



Maskwacis Education Schools Commission

P.O. Box 58
Maskwacis, AB
T0C 1N0
P: (780) 585-3333

MESC Board of Governors Meeting

April 20, 2021

Google Meet

Chairperson: Dr. Shauna Bruno

Board Members: John Nepoose, Tamara Wildcat, Helen Bull, Councillor Tyler Makinaw, Chief Standingontheroad, Allison Adams-Bull, Jerry Saddleback Jr., Councillor Mario Swampy, Dr. Wilton Littlechild (arrived 3:30pm), Chief Irvin Bull (arrived 3:50pm)

Staff: Brain Wildcat, Tracy Sylvester, Randy Risto, Trina Vy, Eileen Marthiensen (7:00pm)

Recorder: Jenn Nepoose

1. Meeting called to order at 3:15pm.

Opening prayer by Helen Bull

2. Miyowâcimowin (discussed as occasion occurs)

- a. Able to get more MESC staff vaccinated.

3. Adopt agenda

Presenter: Dr. Shauna Bruno

Decision: Moved by Allison Adams-Bull, seconded by Jerry Saddleback Jr, all in favour.

4. Adopt meeting minutes

Presenter: Dr. Shauna Bruno

Discussion:

- a. Spelling corrections.
- b. No business arising from minutes.

Decision: Adoption of March 16, 2021 Board meeting notes moved by Tamara Wildcat, seconded by Allison Adams-Bull, all in favour.

5. Ownership Linkage

a. COVID/Re-Entry Update

Presenter: Brian Wildcat

Discussion:

- i. Schools are closed to students and learning packages are being prepared weekly.
- ii. A decision on whether or not schools will reopen to students will be made weekly on Thursdays with MHS and the Maskwacis DEM's.
- iii. Discussion on vaccinations.
 1. Will be running a campaign internally to encourage staff to get vaccinated.
 2. Requesting photos of the Board and Circle of Elders getting vaccinated.
 3. Discussion on revising MESC Re-Entry Plan and COVID policies.



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4. Will draft a letter from the Board encouraging staff to get vaccinated for the safety of the students.
- iv. Planning on returning to regular programming and schedule in the fall, without cohorts.

b. Update from Circle of Elders (COE)

Presenters: Helen Bull and John Nepoose

Discussion:

- i. The April Circle of Elders meeting has been postponed.
- ii. Recommendation to start PD sessions with the Circle of Elders.

6. Items for decision

a. 2021-22 Plans and Budgets

Presenters: Brian Wildcat and Trina Vy

Discussion:

- i. Review the MESC strategic plan, Ends policies, performance measures, strategies and initiatives.
- ii. Discussion on a needs assessment within Maskwacis to align the goals of Maskwacis graduates.
 1. Transitioning graduates to the workforce.
 2. Partner with the Nations to identify occupational needs.
 3. Partner with MCC to prepare students for post secondary.
 4. Included in the Learning Services plan.
- iii. Discussion on teen pregnancy in Maskwacis.
 1. Addressed through school counselling programs in MESC.
 2. Can collect data on caseload and areas of concern arising with students.
- iv. Review budget presentation.
 1. Prioritized consultation/engagement.
 2. There is a potential funding opportunity at the federal level for infrastructure that MESC is pursuing.
 3. Analyze the federal budget for other possible funding opportunities.
 4. Delegate the audit and finance committee to review the draft bursary policies.
 5. Delegate the ownership linkage committee to build on engagement.

Decision: Motion No. 134, approving 2021-22 plans and budgets. Moved by Dr. Wilton Littlechild, seconded by Allison Adams-Bull, all in favour.

b. Superintendent Evaluation and Compensation report

Presenter: Tamara Wildcat

Discussion:

- i. Review the Superintendent evaluation report.
- ii. Include an inclusive term such as “substance abuse” in Ends policy 4.
- iii. Discussion of how the pandemic interfered with operations.
- iv. Discussion on fair compensation.
- v. Discussion on measuring how many MESC graduates continue on to post secondary education.

Decision: Motion No. 135, approving the 2020-21 Superintendent Evaluation. Moved by Tamara Wildcat, seconded by Dr. Wilton Littlechild, all in favour.



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7. Board Education, Presentations, and Discussion

a. Draft 2021-22 School Calendar

Presenter: Tracy Sylvester

Discussion:

- i. Review calendar and instructional hours.
- ii. 2021-22 Calendar is based on full in-person instruction.
- iii. May need to keep masks, social distancing and reduce class sizes.

b. Maskwacis Curriculum

Presenters: Tracy Sylvester and Eileen Marthiensen

Discussion:

- i. Review implementation plan for Maskwacis curriculum, online tool and sample lesson plan.
 1. Ensure students who transition out of MESC will be on par with provincial schools.
 2. MESC curriculum will come first in MESC schools.
 3. Discussion on including MESC schools on Olympian tour.
 4. Recommendation to include international treaties, numbered treaties and modern treaties.
 5. MESC's goal is to have fluent Cree in all schools. An immersion program would take at least 2 years to develop.
 6. Over 279 people have registered for online evening Cree classes.
 7. Cree language has been prioritized and instructors will be supported.

c. Alberta Draft curriculum letter of response

Presenter: Brian Wildcat

Discussion:

- i. Review letter.

Decision: Revise the response in regard to the TRC calls to action and invite the Alberta Government to review the Maskwacis Curriculum

d. Alberta government letters of support

Presenter: Brian Wildcat

Discussion:

- i. Review the funding letter
- ii. Recommendation to approve draft.
- iii. Annex TRC calls to action on education, number 7-11 in the funding letter.
- iv. Review the new high school letter.
 1. Replace "band-operated" with "Maskwacis"
- v. A meeting request will be made for the Maskwacis Chiefs to meet with the Minister regarding the new high school.

e. STAR Catholic First Nations Trustee

Presenter: Dr. Shauna Bruno (10 min)

- i. Schedule WRPS, STAR and WCPS meeting to discuss Maskwacis trustee appointments and ESA's.
- ii. Schedule special MESC meeting with just the Chiefs to select the Maskwacis Trustees.
- iii. Possibility of creating an Indigenous Wisdom Advisory Panel within MESC.



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- iv. Discussion on recommending individuals to be appointed as trustees.
- f. **Newo presentation- TABLED**

8. Monitoring Board Performance- **TABLED**

- a. EL-1: Treatment of Students and Parents- Content Review
- b. GP-6: Board Committee Principles- Direct Inspection
- c. GP-7: Board Committee Structure- Content Review

9. Adjourn 8:37pm, moved by Dr. Shauna Bruno.

10. In Camera - need to know

Action Item:	Who:	Date:
Will draft a letter from the Board encouraging staff to get vaccinated for the safety of the students.	Brian	June 2021
Audit committee: Review student and staff bursary policies	Brian	May 2021
Revise AB curriculum letter	Brian	May 2021
Schedule joint meeting with ESA partners	Brian	TBD

Dr. Shauna Bruno - Chairperson

Date