

FROM THE BOARD

Highlights of the Horizon Board of Education Monthly Meetings

November, 2019

Organizational Meeting

The Horizon School Division Board of Education held its annual organizational meeting on Wednesday, November 13. Nominations were made for the Board's table officer positions of Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson. Jim Hack remains in the position of Board Chair, through acclamation. The position of Vice Chair went to a vote, and Linda Mattock was elected to the role for the next year.

Mr. Hack has served as Board Chair for Horizon School Division since 2011. He also serves as Trustee for Subdivision 10, which includes Ituna School, New Horizon Hutterian School, Foam Lake Composite High School and Foam Lake Elementary School. Ms. Mattock has served as Vice Chair since 2018, and Trustee for Subdivision 2 since 2016. Subdivision 2 includes Humboldt Collegiate Institute, Humboldt Public School, Lake Lenore School, St. Brieux School, Anaheim School and Three Lakes School in Middle Lake.

"I look forward to the work we will do as a Board in the coming year, serving the students, staff and communities of Horizon School Division"

*- Jim Hack,
Board Chair*

November 2019 Regular Meeting

A regular monthly meeting of the Board took place in the Horizon School Division office boardroom on Wednesday, November 13. In attendance for this meeting were Jim Hack (Chair), Linda Mattock (Vice-Chair), Trustees, David Holinaty, Jennifer Lemky, Mark Fedak, Christine Gradin, Wil Lengyel, Cheryl Vertefeuille, Jolene Koopman, Nathan Bitternose, Paul Crow-Buffalo, Albert Pinacie, and Sheryl Kayseas; with Lori-Anne Proznick joining the meeting via video conference. Director of Education / CEO, Kevin Garinger, Superintendent of Finance Services / CFO, Sarah Reding, and Superintendent of Operational Services / COO, Justin Arendt joined the meeting to provide their reports.



Horizon Board Vice Chair, Linda Mattock, and Chair, Jim Hack

Discussion Items:

- Board Committee Reports
- Planning and Reporting Document Approvals
- WebEx Review
- and more...

WebEx Review

Director of Education, Kevin Garinger, demonstrated the WebEx meeting software for Trustees. This program allows for easy video and phone conferencing, making it easier for Trustees to join meetings when they're not able to attend physically. The audio/visual technology available in the central office Board Room is critical to connect Trustees, staff, and other partners across the geographically vast Horizon School Division.

Audit Committee Report

Mark Fedak, Chair of the Audit Committee, shared a report about the committee's meeting on October 31, during which they reviewed financial information and preliminary audited financial statements from the 2018-19 school year. This committee also includes Nathan Bitternose, Wil Lengyel, and Albert Pinacie; as well as Chair Jim Hack and Vice Chair Linda Mattock as ex-officio members.

SCC Engagement Committee Report

Christine Gradin, Chair of the newly-formed School Community Council (SCC) Engagement Committee, shared a report from the committee's first meeting on November 1. This committee also includes Jolene Koopman, Sheryl Kayseas, Jennifer Lemky, and Cheryl Vertefeuille; as well as Chair Jim Hack and Vice Chair Linda Mattock as ex-officio members.

Approvals for Strategic Plan, Annual Report

Director of Education, Kevin Garinger, shared Horizon's 2019-20 Strategic Plan for the Board's review. Horizon's Strategic Plan is made up of three planning documents — each focused on one of the Board's Three Goals of Literacy & Numeracy, Safe & Caring, and Graduation Rates. These plans are developed by staff through a collaborative process to meet the goals and outcomes of the Horizon Board of Education and the Education Sector Strategic Plan. Following their review, the Board approved the Strategic Plan for submission to the Ministry of Education.

Horizon's 2018-19 Annual Report was reviewed by the Board and approved in principle. The Board delegated to the Audit Committee to approve the final piece of the Annual Report — the Audited Financial Statements — during their November 27 meeting.

Operational Services Report

Superintendent of Operational Services / COO, Justin Arendt, joined the meeting to provide his monthly report on Transportation, Facility Services, and Information Services. Transportation data highlights for 2019-20 so far include the fact that Horizon's combined travel across the system is currently 20,978 km per day, serving over 2500 students. Justin shared updates on major projects and work underway in Facility Services, including an addition project at Wadena Elementary School. From Information Services, the Board received a report including updates on MySchoolSask and Gradebook development/training.

Horizon Central Office Grand Opening



Left to right: Sheryl Kayseas, Jennifer Lemky, David Holinaty, Kevin Garinger, Christine Gradin, Linda Mattock, Nathan Bitternose, Jim Hack, Albert Pinacie, Minister Harpauer, Paul Crow-Buffalo, Stuart Bitternose, Minister Wyant (photo courtesy of DiscoverHumboldt.ca)

Horizon School Division was proud to welcome Honourable Deputy Premier and Minister of Education, Gordon Wyant, Honourable Minister of Finance, Donna Harpauer, City of Humboldt Deputy Mayor, Lorne Pratchler, Elder Stuart Bitternose of George Gordon First Nation, Council Member David Crow-Buffalo of Day Star First Nation, past Horizon Board Trustees, past employees, and community guests for our central office grand opening ceremony on November 15.

The project broke ground in October 2017. Construction was completed on-schedule, allowing staff to move in over the 2018/19 winter holidays. Horizon's central office staff have been operating out of this facility full-time since January 2019.

Approval to move forward with the project was granted by the Ministry on June 2, 2017. Cost savings annually realized by this new facility will be invested back into Horizon classrooms to directly support students' learning needs.

Submissions & Feedback

To submit photos or stories regarding the Board of Education or an individual Trustee in your school community, please contact the Horizon School Division Communication Services Officer at lance.hiltz@horizonsd.ca.

We want this newsletter to be as informative and beneficial as possible, so feedback on how we can improve is always welcome.

Thanks for reading!

Next Board Meeting Scheduled for December 18, 2019

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