



Maskwacis Education Schools Commission

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BOARD OF GOVERNORS MEETING NOTES

DATE:	May 13, 2025	
START TIME:	1:10 pm	
END TIME:	3:36 pm	
LOCATION:	MESC Governance & Training Centre	
CHAIR:	Dr. Shauna Bruno	
MESC BOARD:	Allison Adams-Bull	Debra Strongman- Omeasoo (left
	Helen Bull (arrived 1:52 pm)	2:35pm)
	Carmella Cutknife (arrived 2:30 pm)	Elliott Young (Google Meet)
	Azure Johnson	Clr. Jason Makinaw (arrived 1:58 pm)
	Bruce Littlechild	Clr. Izaiah Omeasoo (Google Meet)
	Ilene Cardinal-Nepoose	Clr. Jeffrey Raine (Google Meet)
	John Nepoose	
REGRETS:	Carmella Cutknife (late), Helen Bull (late)	
STAFF:	Tracy Swampy-Sylvester	
RECORDER:	Jenn Nepoose	

1. ADOPT AGENDA

TIME:	5 min
PRESENTER:	Dr. Shauna Bruno
DOCUMENTS:	N/A
DECISION:	- Adopt May 13, 2025 Board meeting agenda. Moved by Azure Johnson, seconded by Debra Strongman-Omeasoo, all in favour.

2. ADOPT April 8, 2025 MEETING NOTES

TIME:	5 min
PRESENTER:	Dr. Shauna Bruno
DOCUMENTS:	"2. April 8, 2025 Board Meeting Notes.pdf"
DISCUSSION:	- No business arising from April 8, 2025 Regular Board meeting.
DECISION:	- Adopt April 8, 2025 Regular Board notes. Moved by Azure Johnson, seconded by Ilene Cardinal-Nepoose, all in favour

3. SUPERINTENDENT REPORT

TIME:	10 min
PRESENTER:	Tracy Swampy-Sylvester
DOCUMENTS:	"3. MESC.BOARD Update April 2025.pdf"
DISCUSSION:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Will be reviewing the emergency response plan to ensure the procedures are followed. - Need to review emergency response procedures with Prairie Bus Line. - The hybrid teams are exploring ways to further integrate nehiyawatsiwin in MESC schools. - Not anticipating the pending Alberta teacher strike to impact MESC.

4. ITEMS FOR DECISION	
A. Circle of Elder Honorarium	
TIME:	15 min
PRESENTER:	Tracy Swampy-Sylvester
DOCUMENTS:	“4. a. COE Honoraria Scenarios.pdf” “4. b. DRAFT Motion- Circle of Elders Honoraria.pdf”
DISCUSSION:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - The honorarium has never been increased. - The proposed mileage would be provided monthly regardless of the kilometres the elder drives each month. Based on attendance. - Not all members attend consistently. - Elders only receive the honorarium when they attend meetings or school visits. - Increase of \$100 to the honorarium minimizes discrepancies and accommodates increase in cost of living. - Direction to inform the Chief of the respective Nation of the members that are not attending regularly.
DECISION:	<p>Adjustment to Circle of Elders honorarium. Motion 2025-26/2025-05-13/215. Moved by Azure Johnson, seconded by Allison Adams-Bull, John Nepoose and Helen Bull abstained, 6 Board Governors in favour, motion carried.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - John and Helen abstain from the discussion and vote due to their appointment to the Circle of Elders.
5. BOARD EDUCATION, PRESENTATIONS, AND DISCUSSION	
A. Negotiation Update	
TIME:	10 min
PRESENTER:	Tracy Swampy-Sylvester
DOCUMENTS:	“5. Negotiation Plan - Budget.pdf”
DISCUSSION:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Recommendation to review administrative procedures to provide compensation for employees who are providing additional services to MESC such as conducting a pipe ceremony. - Ensure terminology is consistent with Board motions for budget allocation.
6. OWNERSHIP LINKAGE	
A. Update from Circle of Elders	
TIME:	10 min
PRESENTER:	Helen Bull, John Nepoose and Tracy Swampy-Sylvester
DOCUMENTS:	N/A
DISCUSSION:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Buffalo harvest at Kisipatinahk School on May 21st. - Discussed plans for the Kehtehayak Forum in June. - Discussed alternatives to eagle feathers for high school graduates. - Suggestion to include the significance of the eagle feather before the presentation of diplomas at graduation.

B. Update from Circle of Parents	
TIME:	10 min
PRESENTER:	Azure Johnson, Carmella Cutknife
DOCUMENTS:	N/A
DISCUSSION:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Concerns from parents in Pigeon Lake about students needing to leave Mimiw Sakahikan School after grade 6. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Spoke with the Principal at Kisipatinahk about accepting grade 7-9 students from Mimiw Sakahikan School. - Met with the Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools Superintendent about Mimiw Sakahikan School parent concerns of racism. Building the relationship to address the concerns. - Tracy will present the plan and cost analysis for Kisipatinahk accepting grade 7 students. - Concerns from parents about racism in provincial schools and no food program. - Consider an expansion to MESC schools as needed to accommodate Mimiw Sakahikan School. - Maskwacis Cree High School graduation is on June 6th. Carmella Cutknife will provide opening remarks on behalf of the Board. - The High School travel club will be leaving for Japan on June 23rd. - The Junior High School travel club leaves for Vancouver on June 14th.
C. Update from Nation Representatives	
TIME:	10 min
PRESENTER:	Allison Adams-Bull, Ilene Cardinal-Nepoose, Debra Strongman-Omeasoo, Elliott Young
DOCUMENTS:	N/A
DISCUSSION:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - No meetings with Nations since the last Board meeting. - Nipisihkopahk Chief and Council meeting on May 26th and 27th. - Kisipatinahk Chief and Council meeting on June 3rd.
D. Ownership Linkage Committee Update	
TIME:	10 min
PRESENTER:	Jenn Nepoose
DOCUMENTS:	N/A
DISCUSSION:	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Board members were unavailable, admin was directed to go ahead with meeting with the Elder. - Oskayak Conference on May 30th at the Maskwacis Cree High School. <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - Planning is lead by the Student Leaderships groups. - Pipe ceremony at 9:00 am. - Theme is Miyowicehtowin - getting along. - Student Services will host a career conference. - Will have a wellness space for students that are overwhelmed or overstimulated. - 2 teachers are leading sessions for student with high needs. - No entertainment, students wanted to do activities. - Leadership, Board and Circle of Elders will be acknowledged but will not

	be in the opening remarks
	- Will have a table set up in the career fair to engage with students on their priorities for education.
	- Kehtehayak Forum on June 25th and 26th at Bear Park.
	- Hired casual staff to personally invite as many Elders as possible.
	- Gather information on how we can improve the education system.
	- June 25
	- pipe ceremony at 8:00am
	- Keynotes from Dr Wilton Littlechild
	- Wellness sessions in the tent
	- Soap making workshop
	- Evening campfire stories
	- June 26
	- Maskwacis history presentation
	- Possible topics for breakout tipis
	- How does traditional knowledge help students succeed?
	- Wahkohtowin - connecting and respecting relationships regardless of Nation borders.
	- Ceremony
	- Treaties
	- Feedback on Maskwacis and Treaty maps.

7. MONITORING BOARD PERFORMANCE	
A. BMD-3: Delegation to the Superintendent- Content Review	
TIME:	5 min
PRESENTER:	Dr. Shauna Bruno and Jenn Nepoose
DOCUMENTS:	"6. a. BMD-3: Delegation to the Superintendent.pdf"
DECISION:	- No changes, policy still relevant.
B. BMD-4: Monitoring Superintendent Performance - Direct Inspection	
TIME:	5 min
PRESENTER:	Dr. Shauna Bruno
DOCUMENTS:	"6. b. BMD-4: Monitoring Superintendent Performance.pdf"
DECISION:	- Important for the board to deepen its oversight by asking more probing questions about the superintendent's monitoring reports.
	- The Superintendent Evaluation Committee can meet earlier to discuss the process and offer improvements for next year.
	- Assess evidence of compliance on the basis of data received from internal report from the Superintendent and external reports.
C. EL-2: Treatment of Staff and Volunteers - Monitoring report	
TIME:	5 min
PRESENTER:	Dr. Shauna Bruno
DOCUMENTS:	"6. c. Monitoring Report EL-2.05.2025.pdf"
DECISION:	- Tracy will be creating a tracking sheet for complaints, document how complaints are addressed and identify trends.

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- Suggestions present results of the staff survey to the Board with how the concerns are being addressed.
 - Board accepts the monitoring report as satisfactory.
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D. EL-4: Financial Conditions and Activities - Monitoring report

TIME: 5 min

PRESENTER: Tracy Swampy-Sylvester

DOCUMENTS: "6. d. Monitoring Report EL-4.03.11.2025 (05.25).pdf"

DISCUSSION: - Board accepts the monitoring report as satisfactory.
