



March 2018

Regular Board Meeting Highlights

The agenda package, which includes background information for the items, is available at:

<http://calgarygirlsschool.com/wp-content/uploads/2018/03/Confidential-March-Board-Agenda-Package.pdf>

Chair's Report:

The Chair, Natalya Nicholson provided an oral report that referenced various pieces of correspondence. She also confirmed the panellists for the annual Speak Out, an engagement of parents, staff and directors focused this time on “developing leadership in girls and young women” as part of input for the signature Go Girls curriculum refresh.

Superintendent's Report: The Superintendent's report was attached to the agenda.

The Association of Alberta Public Charter Schools (TAAPCS):

The Vice Chair of the TAAPCS Directors' Committee and the CGS Board's appointed representative to the Association, Geordie MacPherson reported on the upcoming Annual Spring Meeting (May 4 and 5) in Calgary. He also reported on the request from the Chair Ron Koper and Vice Chair for a meeting with Minister Eggen.

Caroline Claussen, the Board's representative to the Research Committee noted that the first order of business for the newly formed group is to collect all the research projects and studies in which charter schools have engaged in the past few years. TAAPCS is seeking a definition of the research mandate, clarification of the roles for various partners as well as funding support. The information will support advocacy in these areas.

Dianne commented on her meetings with the TAAPCS's Board Development and Strategic Planning Committees. She noted that the “spot light school” at the spring AGM features the Calgary Girls' School.

Quarterly Financial Report:

Stanley Wong, Chair of the Board's Finance and Audit Committee, presented the quarterly results noting that transportation is showing significant variance from the last report. Dianne explained that the February fees were not yet entered in the revenue picture and that funding is over 12 months whereas expenses are over 10. The latter months of the year typically show a higher deficit as the expenses (4 months remaining) outpace the funding (6 months remaining). Ms. Juergens, Secretary-Treasurer will provide a brief update on the transportation envelope before the next quarterly report.



Verification of Instructional Hours:

Annually, school authorities monitor the instructional hours for the upcoming school year calendar. The verification is reported to AB Ed before May 31 and is linked to funding. Both campuses exceed the required 950 instructional hours / year.

The Board also reviewed the Daily Physical Activity requirement. Dianne explained that “activity” does not mean physical education, but is a more holistic concept that includes PE, recesses and breaks as well as other activities such as extra-curricular clubs and sports. Where space allows, daily PE is ideal although this usually results in 30 min. classes which is not the most efficient use of time.

AP421 Teacher Supervision and Evaluation: The procedure was amended to align with the *new* Teaching Practice Standards and to simplify the 24 page document to the essentials (now 6 pages including links to supplementary resources). Teachers were given opportunity for input and feedback through the amending process. The Board received the amended AP as information.

Cyclical Policy Review: The Board annually reviews the Governance Policy Handbook to build shared understanding, consider relevance, and ensure compliance in decision-making. The Board reviewed the policies on appeals (concerning Student matters), school-business partnerships and school closures. The Board considered the relevance of the policy on the school-business partnership which reflects a former initiative of AB Education. These policies will continue in force; however, the school-business partnerships will be reviewed early in next year’s policy cycle.

Enrolment Marketing: The Board reviewed three proposals from various companies that specialize in marketing. Additionally, the Board approved a budget for a marketing campaign in support of meeting our enrolment cap of 600 for this fall.

Note: The Board Highlights is intended as a communications tool and is not the official record of the meeting.