



BOARD MEETING NOTES

DATE:	December 10, 2024
START TIME:	1:04 pm
END TIME:	5:45 pm
LOCATION:	MESC Governance and Training Center- Maskwacis, AB
CHAIR:	Elliott Young
ATTENDANCE:	Board: Ilene Nepoose, Debra Strongman, Bruce Littlechild, John Nepoose, Azure Johnson, Carmella Cutknife, Allison Adams-Bull Dr. Shauna Bruno (Google Meet), Councillor Clainia Potts, Helen Bull (left 4:25 pm), Councillor Izaiah Swampy (arrived 1:46pm. absent 2:00 pm-2:30 pm- Google Meet) Staff: Tracy Swampy-Sylvester, Trina Vy (Google Meet)
RECORDER:	Jenn Nepoose

1. MIYOWÂCIMOWIN

TIME	5 minutes
ALLOCATION:	
PRESENTER:	Elliott Young
DOCUMENTS:	N/A
DISCUSSION:	- Welcome Bruce Littlechild to the Board as a Member at Large. Round of introductions.

2. ADOPT AGENDA

TIME	5 minutes
ALLOCATION:	
PRESENTER:	Elliott Young
DOCUMENTS:	"1. December 10, 2024 Agenda"
DISCUSSION:	- No changes or additions.
DECISION:	- Moved by Debbie Strongman-Omeasoo, seconded by Ilene Nepoose-Cardinal, all in favour.

3. APPROVE NOVEMBER 12, 2024 MEETING MINUTES

TIME	5 minutes
ALLOCATION:	
PRESENTER:	Elliott Young
DOCUMENTS:	N/A
DISCUSSION:	- Meeting minutes missing from the Board package.
DECISION:	- Tabled until January 14, 2025.

4. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

TIME	10 minutes
ALLOCATION:	
PRESENTER:	Tracy Swampy-Sylvester and Elliott Young
DOCUMENTS:	"MESC.SUPERINTENDENT Update November 2024.pdf"
DISCUSSION:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- No questions on Superintendent update.- Chief of Staff, AB Ed.<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Interest on working with MESC on curriculum. MESC curriculum team will be reaching out to the AB Ed. curriculum director.- Major capital funding is not available from Alberta Ed because MESC is federally funded.- Concern about trilateral agreement with the provincial government. Implications with Treaty rights.- The Chief of Staff team will prepare a letter of support for MESC's new high school.

5. OWNERSHIP LINKAGE

A. Update from Circle of Elders

PRESENTER:	Helen Bull, John Nepoose, Tracy Swampy-Sylvester
DOCUMENTS:	N/A
DISCUSSION:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Revisit the term cultural with the Circle of Elders in January.- Question on "Maskwacis history". Retain Maskwacis history as a focus area but recommend not limit it to just Maskwacis.- Discussion on protocol and timing of purchasing prints for ceremony.- Add the amendment to Ends policy 1 to the February Board meeting.- Hosting a Christmas dinner with the Circle of Elders and school cultural advisors on December 17th at the MESC Governance and Training Centre.- Request for measure to track the number of parents becoming fluent Cree speakers.- Request to focus efforts on nehiyawewin.

ACTION ITEMS

ASSIGNED TO:	ACTION ITEM:	DEADLINE:
Helen and John	Proposed amendments to Ends Policy 1.	January 10, 2025

B. Update from Circle of Parents

PRESENTER:	Carmella Cutknfie, Azure Johnson
DOCUMENTS:	N/A
DISCUSSION:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Looking into different formats for hosting parental engagement, scheduled meetings do not work for all parents.- Schools are looking into engaging parents at existing school events or hosting events that would attract parents rather than a scheduled PAC meeting.- Will identify a measure to track parent engagement with alternative engagement methods.- Will be reviewing the 2025-2026 plan for circle of parents.- Discussion on students and parents learning to speak Cree. Evening Cree classes are provided by MESC.- Suggestion to explore different methods for Nehiyawewin resources in students' homes. Align resources with what the students are learning at school.

5. MONITORING BOARD PERFORMANCE

A. GP-5: Role of Board Chair (CGO)- Internal Report

PRESENTER:	Dr. Shauna Bruno
DOCUMENTS:	“5. Monitoring Board Performance (GP5, GP14, GP15)”
DISCUSSION:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Interpretation of the policy to be that the Board Chair maintains the integrity of the governance process.- Compliance is achieved through structured agenda and meeting notes.- Attend Board meetings and committee meetings as the Board Chair.- Correspondence from the Board is addressed from the Board Chair.- Appointment of Vice Chair to chair meetings when the Board Chair is unable to attend a meeting in person.- Chair attends engagements, events, and external meetings to participate and provides opening remarks on behalf of the Board.- Attend update meetings with Chiefs and Councils.- Working with the Superintendent and fielding concerns and questions from parents.- Request for open invite to all Board members to Chief and Council meetings and meetings with external meetings.<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Not all Board members are required to attend meetings in addition to regular Board meetings.- Need to be conscious of budgeted meeting costs.- Revisit the terms of reference for committees.- Do not recommend revisions to the policy.

B. GP-14: Special Rules of Order- Content Review

PRESENTER:	Elliott Young
DOCUMENTS:	“5. Monitoring Board Performance (GP5, GP14, GP15)”
DISCUSSION:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Policy is still relevant. No changes.

C. GP-15: Handling of Operational Complaints- Direct Inspection

PRESENTER:	Jenn Nepoose
DOCUMENTS:	“Direct Inspection Worksheet (GP-15-12.2024)”
DISCUSSION:	<p>Evidence of compliance:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Received approx 4 complaints in the new term.- Always forward the complaint to Tracy to follow up. Complaints are emailed to Tracy and Shauna.- Tracy responds to all complaints forwarded to her and provides updates. <p>Improvement:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Follow up from the Superintendent on complaints.- Email Tracy when an individual has been directed to her with a complaint. <p>Commitment:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none">- Emails to Tracy regarding complaints.- Encouraging the complainant to identify themselves and engage proper procedure for handling complaints.

D. Table Ownership Linkage Update and Plan

PRESENTER:	Jenn Nepoose
DOCUMENTS:	N/A
DISCUSSION:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Due to the engagement schedule, require more time to compile the report.
DECISION:	<ul style="list-style-type: none">- Tabled to February 2025 Board meeting.

6. BOARD EDUCATION, PRESENTATIONS, AND DISCUSSION

A. Hawaii International Conference on Education

PRESENTER: Dr. Shauna Bruno & Jenn Nepoose

DOCUMENTS: N/A

- DISCUSSION:**
- Agenda will be forwarded.
 - Messaging and optics of the PD in Hawaii:
 - Enhancing personal and professional development and networking opportunities to expand perspectives.
 - Professional development is budgeted annual and Boards are entitled to professional development.
 - Presentation enhances recognition and visibility for MESC.
 - Informed of the situation in Ontario that could draw media attention.
 - Frustration with perception on MESC limiting activities.

B. Financial Quarterly Update

PRESENTER: Trina Vy

DOCUMENTS: “7. a. Financial Quarterly Update. BOG Financial Budget summary Dec 10, 2024”
“7. b. 2024-2025 Budget Entry Summary Report-Consolidated”
“7. c. Expenditures by category Dec 10, 2024”
“7. d. 2024-2025 Budget Entry Summary Report- BOG YTD”

- DISCUSSION:**
- No major increases or decreases in expenses.
 - Expenditure allocations identified in the quarterly report.
 - Due to transfer in ownership of Prairie Bussing, saw an increase in expenditures because invoices on lease payments were not directed to MESC. Will be meeting with Prairie Bussing to discuss the contract to resolve issues.
 - Need to be conscious of spending moving forward.
 - Will adjust expenditures in the capital plan.
 - Request for amended capital plan presentations with adjusted allocations.
 - Variance is the difference between budget and expenditures.
 - ISC has requested a plan to spend deferred funds.
 - The projected budget has exceeded revenue annually. Deferred revenue is generated by interest.
 - Any targeted revenue requires a deferred revenue plan.
 - Admin team is reaching out to local school districts and KTCEA to research procedures for signing cheques.
 - Question on policy for signing authority and signing limits.
 - Signing limits are on internal approval processes but not on signing limits.
 - Concern with ISC method for approval of amendments.

DECISION: - Finance will provide an explanation for amendment, Board members do not need to digitally sign until receiving a response from finance.

C. Maskwacis Education Summit Report

PRESENTER: Jenn Nepoose

DOCUMENTS: “Maskwacis Education Summit X (2024)- Report .pdf”

- DISCUSSION:**
- Vision for a 3D world for students to engage with.
 - Include the attendance report

ACTION ITEMS

ASSIGNED TO:	ACTION ITEM:	DEADLINE:
Jenn	Send report to Chiefs and Councils	January 2025

D. School Performance Report

PRESENTER:	Tracy Swampy-Sylvester	
DOCUMENTS:	N/A	
DISCUSSION:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Attendance, Literacy/Numeracy, and Nehiyawewin - Provided numbers of average attendance at each school. - Will have literacy, numeracy and curriculum present to the board in the new year to provide context and plans to improve performance and results. - Will be reviewing factors that impact attendance such as staffing and school culture. - Discussion on awareness of absenteeism and impact on learning and academic success. Attendance campaigns are being developed. 	
ACTION ITEMS		
ASSIGNED TO:	ACTION ITEM:	DEADLINE:
Tracy	Literacy & numeracy presentation	February 2025

7. OTHER BUSINESS		
A. WRPS ESA Ceremony		
PRESENTER:	Dr. Shauna Bruno	
DOCUMENTS:	N/A	
DISCUSSION:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Request to host a pipe ceremony for a renewed relationship. - Would like to include STAR. 	
ACTION ITEMS		
ASSIGNED TO:	ACTION ITEM:	DEADLINE:
Tracy	Schedule pipe ceremonies with WRPS & STAR	ASAP
B. Board 360 Evaluation Project Overview		
PRESENTER:	Jenn Nepoose	
DOCUMENTS:	N/A	
DISCUSSION:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Preparing a project summary to seek facilitators. - Evaluation would include interviews/evaluations with Board, Executive and Leadership. - Bring draft project summary to Board meeting for approval before releasing for proposals. 	
ACTION ITEMS		
ASSIGNED TO:	ACTION ITEM:	DEADLINE:
Jenn & Shauna	Draft Request for Proposal	February 2025