

**SUZUKI CHARTER SCHOOL SOCIETY
SCHOOL BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

Via Zoom

Thursday April 22, 2021

Present: Treena Gish, Frank Doruiter, Jen Garrison, Nicole Palmer, James Garrison, Tara Beland and Jenelle Clark.

Administration: Lynne Paradis and Heather Christison

Public Members: Alana Prins-Finley, Danielle Garden and Suzanna So

Please note the meeting was recorded.

1. Call to order at 6:02 p.m. by Chair Palmer.

2. Approval of agenda.

Motion: 21:18 Moved by Eric Taub Board approve the agenda as circulated.

APPROVED

3. Approval of the minutes from the March 18th, 2021 Board meeting.

Motion: 21:19 Moved by Frank Doruiter the Board approve the minutes from the March 18th, 2021 Board meeting as circulated.

APPROVED

4. Reports

- Board Chair – Attended meeting with Minister and northern Alberta Charter schools on March. Chair reported that the conversation with the Minister was concerning regarding the Student Learning Supports (SLS) and funding for charter schools. The Minister said that the funding model used is not fair to charter schools. The Minister reference the investigation that Alberta Education conducted.
- Superintendent's Report
The Superintendent provided the Board with updates on developments regarding the draft curriculum, meetings with the College of Alberta School Superintendents, (CASS) the new Alberta Education assurance model discussions, enrolment, and Covid/attendance data.
 - The curriculum roll -out is not being doing in the typical roll out in the past. The timing of the release has not been well received. The content has been questioned.
 - CASS has heard many concerns about the social studies content and to pilot roll out which is only for 5 months, all subjects K-6. The usual way to roll out a new curriculum is one grade at a time Concerns include, the schedule to begin the curriculum September 2022. Teachers are exhausted due to the



pandemic and how will teachers train over the summer. Students are behind due to being at home learning. How will students catch up?
Superintendents feel they have several students that are behind.

- Assurance model new process is due May 31, 2021. Admin will be meeting April 29th for half a day to work on the new model. The report will include Board Evaluation goals.
- A number of students are moving from at home learning to in school learning
- Secretary Treasurer Report - attached

Motion: 21:20 Moved by Jen Garrison the Board accepts the Board Chair, Superintendent and Secretary Treasurer reports as presented.

APPROVED

5. Student Learning Supports.

Included in the board package is the letter received by the Board Chair from the Minister of Education dated March 19, 2021. The Board Chair guided a discussion with the Board regarding the response from the Minister and next steps.

Motion: 21:21 Moved by Jen Garrison that the Board Chair send a letter to the Minister in responses to the letter received March 19, 2021 and requesting clarification around data referenced within the letter and follow up with a FOIP request.

APPROVED

6. Board Evaluation. The board completed its annual board evaluation. Many strengths were noted, and some suggestions were made to strengthen governance. The board workplan for the 2021-2022 will reflect the recommendations. Focus areas included revision to the strategic plan, succession planning for directors, restoring personal contacts post Covid and professional development of board finances.

Motion: 21:22 Moved by Treena Gish the Board accepts 2020-2021 board evaluation.

APPROVED

7. Annual General Meeting of Suzuki Charter School Society.

The Governance Committee provided the board with draft bylaws at the March 18, 2021 board meeting which were approved by the board. The AGM is set for May 20, 2021. The draft Bylaws will be circulated to the membership (parents) along with the agenda and any supporting documents to all parents prior to the May 20, 2021 AGM.

8. Instruction programs for 2021-2022 school year.

Dr. Paradis led a discussion regarding the implications of offering an at home and in school programs concurrently. For the 2020-2021 school year, SCSS has been provided with federal funding to support the staffing required for the at home learning for the 2020-2021 school year. There has been no indication that funding will continue for the 2021-2022 school year.

After discussing the issue, the board chair will send out a letter to parents to inform parents at home learning will not continue for the 2021-2022 school year unless SCSS receives funds from the federal or provincial government.

9. Draft Alberta Curriculum.

Dr. Paradis provided the board with a summary of the draft curriculum and provide the board with the opportunity to ask questions.

10. Board Work Plan. See attached.

11. Correspondence. None.

12. Comments from parents, staff and public.

13. In camera, if required. Matters that qualify for in camera (board members only) discussions are limited to issues related to land, labor, or law.

Motion: 21:23 Moved by Tara Beland that the board move in camera.

APPROVED- TIME 8:45 p.m.

Motion: 21:24 Moved by Treena Gish that the board return to a public meeting.

APPROVED- TIME 9:56 p.m.

14. Adjournment at 9:56 p.m.

Signature of Nicole Palmer, SCSS Board Chair:



Signature of Heather Christison, Secretary Treasurer:



Approve by Board Motion on May 20, 2021.