



MESC BOARD MEETING MINUTES

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| DATE: | April 8, 2024 |
| START TIME: | 1:07 pm |
| END TIME: | 5:15 pm |
| LOCATION: | MESC Governance and Training Centre |
| CHAIR: | Dr. Shauna Bruno |
| MESC BOARD: | Elliott Young (Google Meet), Ilene Cardinal-Nepoose (left 4:55 pm), John Nepoose, Carmella Cutknife, Allison Adams-Bull, Councillor Clainia Potts, Debra Strongman-Omeasoo (arrived 1:15 pm), Councillor Jeffery Raine (arrived 1:20 pm, left 4:00 pm), Helen Bull (arrived 1:20 pm, left 4:00 pm), Councillor Jason Makinaw |
| REGRETS: | Azure Johnson |
| MESC STAFF: | Tracy Swampy-Sylvester |
| RECORDER: | Jenn Nepoose |

1. ADOPT AGENDA

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| TIME: | 5 min |
| PRESENTER(S): | Dr. Shauna Bruno |
| REFERENCE DOC: | "1. April 9, 2024 Agenda" |
| DISCUSSION | - Add "Member at Large" to Board education. |
| DECISION | Moved by Carmella Cutknife, seconded by Ilene Cardinal-Nepoose, all in favour. |

2. ADOPT MARCH 12, 2024 MEETING NOTES

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| TIME: | 15 min |
| PRESENTER(S): | Dr. Shauna Bruno |
| REFERENCE DOC: | "2. March 12 board meeting notes" |
| DISCUSSION | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The 2024-25 School calendar was approved with a long weekend rather than a week off for a fall break.- The Elders have not selected a representative for the Negotiation Committee. |
| DECISION | Moved by Allison Adams-Bull, seconded by Carmella Cutknife, all in favour. |

3. OWNERSHIP LINKAGE

A. UPDATE FROM CIRCLE OF ELDERS

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| TIME: | 10 min |
| PRESENTER(S): | John Nepoose, Helen Bull and Belinda Lightning |
| REFERENCE DOC: | N/A |
| DISCUSSION: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The school Cultural Advisors joined the Circle of Elders meeting to have focus conversations on culture and language in the schools.- Confirmed May 1st for the next meeting in Pigeon Lake for a think tank on student behaviour.- Board is invited to attend as an observer May 1st Circle of Elders Meeting. Carmella, John, Debbie, Ilene, Helen and Shauna will attend. Email Jenn if you would like a guest room.- Tracy and Belinda will create a report on the feedback collected. |

B. UPDATE FROM CIRCLE OF PARENTS

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| TIME | 10 min |
| ALLOCATION: | |
| PRESENTER(S): | Carmella Cutknife |
| REFERENCE DOC: | N/A |



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| DISCUSSION: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Approx. 49 grads from the high school. - There will be an awards day on April 15th at the Maskwacis Cree High School. - 9 students will be assisted with formal wear for grad. - The high school will be moving to the semester structure next year. - Set up a PAC table at the junior high school parent teacher night to recruit parents for their PAC. |
| DECISION | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Use the same questions for the Elders focus conversations with the PAC committees. |

C. OWNERSHIP LINKAGE COMMITTEE

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| TIME ALLOCATION: | 10 min |
| PRESENTER(S): | Ilene Cardinal-Nepoose |
| REFERENCE DOC: | "3. Ownership Linkage- Open House Report" |
| DISCUSSION: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Reviewed the report from the open house. - Will move forward with one open house rather than one in each Nation. The location of the event will be moved to each Nation. - Can work with the Nations on transportation and communication on events. - Suggestion to send paper copies of MESC events home with students. |

4. MONITORING BOARD PERFORMANCE

A. GP-6: BOARD COMMITTEE PRINCIPLES- CONTENT REVIEW

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| TIME ALLOCATION: | 5 min |
| PRESENTER(S): | Dr. Shauna Bruno |
| REFERENCE DOC: | "4. Monitoring Board Performance (GP-6 & GP-7)" |
| DISCUSSION: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Policy is still relevant. No changes. |

B. GP-7: BOARD COMMITTEE STRUCTURE- DIRECT INSPECTION

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| TIME ALLOCATION: | 5 min |
| PRESENTER(S): | Dr. Shauna Bruno |
| REFERENCE DOC: | "4. Monitoring Board Performance (GP-6 & GP-7)" |
| DISCUSSION: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Completed direct inspection worksheet. - Change the word "charge" to "direction". |

C. EL-1: TREATMENT OF STUDENTS AND PARENTS- MONITORING REPORT

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| TIME ALLOCATION: | 10 min |
| PRESENTER(S): | Dr. Shauna Bruno |
| REFERENCE DOC: | "4. b. Monitoring Report EL-1.04.2024" |
| DISCUSSION: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Staff are regularly reminded of supervision roles and expectations. - The school does not have security on site. |

5. Board Education, Presentations and Discussions

A. MASKWACIS CURRICULUM UPDATE

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| TIME ALLOCATION: | 1 hour |
| PRESENTER(S): | Carla Badger |
| REFERENCE DOC: | N/A |
| DISCUSSION: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Update on projects in: Nehiyawewin, - Review online tools used for Cree. - Online tools can be used to assign modules to students who are absent from school. - Display of resources available for MESC schools. - Will be putting out a call for illustrators from Maskwacis to create children's books next year. - Creating PD for teachers on traditional games that have been linked to learning outcomes. - Need to ensure consistency in all classrooms to accurately conduct assessments. |



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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Working with Cree instructors on developing long range planning. - Need to conduct research to determine reasonable benchmarks for assessment. Aiming to have research completed in 2 years. - The curriculum team will be refocusing and prioritizing between curriculum development, resource development and research to reach the goal of completing the Maskwacis curriculum. - The little Cree books, traditional games booklets, will be released next year. - The projected budget would not be able to accommodate an increase in curriculum staff. Possibility to allocate funds from deferred funds to curriculum development. - The team is considering what can be contracted out to assist with resources and curriculum writing. - Will be reaching out to other Nations to partner and learn for development. - Request for a long-range plan on Cree. - Conducting research and creating resources on Treaty and Maskwacis curriculum for K-12. Taking a trauma informed approach to ensure the content is age appropriate. |
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| B. REA RESEARCH PRESENTATION |
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| TIME ALLOCATION: | 1 hour |
| PRESENTER(S): | Brian Wildcat |
| REFERENCE DOC: | N/A |

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| DISCUSSION: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Original intent of REA's was for regions within provinces. - The MESC agreement and REAs are very similar. - REAs now are a set model. Changes would need to be applicable to each system in the region. - Funding for REA's uses the same Regional Funding Model as a starting point. - The Regional Funding Model is now more or less permanent. - Funding adaptations are more likely to be implemented if they are "provincially applicable". - Some new components are being added for things like before-and after care, student supports etc. - The amounts budgeted for adaptations were "eaten up" by funding protection, student eligibility changes, and removal of Nominal Roll attendance compliance. - Funding stabilization clause has been removed from the REA template (MESC). There is a potential for it to be reintroduced. - Development of "a more financial stable environment" is interpreted primarily as separation from Chief and Council and improving governance/accountability. - How is our agreement different than a REA: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The name REA vs. MESC RDA - Funding protection. Max. Decrease of 1.5% in MESC agreement - Future Discussion Clause (capital) - Cree Language of instruction - Inclusion of the Four Cree Values IM, NP, N. W. - Maskwacis Funding Model - Proposals need to be made for needs based REA agreements. Negotiations occur with the Minister rather than technicians. - Learning loss from COVID could be included in the business case for a needs based REA. |
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| | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Would need to focus on literacy, numeracy, and Cree to catch up on the learning loss from COVID. - Another gap is services for students with high needs. - Will apply for ISC funding to do the research and business case. - Next steps: <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Prepare a research and negotiations implementation plan. - Apply for Research grant from ISC for 2 years (est. \$ 3 million - Education Partnerships Program: Regional Education Agreement Component: <u>National Program Guidelines 2024 to 2025</u>) - Hire Consultants and Lawyers - Negotiation training - Prepare Needs Based business plan - Submit to ISC and start negotiation (preserve what we have plus) - Once MESC receives donee status we can approach industry for additional funding. - There is the only one group in Canada with a needs-based REA right now. |
| DECISION | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Scheduled May 8th and 23th for negotiation committee to meet on next steps. |

C. FINANCIAL UPDATE

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| TIME ALLOCATION: | 10 min |
| PRESENTER(S): | Trina Vy |
| REFERENCE DOC: | BOG Financial Summary Feb 29, 2024, Budget Entry for MESC 2023-24.xlsx - YTD Summary, Budget Entry for MESC 2023-24.xlsx - Chart by Expend category, Budget Entry for MESC 2023-24.xlsx - Budget vs Actuals, Budget Entry for MESC 2023-24.xlsx - BOG YTD |

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| DISCUSSION: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Internal fiscal year is September – August, still need to report on March – April. - Expenditures for the year are average. - Will add a note on the increase in the Superintendent budget is due to the move of the curriculum team. - Business Services budget is high due to the TWEL building. - Utilities have been consolidated into one bill. - A metre was put in at Kisipatinahk School. Need to meet with Louis Bull to determine amount owed prior to the metre being installed. - Resources for schools were purchased in bulk in prior years which has reduced some programming expenses in following years. |
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D. UPDATE ON LEADERSHIP MEETING REQUESTS

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| TIME ALLOCATION: | 10 min |
| PRESENTER(S): | Dr. Shauna Bruno |
| REFERENCE DOC: | N/A |
| DISCUSSION: | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Debbie will connect with Leanne to schedule a meeting with Montana First Nation. - Louis Bull agreed to meeting quarterly. The next presentation will focus on PACs and curriculum. Allison will update the Board on the confirmed date. - Jason and Elliott are trying to find a date for MESC to meet with ECN. - Shauna will follow up with Ilene to schedule a meeting with SCN. |



Maskwacis Education Schools Commission

Box 58

Maskwacis, AB, T0C 1N0

E. WOLF CREEK SCHOOL DIVISION ESA

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| TIME ALLOCATION: | 10 min |
| PRESENTER(S): | Tracy Swampy-Sylvester |
| REFERENCE DOC: | N/A |
| DISCUSSION: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- The existing ESAs expire in September.- WCDS will host a pipe ceremony on May 28th for the new WCSD/MESC ESA.- Will update when other ESAs have been finalized and ceremonies with those school districts. |

F. MEMBER AT LARGE

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| TIME ALLOCATION: | 10 min |
| PRESENTER(S): | Dr. Shauna Bruno |
| REFERENCE DOC: | N/A |
| DISCUSSION: | <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Had not received responses to schedule the selection committee meeting.- Aim to have a member at large position filled before the summit.- Dates for June, July and August will be sent to the Chiefs for the selection committee. The agenda will be as follows.<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Select member at large for the Board of Governors.- Select male elder from Pigeon Lake for the Circle of Elders.- Select Maskwacis Trustee for STAR Board of Trustees. |