



Maskwacis Education Schools Commission

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

MESC Board of Governors Meeting

December 14, 2021

MESC Governance and Training Centre

Google Meet- meet.google.com/nuh-jwwq-eys

Chairperson: Dr. Shauna Bruno

Board Members: John Nepoose, Jerry Saddleback Jr (Google Meet), Randal Potts, Tamara Wildcat, Allison Adams-Bull, Helen Bull (Google Meet), Chief Irvin Bull (arrived 3:25, left 6:33pm), Councillor Mario Swampy (arrived 3:25, left 4:57pm), Councillor Chase Rabbit (arrived 3:40pm)

Staff: Brian Wildcat, Trina Vy (Google Meet), Randy Risto (Google Meet), Tracy Sylvester, Keith MacQuarrie

Recorder: Jenn Nepoose

1. Meeting called to order 3:15pm

Opening prayer by John Nepoose

2. Adopt agenda

Presenter: Dr. Shauna Bruno

Discussion:

- a. Add; Youth Leadership Summit, Study on school age children, BOG jackets, Off-Reserve Students.

Decision: Moved by Tamara Wildcat, seconded by Randal Potts, all in favour.

3. Adopt minutes

Presenter: Dr. Shauna Bruno

Discussion:

- a. Clarification on Jr./Sr. High School Redesign.

Decision: Moved by Randal Potts, seconded by Tamara Wildcat, all in favour

4. Ownership linkage

a. **COVID Response Update**

Presenter: Dr. Shauna Bruno

Discussion:

- i. Review staff vaccination stats and policy requirements.
- ii. Exemption requests.
 1. Medical, religious and Treaty right exemptions. Treaty right exemptions are reviewed case by case and require supporting evidence or explanation.
 2. Discussion on how exemptions are made.
- iii. No new COVID cases amongst staff.



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b. Circle of Elders

Presenter: Helen Bull and John Nepoose

Discussion:

- i. Darrell Strongman joined the Circle of Elders as the male Montana representative.
- ii. Norine Buffalo presented on the Nipisihkopahk Elementary School.
- iii. Jennifer Conroy presented on the Nipisihkopahk Secondary School.
- iv. Eileen Marthiensen presented the progress on the Maskwacis Curriculum.

5. Board Education, Presentations and Discussion

a. Summit debrief

Presenter: Brian Wildcat

Discussion:

- i. Need to make sure the leadership has the opportunity to comment on information provided.
- ii. Thought exchange was useful.
- iii. Need to find ways to address Treaty discussion in regard to off-reserve students.
- iv. Suggestion to record the summit.
- v. Reconsider length of the summit.
- vi. Prioritize orientation with new Council members prior to the summit.
- vii. Include a mini MESC history at the beginning of the results presentation to cover main points on organization and agreements.
 1. Suggestion to make a video out of the history.
- viii. Have the Board present the results rather than administration.
- ix. Return to focus conversation activities in addition to thought exchange.
- x. Send a request to the leadership for specific information to be presented at the summit.
- xi. Consider having quarterly meetings with the leadership rather than an annual summit.

b. Public Schools Boards Association of Alberta

Presenter: Dr. Shauna Bruno

Discussion:

- i. Discussed benefits of joining and what can be learned.
- ii. Discussion on membership fees.
- iii. Conduct a review of ESA's with the Board before the annual review.

c. STAR request a Maskwacis Trustee

Presenter: Dr. Shauna Bruno and Brian Wildcat

Discussion:

- i. Brian has contacted the STAR Superintendent. Need direction from the Chiefs on selection of the trustee if there is interest. Will reach out to the other Chiefs to get their opinion.
- ii. Need to have representation on provincial boards.
- iii. Chiefs will make the selection.
- iv. STAR Maskwacis Trustee must also be catholic.



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6. Items for decision

a. Jr./Sr. High School Realignment

Presenter: Brian Wildcat and Keith MacQuarrie

Discussion:

- i. Recommendation to realign the Ermineskin and Samson Jr./Sr. High School programs. Louis Bull and Montana jr. high programs would remain at their schools and realigned in the future.
- ii. Will not be laying off staff.
- iii. Concerns of gang activity in the Samson high school is a common misconception. The school culture has greatly improved.
- iv. Capital plan is being created to ensure facilities can accommodate programming.
- v. Schools would be rebranded.
- vi. Concern that change will negatively impact attendance. Not the right time to move forward with the project during a pandemic.
- vii. Need more engagement with parents.
- viii. Opportunities for programming and bringing students together as Maskwacisak rather than divided.
- ix. Concerns of social issues that impact the schools. The transition may be hard for some students to adjust.
- x. Concern with transportation and ride times.
- xi. Need to secure land to move forward with negotiations for the new high school.
- xii. Administration would host open house events to advertise programming available.
- xiii. Need to communicate with parents more in regard to resources available at all MESC schools.

Decision: Motion 142- Approving Jr./Sr. High School Realignment.

b. Auditor Selection

Presenter: Finance and Audit Committee

Discussion:

- i. Committee recommends granting MNP a 2 year contract.

Decision: Motion 143- Granting MNP a 2 year contract.

c. BOG Christmas bonus

Presenter: Dr. Shauna Bruno

Decision: Motion 144- Approving Christmas bonuses.

7. Monitoring Board Performance **TABLED**

Presenter: Dr. Shauna Bruno

Discussion:

- a. **GP-5: Role of the Board Chair (CGO)- Content Review**
- b. **GP-14: Special Rules of Order- Direct inspection**
- c. **GP-15: Handling of Operational Complaints- Content Review**



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8. Other Business

a. Youth Leadership

- i. Look into hosting a summit with the students and Chief and Council.

b. Study on school age students

- i. Hire a consultant to conduct study.
- ii. Have a report ready by the end of April.

c. BOG jackets

- i. Admin will have an option of jackets for the January meeting.

d. Off-reserve students

- i. Discussion on the funding formula. MESC is responsible for k-12 students in Maskwacis.
- ii. Caution against administering additional funds for off-reserve students.
- iii. Admin can prepare options.
 1. Using surplus.
 2. Including in the ESA's.
- iv. Interest rate has gone down.

9. Adjourn 7:28pm

Dr. Shauna Bruno - Chairperson

Date