

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**C. CHAPLAIN REPORT**

Father Cyril Joseph reported on Archbishop Pettipas' Appeal & Fundraising dinner set for February 29 in High Prairie, March 14 in Peace River and April 4 in Grande Prairie. Tickets will be \$25.00 per plate and the topic is "vision of the diocese". Father Cyril asked that these dates be communicated to staff. It was reported that at a Regional Bishop's Conference, a topic of discussion was "How Catholic are our Institutions"? Father Cyril suggested that we have a discussion with our administrators on this topic. Chair Ralph Wohlgemuth thanked Father Cyril for his report.

**D.NEW BUSINESS, OLD BUSINESS AND/OR ACTION ITEMS**

**D.1 Audited Financial Statement**

Chair Ralph Wohlgemuth reported as a member of the Audit Committee. The Audit Committee reviewed the Audited Financial Statement and provided direction to administration.

#110- 07/08    WOHLGEMUTH      That the Board of Trustees approve the 2006-2007 Audited Financial Statement as presented.  
CARRIED

**D.2 Operating and Capital Reserves**

Associate Superintendent of Business Operations Bryan Turner reported on the operating and capital reserves.

#111- 07/08    LETTNER                      That the Board of Trustees receive a list detailing the various accounts in Operational Reserves (\$475,529) and Capital Reserves (\$914,937)  
CARRIED

**D.3 IMR Request**

Associate Superintendent of Business Operations Bryan Turner reported on the IMR Block Funding allocation.

#112 - 07/08    LUSHMAN                      That the Board of Trustees approve the IMR Block Funding Allocation as presented.  
CARRIED

**D.4 Mother Teresa Governance Agreement**

Associate Superintendent of Business Operations Bryan Turner reported on the Mother Teresa Governance Agreement. Schedule D was distributed at the meeting.

#113- 07/08    LETTNER                      That the Board of Trustees approve the Mother Teresa Governance Agreement as presented.

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CARRIED

Mother Teresa Steering Committee will be established in October 2008 and will be added to the list of Committees. Terms of Reference will be developed at that time.

Trustee Wyant left the room at 6:44 p.m. Trustee Wyant returned to the room at 6:49 p.m.

**D.5 Grade Level of Achievement**

Assistant Superintendent Marlene Stefura presented and reported that all grades K-9 must now report grade level achievement data for math and language arts.

#114- 07/08 LETTNER

That the Board of Trustees receive the Grade Level of Achievement Report for the 2006-2007 school year.

CARRIED

**D.6 Early Literacy Report**

Assistant Superintendent Marlene Stefura presented the Early Literacy Report as information.

#115- 07/08 LUSHMAN

That the Board of Trustees receive the Early Literacy Report of January 28, 2008 as presented.

CARRIED

**D.7 St. Joseph French Immersion Travel Club**

Superintendent Karl Germann reported on the French Immersion Travel Club's final itinerary.

#116- 07/08 WYANT

That the Board of Trustees grant final approval to St. Joseph Catholic High School to travel to Paris on March 22 to 29<sup>th</sup>, 2008.

CARRIED

**D.8. St. Joseph Catholic High School Travel Club (Africa)**

Superintendent Karl Germann reported on the High School Travel Club's final itinerary. The Canadian Consulate will be consulted for advisories prior to travel.

#117- 07/08 LUSHMAN

That the Board of Trustees grant final approval to St. Joseph Catholic High School to travel to Africa on March 22 to 31<sup>st</sup> 2008.

CARRIED

**D.9 NAIT/STM Proposal**

Superintendent Karl Germann reported on the NAIT/STM proposal and the costs associated for STM students to attend.

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#118- 07/08    LETTNER                      That the Board of Trustees approve the withdrawal of up to \$25,000 from Operating Reserves to fund the NAIT/CTS pilot program for STM/Fairview High.  
CARRIED

Recess was called by Chair Ralph Wohlgemuth at 7:20 p.m.

Meeting resumed at 7:30 p.m. with the ACSTA 18 Year Long Service Award presentation to John Krol. Chair Ralph Wohlgemuth thanked Past Trustee John Krol for his dedication and years of service to the Grande Prairie & District Catholic School Board.

**D.10 Northwest Zone High School One Act Festival Request**

Superintendent Karl Germann reported on the contributions provided by the district for the event in the past.

#119-07/08    WYANT                                      That the Board of Trustees contribute \$100.00 to the Northwest Zone High School One Act Play Festival held in May 2008.  
CARRIED

**D.11 Playground Reserves**

Superintendent Karl Germann reported on the past practice for playground funding by the district.

#120- 07/08    LETTNER                                      That the Board of Trustees provide schools with up to \$10,000 of funding for playground pea gravel, providing each school comply with the District's Checklist for Playground Modifications.  
CARRIED

**D.12 Graduation Support**

Superintendent Karl Germann reported on the graduation support provided in the past by the Board of Trustees.

#121- 07/08    WYANT                                      That the Board of Trustees provide \$15 per student for 2008 graduation ceremonies for students in St. Thomas More Catholic School and St. Joseph Catholic School.  
CARRIED

**D.13 Skills Canada Competition: Northwest Alberta Regional Competition**

Superintendent Karl Germann reported on the support provided in the past by the Board of Trustees.

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#122- 07/08    LUSHMAN                      That the Board of Trustees sponsor the Northwest Alberta Regional Competition in April 2008 up to a maximum of \$2000.00.  
CARRIED

**D.14 ASEBP Concerns**

Chair Ralph Wohlgemuth reported on the recent increase of benefits to employees by ASEBP.

#123- 07/08    WOHLGEMUTH                      That the Board Chair write to the Chair of the ASEBP Board and express the Board's concern over the rising costs of benefits.  
CARRIED

**D.15. ATA Memorandum of Agreement – 5 Years**

Trustee Wyant and Trustee Lushman declared a conflict of interest and were excused from the meeting.

Vice Chair Gerry Lettner reported on the agreement with the ATA.

#124 07/08    LETTNER                              That the Board of Trustees approve the 5 year Memorandum of Agreement for the period September 1, 2007 until August 31, 2012.  
CARRIED

Trustee Wyant and Trustee Lushman were called back in to the meeting by Chair Wohlgemuth.

Vice Chair Gerry Lettner reported on the agreement to Trustee Wyant and Trustee Lushman. Trustee Wyant thanked the negotiating committee for their hardwork and the positive outcome for both parties.

**D.16 Appointment of Education Foundation Board Members**

Superintendent Karl Germann reported on the Education Foundation current need for Board members.

#125- 07/08    LUSHMAN                              That Marie Stevens and Doug Bain be appointed as Directors to the Grande Prairie & District Catholic Schools Education Foundation beginning September 1, 2008 to February 1, 2008 respectively.  
CARRIED

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**COMMITTEE REPORTS**

The Board of Trustees received as information, the minutes of the meetings from:

Ambassador of Christ Selection Committee January 7 2008  
Audit Committee January 14, 2008  
Faith Leadership Committee December 11, 2007

Trustee Lauren Lushman reported on the Education Foundation meeting of January 18, 2008. The Education Foundation is preparing for a raffle. The schools are being approached to see if they would partner with the Foundation to sell tickets.

#126 -07/08 LETTNER                      That the Board of Trustees receive as information  
the Committee Reports as presented.  
CARRIED

**E. POLICY REVIEW**

#127 - 07/08 WYANT                      That the Board of Trustees approve Policy #1-  
District Mission, Vision and Core Value Statements  
and Policy #19 – Investments as presented.  
CARRIED

**EXECUTIVE OFFICERS' REPORT**

**G.1 SUPERINTENDENT**

**Construction**

A letter dated December 11, 2007 to the City of Grande Prairie providing a detailed total of anticipated contributions required from them for their portion of the construction of Mother Teresa Catholic School was provided as information.

**MELRA Awards**

At the January 17, 2008 ASBA Zone 1 meeting, GPCSD28 was recognized by the Minister of Education for Significant Improvement in the areas of: Safe & Caring, Education Quality, Citizenship and School Improvement. The district also received recognition of Very High Achievement for our transition rates.

**Special Education Revenue**

It was reported that after the comprehensive review conducted in the province of Special Education Revenue, no additional funding will be forthcoming to the district at this time.

**Management Report**

A copy of the management report was provided.

**G.2 ASSOCIATE SUPERINTENDENT OF BUSINESS OPERATIONS**

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Associate Superintendent of Business Operations Bryan Turner provided the financial statements for September, October and November for information purposes.

**G.3 ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT: Human Resources**

Assistant Superintendent Ed Buckle reported that staffing issues are ongoing. He will be attending numerous recruitment fairs in the next month. He is meeting with the Principals to gear up for the staffing for 2008-2009 school year.

**G.4 ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT: Curriculum & Assessment**

Assistant Superintendent Marlene Stefura presented a written report on the AISI project.

The Board of Trustees commended Bryan Turner, Ed Buckle and Marlene Stefura for their excellent reports and hard work.

**H. REQUESTS FOR INFORMATION**

1. Superintendent Karl Germann provided information to the Board of Trustees in answer to Trustee Jennifer Wrzosek's request for information regarding the cost of a retreat for the Faith Permeation Committee members.
2. Superintendent Karl Germann provided information to the Board of Trustees in answer to a request for information pertaining to the Standards for School Library programs in Canada.

**I. ROUND TABLE**

LETTNER – Thanks to the Negotiating Committee for their hard-work in negotiations. The District supports our teachers and values further development and succession planning for strong administrators in our schools.

WYANT – Thanks to the St. Gerard parents who came out today. They are a driving force and should be recognized for their positive work in that school.

LUSHMAN – Thanks to the staff at Holy Cross for wonderful lunch. Thanks to the staff at St. Pats for the Sports Academy presentation and thanks to Bryan for providing great financial information this month.

BUCKLE – Thanks to the members of the negotiating committee. He believes fairness in the end resulted for both sides.

GERMANN – A garage sale is being planned at Holy Cross for the Father Claude Social Justice Fund on February 22 & 23, 2008. More information will be forthcoming.

BRICK – Recently attended a party at St. Clements which was very nice. Attended at St. Pat's for Literacy week and read to some children.

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WOHLGEMUTH – Thanks to Bryan and the entire negotiating committee. Thanks to Ed for his wisdom and experience that he brought to the table. He feels the settlement is fair.

**I. MEETING EVALUATION**

The evaluations were provided in agenda package.

**J. FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS**

Budget terminology

**ADJOURNMENT**

#128- 07/08 WOHLGEMUTH That the meeting adjourn at 8:50 p.m.

CARRIED

**NEXT MEETING**

The next Regular Board Meeting has been scheduled for February 19, 2008 at the Catholic Education Centre, commencing at 5:00 p.m.

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Chair

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Associate Superintendent of Business Operations