



Board Meeting

Agenda Package

February 12, 2020

☞ *New Horizons Charter School Society* ☞

AGENDA**Type of Meeting:** Board**Date:** February 12, 2020**Page:**1 of 2*"TOWARDS NEW HORIZONS"**Is it in the best interest of our students?**Does it support excellence?*

**NEW HORIZONS CHARTER SCHOOL SOCIETY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS' MEETING
FEBRUARY 12, 2020**

AGENDA

Vision: New Horizons School will enable gifted students to strive for excellence in a positive academic learning environment that fosters social and emotional support for each student.

- | | | | |
|--|--|--------------|---------|
| 1. | Call to Order | N. Pasemko | 7:00 pm |
| 2. | Statement of Territorial Acknowledgment | N. Pasemko | 7:01 pm |
| <p><i>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.</i></p> | | | |
| 3. | Adoption of Agenda | N. Pasemko | 7:02 pm |
| 4. | Disclosure of Conflict of Interest | N. Pasemko | 7:03 pm |
| 5. | Approval of Minutes | N. Pasemko | 7:04 pm |
| | 5.1 January 15, 2020 – attachment | | |
| 6. | Administration Reports | | 7:05 pm |
| | 6.1 Principal's Report | T. Zarowny | |
| | 6.2 Superintendent's Report – attachment | D. Lindquist | |
| 7. | Board Reports | | 7:25 pm |
| | 7.1 Board Chair's Report | N. Pasemko | |
| | 7.2 Committee Reports | N. Pasemko | |
| 8. | New Business | | 7:30 pm |
| | 8.1 Progress Report on Education Plan | T. Zarowny | |
| | 8.2 Draft School Calendar for 2020-21 – attachment | D. Lindquist | |
| 9. | Board Work Plan – attachment | N. Pasemko | 8:10 pm |
| 10. | The Association of Alberta Public Charter Schools | N. Pasemko | 8:15 pm |

AGENDA

Type of Meeting: Board

Date: February 12, 2020

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"TOWARDS NEW HORIZONS" Is it in the best interest of our students? Does it support excellence?

10.1 Correspondence from TAAPCS Communication
Committee – attachments

- | | | | |
|-----|---|------------|---------|
| 11. | Receipt of Reports | N. Pasemko | 8:25 pm |
| 12. | Correspondence Sent | N. Pasemko | 8:26 pm |
| 13. | Correspondence Received | N. Pasemko | |
| | 13.1 Email from TAAPCS Executive Director
(multiple attachments) | | |
| 14. | In Camera | N. Pasemko | 8:28 pm |
| 15. | New Business (cont'd.) | N. Pasemko | 9:15 pm |
| | 15.1 Matters Arising from In Camera Meeting | | |
| 16. | Adjournment | N. Pasemko | 9:20 pm |

Next Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 18, 2020

NEW HORIZONS CHARTER SCHOOL SOCIETY
MINUTES

Type of Meeting: Board

Date: January 15, 2020

Initials: Chair _____

Approved: DRAFT

Recorded By: T. Leigh

Secretary _____

January 15, 2020, 7:00 p.m.

Board Members Present at Call to Order:

Nicole Pasemko
CHAIR

Dan Hanson
DIRECTOR

Shari Morin
SECRETARY

Vincent Tong
TREASURER

Jason Clarke
DIRECTOR

Administration Present:

Dean Lindquist
SUPERINTENDENT

Tracy Leigh
SECRETARY-TREASURER

Ted Zarowny
PRINCIPAL

Members Present:

1. Call to Order

Chair Pasemko called the meeting to order at 7:06 p.m.

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, 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.

3. Adoption of Agenda

Motion 2020-01-15-01

Moved that the agenda for the Board Meeting of January 15, 2020 be adopted as presented.

Moved: Director Hanson

Seconded: Director Morin

Carried

NEW HORIZONS CHARTER SCHOOL SOCIETY
MINUTES

Type of Meeting: Board

Date: January 15, 2020

Initials: Chair _____

Approved: DRAFT

Recorded By: T. Leigh

Secretary _____

4. Disclosure of Conflict of Interest:

None

5. Approval of Minutes

5.1 Minutes of December 11, 2019

Motion 2020-01-15-02 Moved that the Board Meeting minutes of December 11, 2019 be approved as presented.

*Moved: Director Morin
Seconded: Director Hanson
Carried*

6. Administration Reports

6.1 Principal's Report

Principal Zarowny spoke to the Principal's Report, including Modular Update and Intake for 2020-2021, as included in the agenda package.

6.2 Superintendent's Report

Superintendent Lindquist spoke to the Superintendent's Report, including the 25th Anniversary Celebration and Modular Update, as included in the agenda package.

7. Board Reports

7.1 Board Chair's Report

Nothing to report.

7.2 Committee Reports

No reports. Committees have not met since the December 11, 2019 Board meeting.

8. New Business

8.1 Quarterly Financial Report

Director Tong spoke to the Quarterly Financial Report, as included in the agenda package. Discussion followed.

NEW HORIZONS CHARTER SCHOOL SOCIETY
MINUTES

Type of Meeting: Board

Date: January 15, 2020

Initials: Chair _____

Approved: DRAFT

Recorded By: T. Leigh

Secretary _____

Motion 2020-01-15-03 Moved that the Quarterly Financial Report for the period ended November 30, 2019 be received as information.

*Moved: Director Tong
Seconded: Director Clarke
Carried*

8.2 Draft School Calendar for 2020-21

Superintendent Lindquist spoke to the Draft School Calendar for 2020-21, as included in the agenda package. Discussion followed.

Motion 2020-01-15-04 Moved that the draft calendar for the 2020-21 school year be approved in principle; and that the draft calendar be presented to the School Council and school staff for discussion and feedback and that, giving consideration to the feedback received, it be presented to the Board of Directors for final approval at the February 2020 Board meeting.

*Moved: Director Hanson
Seconded: Director Tong
Carried*

8.3 Review of Board Policy #210

Superintendent Lindquist spoke to the review of Board Policy #210 (Welcoming, Caring, Respectful, and Safe Learning and Working Environments), as included in the agenda package. Discussion followed.

Motion 2020-01-15-05 Moved that the Board affirms that Policy 210 (Welcoming, Caring, Respectful, and Safe Learning and Working Environments) received its annual review and the Board confirms that the policy is compliant with the requirements of the Education Act.

NEW HORIZONS CHARTER SCHOOL SOCIETY
MINUTES

Type of Meeting: Board

Date: January 15, 2020

Initials: Chair _____

Approved: DRAFT

Recorded By: T. Leigh

Secretary _____

The Board further affirms that the Student Code of Conduct was reviewed by administration and the Board and confirm that it is compliant with the requirements set out in Section 33 (3) (a-e) of the Education Act and Board Policy 210.

Moved: Director Hanson

Seconded: Director Morin

Carried

9. Board Work Plan

The Board reviewed the Work Plan for 2019-20, as included the agenda package. After discussion, the Board requested that the Work Plan be revised and that the Quarterly Financial Report for December 2019 – February 2020 be moved from March to April.

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

Vice Chair Hanson provided a report. Schools are tasked with gathering testimonials on the importance of Charter Schools.

11. Receipt of Reports

Motion 2020-01-15-06

Moved that all reports be received as presented during the meeting.

Moved: Director Morin

Seconded: Director Hanson

Carried

12. Correspondence Sent

- None

13. Correspondence Received

- Bill 201, Protection of Students with Life Threatening Allergies Act

14. In Camera

In camera minutes recorded by Secretary Morin.

Motion to Move In Camera:

NEW HORIZONS CHARTER SCHOOL SOCIETY
MINUTES

Type of Meeting: Board

Date: January 15, 2020

Initials: Chair _____

Approved: DRAFT

Recorded By: T. Leigh

Secretary _____

Motion 2020-01-15-07 Moved that the meeting move in camera at 8:51 p.m.

Moved: Director Hanson

Seconded: Director Clarke

Carried

Motion to Move Out of Camera:

Motion 2020-01-15-08 Moved that the meeting move out of camera at 9:15 p.m.

Moved: Director Clarke

Seconded: Director Hanson

Carried

15. New Business (con't)

15.1 Matters Arising from In Camera Meeting

No matters arising from in camera meeting.

16. Adjournment

Chair Pasemko adjourned the meeting at 9:15 p.m.

Next Board Meeting: February 12, 2020 7:00 p.m.



Dean Lindquist
Superintendent
Phone: 780-416-2353
Email: dlindquist@newhorizons.ca

MEMORANDUM

Date February 12, 2020

To: Board of Directors

From: Dean Lindquist - Superintendent

Re: Superintendent's Report

Background:

Stakeholder Forum – The Stakeholder Forum was postponed until February 24, 2020. The reason for this postponement was the very small number of registered participants for the event. This was disappointing to see so few individuals registered for this important event. We have begun advertising the new date for the Stakeholder Forum.

Secretary Treasurer Recruitment – As the Board is aware we are undertaking recruitment for a new Secretary Treasurer due to Mrs. Leigh's resignation as she is moving to a much larger district to serve as their Secretary Treasurer.

Recommendations:

That the Superintendent's Report be received as information.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dean Lindquist", written in a cursive style.

Dean Lindquist



Dean Lindquist
Superintendent
Phone: 780-416-2353
Email: dlindquist@newhorizons.ca

MEMORANDUM

Date February 12, 2020

To: Board of Directors

From: Dean Lindquist - Superintendent

Re: 2020/2021 School Year Calendar

Background:

The draft calendar was presented at the January 15, 2020 Board of Director's Meeting. At that meeting it was determined that it be approved in principle and that it be circulated to the School Council and to school staff.

The 2020-21 school year calendar was reviewed by staff at their February 5, 2020 Staff Meeting. It was also reviewed by School Council at their February 5, 2020 School Council Meeting.

Prior to the staff and School Council review of the calendar, NHS administration recommended eliminating the January 29, 2021 PD Day and moving the Organizational Day from June 28 to June 25, 2021. This results in the last day for students being June 24 instead of June 25. A draft calendar is included in the Board Package with this recommendation.

Recommendations

It is recommended that the proposed school calendar for 2020-2021 school year, with the last day of school for students being June 24, 2021 be approved as presented in the attached document.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dean Lindquist", written in a cursive style.

Dean Lindquist

2020 - 2021 School Calendar

August '20						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
						1
2	3	4	5	6	7	8
9	10	11	12	13	14	15
16	17	18	19	20	21	22
23	24	25	26	27	28	29
30	31					

September '20						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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6	7	8	9	10	11	12
13	14	15	16	17	18	19
20	21	22	23	24	25	26
27	28	29	30			

October '20						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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18	19	20	21	22	23	24
25	26	27	28	29	30	31

November '20						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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15	16	17	18	19	20	21
22	23	24	25	26	27	28
29	30					

December '20						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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27	28	29	30	31		

January '21						
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February '21						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						


March '21						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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28	29	30	31			

April '21						
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May '21						
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30	31					

June '21						
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July '21						
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25	26	27	28	29	30	31

-  School Closed/ Holidays
-  Day in Lieu of PT Conferences (school closed for students and staff)
-  PD / Organizational Day School Closed for Students
-  First and Last Day of School for Students
-  Early Dismissal / Staff Meeting

Important Dates	
Organizational /PD Days	August 28, 31
Classes Begin for Students	September 1
Labour Day	September 7
Professional Development Day	October 9
Thanksgiving Day	October 12
Fall Break	November 9-13
Days in Lieu of P/T Conferences	November 13, February 12 & March 26
Christmas Break	December 23 – January 5
Classes Resume	January 6
Professional Development Day	January 29
Teachers' Convention	February 4, 5
Family Day	February 15
Intake Day	March 5
Spring Break	March 29 – April 5
Good Friday	April 2
Easter Monday	April 5
Classes Resume	April 6
Professional Development Day	May 7
School Closed	May 21
Victoria Day	May 24
Final Day for Students	June 25
Organizational Day	June 29

Operational and Instructional Days		
Month	Days of School Operation	Days of Student Instruction
August	2	0
September	21	21
October	21	20
November	17	16
December	16	16
January	18	17
February	19	16
March	20	18
April	19	19
May	19	18
June	20	19
Total	192	180

Instructional Hours			
Type of Day	Days	Minutes / Day	Hours / Year
Regular	170	325 (+1 min/day)	920.83
Early Dismissal	10	265 (+1 min/day)	44.17
Total		-----	965

School Vision
<i>Enabling gifted students to strive for excellence in a positive academic learning environment that fosters social and emotional growth for each student.</i>

2020 - 2021 School Calendar

August '20						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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September '20						
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October '20						
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November '20						
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January '21						
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17	18	19	20	21	22	23
24	25	26	27	28	29	30
31						

February '21						
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	1	2	3	4	5	6
7	8	9	10	11	12	13
14	15	16	17	18	19	20
21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28						

March '21						
Su	M	Tu	W	Th	F	S
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21	22	23	24	25	26	27
28	29	30	31			

April '21						
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May '21						
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June '21						
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Organizational Day	June 25

Operational and Instructional Days		
Month	Days of School Operation	Days of Student Instruction
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September	21	21
October	21	20
November	17	16
December	16	16
January	18	18
February	19	16
March	20	18
April	19	19
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Type of Day	Days	Minutes / Day	Hours / Year
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School Vision
<i>Enabling gifted students to strive for excellence in a positive academic learning environment that fosters social and emotional growth for each student.</i>



Dean Lindquist
Superintendent
Phone: 780-416-2353
Email: dlindquist@newhorizons.ca

MEMORANDUM

February 12, 2020

To: Board of Directors

From: Dean Lindquist - Superintendent

Re: Board Work Plan

Background:

At the January Board Meeting, it was determined that the Quarterly Financial Report for the period December 2019 through February 2020 be moved from the March Board Meeting to the April Board Meeting. This will enable adequate time for the Secretary Treasurer to receive all banking and expense /revenue information needed to complete the report.

Implications:

There are no serious implications except that the quarterly report is delivered one month later. It is always better to receive the report as early as possible. One process for doing so is when setting meetings for 2020/21 that the Board set the Board of Director's Meeting one week later each month (third week).

Recommendations:

It is recommended that the Board approve the change to the Board Annual Work Plan.

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Dean Lindquist", is written over a light blue circular stamp.

Dean Lindquist

Board of Directors – Work Plan for 2019-20

September	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Adopt Board Work Plan for 2019-20 <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Set date for October Board meeting <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Receive report on provincial achievement test results (closed meeting) <input type="checkbox"/>
October	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Complete Board Organizational Actions <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Conduct Special General Meeting; hold Board elections <input type="checkbox"/> - Elect Board executive officers (must be within one week of SGM) <input type="checkbox"/> - Select members for Board standing committees <input type="checkbox"/> - Set dates for Board meetings (motion required) <input type="checkbox"/> - Notify Service Alberta of change in executive officers <input type="checkbox"/> - Identify Board signing authorities <input type="checkbox"/> - Sign Board Member Code of Conduct – Policy #101 <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Receive Accountability Pillar Results Report for October 2019 <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Attend TAAPCS Annual General Meeting <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Receive enrolment report for September 30, 2019 <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Conduct initial orientation session for new Board members <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Submit request to Alberta Education for modular classrooms <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Set date for NHCS Society Annual General Meeting <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Create Task Force to investigate establishment of New Horizons High School Program (as per Education Plan) <input type="checkbox"/>
November	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Conduct AGM of NHCS Society <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Approve final Three-Year Education Plan 2019-2020 to 2021-22 <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Approve revised budget for 2019-20 <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Approve Annual Education Results Report 2018-19 <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Approve Audited Financial Statement Year Ending Aug 31/19 <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Receive Report #1 from School Council <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Determine priorities, possible date for Stakeholder Forum <input type="checkbox"/>
December	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Receive Class Size Report for 2019-20 <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Set date for March Board Planning Retreat <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Receive Counsellor’s Report for 2018-19 School Year <input type="checkbox"/>
January	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Receive Quarterly Financial Report for Sep - Nov 2019 <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Review Policy 210 and associated Student Code of Conduct <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Approve school calendar for 2019-20 in principle <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Stakeholder Forum – Gather input on possible Education Plan priorities <input type="checkbox"/>
February	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide final approval of school calendar for 2020-21 <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Prepare breakfast for school staff <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Receive mid-year progress report on Three-Year Education Plan 2018-21 <input type="checkbox"/>

March	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Board Retreat – Identify priorities for upcoming Education Plan <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Approve Three-Year Capital Plan for 2020-21 to 2022-23 <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Administer Board-developed Stakeholder Survey <input type="checkbox"/>
April	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Provide provisional approval to Education Plan 2019-20 to 2021-22 <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Receive Quarterly Financial Report for Dec 2019 – Feb 2020 <input type="checkbox"/>
May	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Attend TAAPCS Spring General Meeting <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Approve Budget for 2020-21 <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Receive Accountability Pillar Results Report for May 2020 <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Receive Board-developed stakeholder survey results <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Consider salary adjustment for support staff, senior administration <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Receive report from FANHS <input type="checkbox"/>
June	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Assess Board Work Plan progress for 2019-20 <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Receive Quarterly Financial Report for Mar – May 2020 <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Schedule SGM of NHCS Society (requires 21 days’ notice; must be on or before Oct 10) <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Schedule September 2020 Board meeting <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Set date for Summer Board Housekeeping Retreat <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Receive Report #2 from School Council <input type="checkbox"/>
Ongoing	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Consider proposals for new or amended Board policies <input type="checkbox"/> ▪ Receive recommendations from Board committees <input type="checkbox"/>
Annually	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Negotiate collective agreement with ATA (as needed) <input type="checkbox"/>
As Needed	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> ▪ Meet with: <input type="checkbox"/> <li style="padding-left: 20px;">- County Council <input type="checkbox"/> <li style="padding-left: 20px;">- MLAs <input type="checkbox"/>



Dean Lindquist <dlindquist@newhorizons.ca>

Multiple items

1 message

John Picard <picard.consult@gmail.com> Sun, Jan 12, 2020 at 8:57 PM
 To: Dale Erickson <derickson@caaschool.com>, Chris Gilmour <chris.g@connectcharter.ca>, Roger Nippard <roger.nippard@ffca-calgary.com>, Kurtis Leinweber <kurtis.leinweber@ffca-calgary.com>, Ed Wittchen <ed.wittchen@telus.net>, Joe Frank <joe.frank@westmountcharter.com>, Mavis Averill <maverill@bsec.ab.ca>, "Lynne Paradis (Suzuki)" <paradisl@suzukischool.ca>, Paul Wozny <pwozny@auroraschool.ca>, Teresa Di Ninno <tdininno@capeisgreat.org>, Darwin Eckstrom <deckstrom@valhallaschool.ca>, Dean Lindquist <dlindquist@newhorizons.ca>, Jamal El-Rafih <jamale@esl-almadina.com>, Pamela Davidson <pamela.davidson@calgarygirlsschool.com>, darwin.eckstrom1@gmail.com

Greetings colleagues, and Happy New Year to you all!

We have a number of items on our collective plates, befitting a new year in which I am sure you are all off and running! One of our important initiatives is impending and timely, given the Minister's intentions to pass the Choice in Education Act, and the importance of demonstrating the strength of the charter school option. Below and attached is an initiative to seek parent testimonials as one of the means of documenting and demonstrating charter school success.

In effect, the Communications Committee is seeking the cooperation of each school in seeking parent testimonials, or sharing those they already have. Below are some details from the attached document.

1. Parent Testimonies

This means of documenting would see:

- i) each charter seeking testimonies from parents and posting some of them on their websites*
- ii) sample testimonies from various schools posted on the TAAPCS website*

Recently, Westmount Charter and the Arts Academy have sought responses from parents on their reasons for choosing the school and for keeping their children in the school.

Westmount's exercise was in support of their 15-year renewal application.

Why Westmount?

We would like to learn about the main reason(s) you have chosen to register (or re-register) your child(ren) at Westmount Charter School (WCS).

Please identify the main factor(s) that influenced your decision to choose Westmount:

- WCS gifted programing compared to other schools that offer gifted programming
- Research that is conducted
- The Board governance model
- Innovation that is occurring at the school
- Proximity to your residence

- Size of school
- Quality staff
- Other (please specify)

Additional Comments? (please explain)

Attached is:

- i) the whole "Documenting Charter School Success" document
- ii) a scan of the parent testimony initiative from the CAA;
- iii) the notes from our November S/ST meeting and
- iv) an updated "Speaking With One Voice" document reflecting the discussion at our November meeting.

Feedback and questions are welcome! A reminder that we have an S/ST meeting (conference call) on January 31st.

John Picard

Executive Director

The Association of Alberta Public Charter Schools (TAAPCS)

John Picard, M.Ed., B.A.

Picard Consulting


Sessional Instructor, Ambrose University / Designated Signing Authority, Alberta Independent Schools and Colleges Association

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403-827-5040

4 attachments

 **Documenting Charter School Success.docx**
96K

 **CAA Parent testimonies .pdf**
332K

 **SPEAKING WITH ONE VOICE 4.docx**
17K

 **Nov 22 19 Agenda NOTES.docx**
229K



Staff & Parents

December 16, 2019

Dear Calgary Arts Academy Community:

I would like to take this opportunity to wish our community a peaceful, relaxing winter vacation. I would also like to thank you for your support and encouragement as we strive to improve our Arts Immersion curriculum delivery to foster excellence in student achievement.

As you know, our Board of Directors is actively advocating for high school expansion. Part of the approval process requires CAA to demonstrate community support.

I often have the opportunity to hear success stories when I meet former parents and students who have graduated from Calgary Arts Academy. I also appreciate hearing from our current parents regarding their experience since joining the CAA family.

I would like to invite all members of our community to share written information with me regarding the following:

1. Why did you choose Calgary Arts Academy?
2. What positive outcomes have resulted as a result of Arts Immersion instruction?
3. What effect has the culture of CAA had on your family?
4. In your opinion, why is it important to move forward with the provision of high school programming?
5. How does your child benefit from attending CAA?
6. Additional information you would like to share.

Please note that parts of this information will be shared with Alberta Education and Alberta Infrastructure and will be posted on the CAA website. I will ensure confidentiality is secure.

I thank you for reading this letter of request and look forward to the information you choose to share. Please email your letters to derickson@caaschool.com.

Thank you.

Dale Erickson

Dale Erickson
Superintendent
derickson@caaschool.com

*2nd step - place to put
energy commitment*

IMPACT OF THE OCTOBER 24, 2019 BUDGET ON CHARTER SCHOOLS

Thoughts and Considerations

Financial Impact: The elimination of the class size support budget is the major financial loss for charter schools. This will have important operational consequences. The maintenance of the status quo funding over the next four years and the extent to which it affects future budgets with respect to increasing teacher salaries and possible increasing student numbers remains to be seen.

Schools with operational reserves and capital reserves are obliged to move funds from reserves to cover losses and diminish the impacts, and this will increase next year. Those with little or no reserves are therefore impacted much more at an operational level.

Operational impacts (vary from school to school):

- Loss of staff contingency
- Reductions in support staff
- Reduction in Professional Development opportunities
- Reduction in benefits (health plans)
- Elimination of technology replacement program
- Reduction in AOS over two years and movement of Capital reserves to operating
- Loss of resident artist

Projected (2020/21 and beyond):

- Loss of teaching staff/increased class sizes
- Further reduction in AOS and Capital reserves

Charter school particularities:

- Charter schools resemble rural schools in many ways, and yet are funded as urban schools.
- Charter schools also do not receive the substantial inclusive education funding envelope, with the exception of those charters necessarily funded under the severe coding model, critical to their operation.
- Charter schools already operate lean at the administrative level.

Moving forward:

- ✓ Charter schools support the notion of accountability for outcomes and responsible spending, using tax dollars as effectively and efficiently as possible.
- ✓ While charter schools are impacted similarly to larger conventional public jurisdictions, our capacity for flexibility and ability to adapt is arguably better, speaking to the strength of charters as an important aspect of choice in education.
- ✓ Charter schools appreciate being invited, and being heard, in deliberations regarding educational decisions and choices.
- ✓ The transitional funding is appreciated, but will not cover shortfalls next year.
- ✓ Charter schools support prioritizing teachers in classrooms, and teacher growth and development.
- ✓ In this regard, charter schools share concerns about flexibility and opportunity for staff development, enhanced learning opportunities and staff appreciation.
- ✓ Charter schools are prepared to consider sharing of non-core services to improve cost efficiency.

Questions/Concerns:

- There is uncertainty about how status quo funding will impact organizations with changes in student numbers.
- There is uncertainty about the impact of the proposed reduction in civil service salaries on teachers and support staff as well as school jurisdiction budgets.
- The new funding model

Updated January 27, 2020

Documenting Charter School Success

Primary Means

- 1. Stakeholder (Parent, Student and Staff) testimonies**
- 2. Accountability Pillar (Business Plan) Measures (TBD)**

Measure Category	Measure	Valhalla School Foundation			Alberta			Measure Evaluation		
		Current Result	Prev Year Result	Prev 3 Year Average	Current Result	Prev Year Result	Prev 3 Year Average	Achievement	Improvement	Overall
Safe and Caring Schools	Safe and Caring	88.6	85.8	89.4	89.0	89.5	89.4	Very High	Maintained	Excellent
Student Learning Opportunities	Program of Studies	79.4	78.6	78.4	81.8	81.9	81.7	High	Maintained	Good
	Education Quality	93.2	92.8	93.1	90.0	90.1	89.9	Very High	Maintained	Excellent
	Drop Out Rate	10.2	6.1	3.8	2.3	3.0	3.3	Very Low	Maintained	Concern
	High School Completion Rate (3 yr)	n/a	n/a	n/a	78.0	78.0	77.0	n/a	n/a	n/a
Student Learning Achievement (Grades K-9)	PAT: Acceptable	67.1	85.4	79.7	73.6	73.4	73.3	Low	Maintained	Issue
	PAT: Excellence	2.6	25.0	16.8	19.9	19.5	19.2	Very Low	Declined	Concern
Student Learning Achievement (Grades 10-12)	Diploma: Acceptable	n/a	n/a	n/a	83.7	83.0	83.0	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Diploma: Excellence	n/a	n/a	n/a	24.2	22.2	21.7	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Diploma Exam Participation Rate (4+ Exams)	n/a	n/a	n/a	55.7	54.9	54.7	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Rutherford Scholarship Eligibility Rate	n/a	n/a	n/a	63.4	62.3	61.5	n/a	n/a	n/a
Preparation for Lifelong Learning, World of Work, Citizenship	Transition Rate (6 yr)	n/a	n/a	n/a	58.7	57.9	59.0	n/a	n/a	n/a
	Work Preparation	91.7	95.8	90.6	82.4	82.7	82.4	Very High	Maintained	Excellent
	Citizenship	86.1	81.5	83.9	83.0	83.7	83.7	Very High	Maintained	Excellent
Parental Involvement	Parental Involvement	87.1	97.5	95.4	81.2	81.2	81.0	Very High	Maintained	Excellent
Continuous Improvement	School Improvement	89.5	79.4	83.7	80.3	81.4	80.7	Very High	Maintained	Excellent

Summarizing Results ??

CHARTER	PAT Acceptable	PAT Excellence	Safe And Caring	??	??	??
	Number?					
	Achievement or Overall (Color)					

TAAPCS

Documenting Charter School Success

Primary Means

- 1. Stakeholder (Parent, Student and Staff) testimonies**
- 2. Accountability Pillar (Business Plan) Measures (TBD)**
- 3. Community Engagement (TBD)**
- 4. Staff Retention (TBD)**
- 5. Innovation and Research Initiatives (TBD)**

1. Parent Testimonies

This means of documenting would see:

- i) each charter seeking testimonies from parents and posting some of them on their websites*
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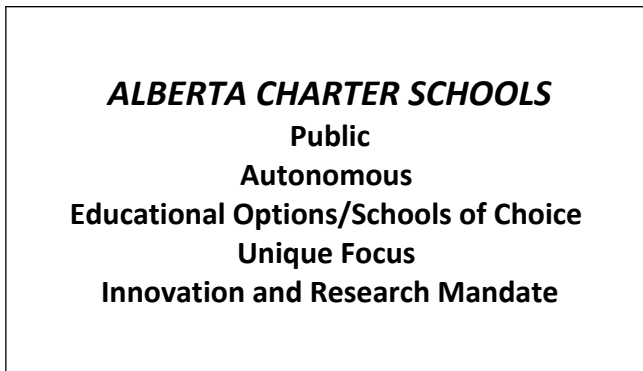
Additional Comments? (please explain)

The Calgary Arts Academy’s exercise is more recent. A scan of their document is attached.

TAAPCS

Speaking with One Voice (Draft 4)

BACK OF A BUSINESS CARD



BUSINESS CARD ELABORATION

Public

- Charter schools are public schools, open to all students. They do not charge tuition and receive their funding from Alberta Education. Like other public schools, there are resource fees and fees for various activities.

Autonomous

- Charter schools are independent of the bigger public boards. They are governed by their own independent society and a volunteer Board of Directors elected by the members of the society, which includes the parents of the students in the school.

Educational Options / Schools of Choice

- Charter schools offer educational choice to parents. There are over 15,000 students on charter school waitlists across the province, with less than 10,000 places available. Charter schools offer an educational choice highly sought after by parents.

Unique Focus

- Charter schools have a unique focus. Each charter has a pedagogical approach and, in some cases, a particular clientele that they serve. Charter schools range from a focus on more traditional, direct instruction approaches, to an emphasis on constructivist approaches as well as character education.

Innovation and Research Mandate

- While charter programming has been imitated in the larger public sector, charter schools are continuously consulting educational research and conducting their own action research, and have the capacity and flexibility to continuously innovate and improve their educational programming.

CHARTER SCHOOL FACTS SHEET CONSIDERATIONS (TBD)

Alberta Program of Studies

- Through its innovative approach and specialized focus, each charter school is mandated to teach the complete Alberta Program of Studies curriculum, and participate in all provincial achievement testing.

Accountable

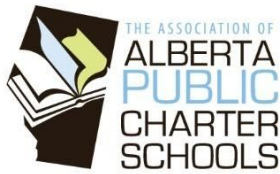
- Charter schools have an Annual Education Plan and Annual Educational Results Report that is mandated by Alberta Education. In addition to provincial goals, they have particular charter goals to meet, and are subject to rigorous Ministry evaluations on a regular basis. Achievement on provincial achievement tests is high among charter schools, as are satisfactory rates among both parents and staff.

Inclusive

- Charter schools are inclusive and meet diverse educational needs. Due to the variety of programming offered in the different charters, charter schools offer specialized programming that supports all types of learners, ranging from learning challenged to gifted, from second language to mature learners. In addition, charter schools have specialized programming for the arts, the sciences, and gender specific approaches to teaching and learning, responsive .

Strong Parent Engagement

- Charter schools are strongly supported by engaged parents and communities. Parents are welcomed and highly involved in their charter schools. Surveys consistently show very high levels of parent satisfaction with charter schools.



Research Highlights

The Association of Alberta Public Charter Schools supports and is actively engaged in innovation and research that occurs in our member schools and with our stakeholders.

Research Support and Promotion Committee

TAAPCS has established a standing committee on Research Support and Promotion comprised of charter school administrators, practitioners, and researchers, as well as post-secondary and Alberta Education representatives that have included:

- ❖ Dr. Eugene Kowch, Leadership Chair, Werklund School of Education, University of Calgary
- ❖ Dr. Belina Caissie, Senior Manager, Research, Alberta Education
- ❖ Dr. Cristian Rios, Faculty of Mathematics, University of Calgary

The Research Support and Promotion Committee's mandate is to provide support to charter schools endeavoring to do high calibre educational research, and review and assist with the dissemination of charter school research within the broader educational community.

Alberta Research Partnership Program Projects

Two TAAPCS member schools have successfully completed the first year of research projects as part of the Alberta Research Partnership Program.

- ❖ Aurora Academic Public Charter School is undertaking a project entitled *Analysis of parents' perspectives on social connectedness as lived through their experiences in parent/teacher interview processes*. This research project includes partners from Simon Fraser University, the University of Alberta, and Edmonton Public Schools
- ❖ Foundations for the Future Charter Academy (FFCA) is undertaking a project entitled *Exploring the Global Competence (GC) of Teachers and Students: The Impact of Diversity, Classroom Pedagogies and Teacher Professional Learning*. This project is being completed in partnership with Golden Hills School Division, the International School of Macau, Calgary Regional Consortium, University of Calgary Werklund School of Education, and University of Alberta.

Additional Research Projects occurring in Alberta Public Charter Schools

Almadina:

- ❖ Partnered with the Reading Foundation to examine the *efficacy of "Discover Reading", a systematic reading program designed to introduce and provides strategies on how to decode and encode simple, complex and multi-syllable word structures*.
- ❖ Partnered with Dr. Hetty Roessingh, University of Calgary, on several projects relating to efficacy of intervention strategies with ESL students.

Aurora Academic Public Charter School:

- ❖ Established an Action Research program with it staff that has led to the publication of 14 research projects in two volumes of *Action Research - Community of Practice*, research journal compilations of Aurora and partner organizations research projects from 2016-2018.
- ❖ Partnered with the University of Alberta to compare *mathematics provincial achievement test (PAT) results and related longitudinal trajectories for 3 cohorts with a goal of identifying successful pedagogical practices* within Aurora Charter School that can be shared with other colleagues and stakeholders.

Calgary Arts Academy:

- ❖ Participating in the University of Calgary Werklund School of Education Partner Research Schools *Leading and Learning* project.

Calgary Girls School:

- ❖ Undertaking an empirical study to explore *how integrating coding into the K-12 curriculum, using gender-responsive pedagogy and a design for use approach, can attract and keep girls in STEM related studies*.

Centre for Academic and Personal Excellence (CAPE):

- ❖ Undertaking a 3-year research project investigates the *effectiveness of four types of mentoring strategies used by administration to increase teacher confidence and efficacy* in developing and delivering integrated learning experiences for students.

Connect Charter School:

- ❖ Partnering with Mount Royal University to examine *The Impact of Outdoor Education on Executive Functions in Adolescence*, in a mixed methods research project exploring Connect Charter School's Journey to Experiential Place-based and Experiential Learning.

Foundations for the Future Charter Academy (FFCA):

- ❖ Partnering with the University of New South Wales to examine Central Office Leadership that Works: Examining *how a common focus on collaborative inquiry facilitated the development of a cohesive central office leadership team and impacted school leadership* across our campuses.
- ❖ Partnered with Mount Royal University to examine physical literacy development including a published study on *Enhanced Object Manipulative Skills Programming for Girls in Elementary School*.

New Horizons Charter School:

- ❖ Undertaking a study examining *how teachers might change individualized student learning to more collaborative student learning in a project-based learning context*.
- ❖ Undertaking a study examining the PAT performance of students who have been accelerated up to two grades ahead in mathematics to see if gaps in their understanding exist at the time of writing which may be connected to their accelerated program.

Suzuki Charter School:

- ❖ In collaboration with the University of Alberta received a Social Humanities and Research Council Canada grant to pursue an examination of formative instructional and assessment strategies for academic and personal excellence including the role of social and emotional factors such as student-teacher trust, attitudes towards mistakes, and beliefs about learning guided by learning errors and formative feedback (LEAFF) model.

Valhalla Community Charter School:

- ❖ Examining the *impact of implementing the Writing and Thinking Road to Reading* and Spelling program measuring the impact on the number of phonograms and words kindergarten to grade 3 students are able to read and write from dictation, and the volume and clarity of writing in personal stories, subject reports and written responses to questions about text.
- ❖ Examining the *impact of the implementation of a cursive writing program in lower grades exploring the links between handwriting and reading* as well as the written expression of ideas with the intention of developing measures of note-taking effectiveness and capacity for immediate written expression of ideas in students in upper grades.

Westmount Charter School:

- ❖ Exploring the *Linguistic profile of Gifted ESL Students* highlighting the linguistic and academic reality of the majority of gifted English as a second language (ESL) students enrolled in English schools in Alberta;
- ❖ Researching an *Anxiety-based Psychological Intervention to Examine its Efficacy and Applicability with Gifted Children*: The purpose of this study is to better understand anxiety struggles in gifted students. This study will focus on application of mindfulness-based cognitive therapy to determine its efficacy in reducing anxiety symptoms in grades 4-7 gifted children.

