

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Pembina Hills School Division was held on August 5, 2020 at Regional Office. In attendance were Trustees J. Tuininga, W. Scinski, K. McElroy, J. Carson, J. Lefebvre and J. Comeau. Also, in attendance were Superintendent D. Garbutt, Secretary Treasurer T. Leigh, Recording Secretary C. Watson and delegates representing the Town of Swan Hills was Mayor C. Wilson, Mayor of Town of Westlock R. Leriger, Mayor of Town of Barrhead Dave McKenzie and community member Linda West.

### **Call to Order**

Chair Tuininga called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

### **Acknowledge Statement**

Chair Tuininga recited the acknowledgement statement from Administrative Procedure 60-20 Honoring First Nations, Metis and Inuit Culture.

### **Amendments to the Agenda**

The following amendments were made to the agenda:

- Postpone Electoral Ward Bylaw 06-2020 – Third Reading to the August 26<sup>th</sup> meeting due to Pembina Hills Policy 07-09 Section 9.2.6.
- Add Alberta School Board Association - Board Chairs and Superintendents Zone Meeting under Committee Meetings
- Add Alberta Education News Release regarding Updated Health Guidelines for Return to School under Information

### **Adopting the Agenda – August 5, 2020**

7847/08/20

Moved by Trustee Carson that the agenda be adopted as submitted and amended.

Carried

### **Adopting the Minutes – Regular Meeting June 24, 2020**

7848/08/20

Moved by Trustee Scinski that the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Pembina Hills School Division held on June 24, 2020 be adopted as circulated.

Carried

### **Adopting the Minutes – Special Meeting July 2, 2020**

7849/08/20

Moved by Trustee Lefebvre that the Minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Pembina Hills School Division held on July 2, 2020 be adopted as circulated and amended.

Carried

Chair Tuininga welcomed members of the delegation representing the Town of Swan Hills  
 Craig Wilson – Mayor of the Town of Swan Hills  
 Ralph Leriger – Mayor of the Town of Westlock  
 Dave McKenzie – Mayor of the Town of Barrhead  
 Linda West – Community Member

### **Appointments – Town of Swan Hills Delegation**

Craig Wilson, Mayor of Swan Hills, spoke to the concerns and opposition to the proposed ward boundary changes, listing the following concerns:

1. The scheduled school board presentation for Swan Hills was held at the School Council Meeting in Swan Hills on January 15, 2020 which was well attended by 30 to 40 people and it was clear that those in attendance were in favor of staying with the status quo.
2. The Board surveyed the entire region of which 62% responded with keeping the status quo of 7 members and retaining existing boundaries.
3. The Board came up with a fourth option but never felt the need to roll that out for further consultation with all the communities.
4. These changes were done when Swan Hills had no representative on the Board to voice any opinions and feel that the Board is trying to make changes without any input from our community.
5. A Board with even numbers of seats is not normal. Most Boards have an odd number of seats to effectively govern without split votes.
6. When Swan Hills became part of Pembina Hills, we came with a lot of assets. We were told that as long as we had a school in the Town of Swan Hills, we would always have our own Community Representative.
7. With Swan Hills being in the far corner of the District, we feel the needs of our Community with the School Board will go unheard. This is already being proven by trying to push this Bylaw through while we have no representation on the Board.
8. When our Representative resigned for personal reasons, we were told that the Board wanted to do a ward review instead of holding a by-election. In hindsight, we, Swan Hills should have fought harder to have that by-election as this would have at least given us a voice at the table during this review.
9. It seems the entire basis for eliminating one position on the Board is for cost savings. Savings of salaries and expenses of one representative with no real thought or concern of how this change affect the Town of Swan Hills and Fort Assiniboine and meanwhile spreading this extra workload on to another County of Barrhead Trustee.
10. The populations of the system are always changing but what does not change is the area of the Pembina Hills School Division. Geographic areas need representation in rural Alberta not just representation by population.

9:43 a.m. Trustee Judy Lefebvre joined the meeting.

Ralph Leriger, Mayor of Town of Westlock spoke to the concerns and opposition to the proposed ward boundary, listing the following concerns:

1. It's important to have a seat at the board where the decision making is done.
2. There isn't actually savings in amalgamation
3. Current economic times is not the time to reduce the voice of Swan Hills

Dave McKenzie, Mayor of Town of Barrhead spoke to the concerns and opposition to the proposed ward boundary, listing the following concerns:

1. Reducing representation of an isolated area such as Swan Hills is going to make the community feel outcast.
2. The roles of elected officials are to be the conduit between Administration and Community and Swan Hills needs a voice at the table.

Discussion followed and Chair Tuininga thanked the delegates for their representation.

Delegates left the meeting at 9:45 a.m.

Assistant Superintendent Brett Cooper and Director of Facilities Tracy Tyreman joined the Meeting at 9:46 a.m.

### **Action Items**

#### **1. Suspension of International Travel**

Recommendation was brought to the Board that due to the uncertainty of the duration of the health measures around the Covid-19 pandemic, it is unreasonable to plan for international trips during the 2020-2021 school year. Discussion followed.

7850/08/20

Moved by Trustee McElroy that the Board suspend student international trips for the duration of the 2020-2021 school year.

Break until 10:00 a.m.

### **Information Items**

The following information items were presented:

1. School Re-Entry Plans: Scenario 1, 2 and 3  
Superintendent David Garbutt, Assistant Superintendent Brett Cooper and Director of Facilities Tracy Tyreman spoke to School Re-entry.

We are taking direction from Alberta Education and more importantly Alberta Health. The most up to date information is being posted on the website as it's received.

Information is being mailed out to families today that will include information that is on the website, direct them to the website where updates will be posted and options for families who don't want to return. We have Vista Virtual School with Grade 1 to 12 curriculum delivered by Certificated Teachers and diploma exam results that are higher than the provincial average. The mail out won't include any further information but we want to reach everyone.

Families will be expected to complete the daily health check screening questions before sending students to school. If students or staff show symptoms that are not related to preexisting conditions, they are legally required to isolate for 10 days. If they become symptomatic at school they will be removed from school. If they test positive for Covid-19

they must isolate for 10 days and Alberta Health Services will contact the school of positive results and begin tracing contacts. If they test negative and have known exposure to Covid-19, have travelled outside Canada or have been in close contact with someone who has tested positive, they are legally required to isolate for 14 days.

Masks are now mandatory for all staff and students including on busses. Busses will have a seating plan with first picked up at the back and families seated together. In town transportation will not be cancelled at this point.

#### Facilities School Re-Entry Plan

- All front-end employees greeting the public will receive plexiglass social shield guards.
- All entrances will receive hand disinfecting dispensers.
- All areas will receive hand disinfecting dispensers.
- Larger sites will receive disinfecting foggers for the caretaker contractors for use in gym storage rooms, prep room, etc. (potentially all schools if a cheaper fogger can be acquired).
- All other schools will receive hand pump disinfecting sprayers (if cheaper fogger can't be acquired).
- Physical distancing tape for floor marking directions.
- Excess furnishings, area rugs, plush toys, that cannot be easily cleaned will be labeled and removed and stored at each site by facilities staff.
- All sites will be cleaned thoroughly and disinfected at the end of each day.
- Additional disinfecting for high-touch surfaces will also occur halfway through the school day at 11:30 -12:30 for smaller sites and 11:30 – 1:30 for the larger sites (times may vary slightly per site).
- Each classroom will be supplied with a disinfectant to be used on desks, keyboard trays and computers where class changes occur.
- Busses will also be disinfected at the end of every route. Hand sanitizers installed at the door prior to entry and cleaning logs will be kept.
- Water fountains will be shut off but the bottle filling stations will be available.
- Installation of hands-free tap sets in student washrooms.
- Additional paper towel dispensers in all student washrooms.
- All staff and students to receive face masks from the province.
- Face shields will be provided for staff from the province.

#### 2. Contingency Allocation

##### a. Vista Virtual School Marketing/Communications

Allocated \$75K for marketing contractor and \$33,400 for advertising costs.

##### b. Neerlandia Public Christian School

Allocated \$30K for 0.6 Certificated Teacher due to higher than expected enrolments in Grade 4. Half of teacher salary is from contingency and half from their discretionary funding.

#### 3. Administrative Procedure 30-06 Student Fees

4. Administrative Procedure 30-55 Record Retention Schedule
5. Administrative Procedure 50-26 Students with Severe (Anaphylactic) Allergies

**Committee Meetings – June 24 to August 4, 2020**

1. Barrhead (Community Awareness Resource Education Services) Coalition Meeting
2. Pembina Hills Special Board Meeting
3. Student Transportation Task Force Meeting
4. Swan Hills School - Graduation

**Celebrations**

1. 2020/21 Minister's Youth Council

**Board Calendar**

- 7851/08/20 Moved by Trustee Lefebvre that the meeting recess until 12:15 p.m.
- Land, Legal, Labour (In-Camera)**
- 7852/08/20 Moved by Trustee Scinski that the meeting convene as an In-Camera Session to discuss land, labour, legal matters. Carried
- 7853/08/20 Moved by Trustee Carson that the meeting reconvene as a Regular Meeting. Carried
- 7854/08/20 Moved by Trustee Comeau that the Board approve the Alberta Distance Learning Centre Service Agreement for the period September 1, 2020 to August 31, 2021 as presented. Carried
- 7855/08/20 Moved by Trustee Scinski that the Board approve the Targeted Teacher Reduction Plan as presented. Carried
- 7856/08/20 Chair Tuininga declared the meeting adjourned at 2:34 p.m.

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Board Chair

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Secretary Treasurer