



MCFN Board of Education Meeting

Meeting:	MCFN Governance Committee Meeting	Recorder:	Kate Bakos
Date of Meeting:	February 27, 2023	Start Time:	4:00 pm (4:30 hit Quorum)
Location:	Virtually via Zoom	End Time:	6:30 pm

Attendees:

Name	Title/Position	Department
Patti Barber	Director LL	Lifelong Learning
Bernadette O'Grady Bomberry	LL PS Advisor	Lifelong Learning
Cindy Agius	Policy Analyst	Lifelong Learning
Katharine Brown	EY Administrator	Lifelong Learning
Dorothy Lowe	Elder	Pillar 4
Councilor Veronica King – Jamieson	Education Pillar	Chief and Council
James Medway	LSK Principal	LSK Elementary
Eric Sault	Member 2	BOE
Holly LaForme (Left call around ~6 pm)	Member 1	BOE
Tena Sault (around 5:42 pm entered call)	Parent 2	BOE
Carly Szabo + Baby Lily	Parent 1	BOE
Val King	Elder	BOE
Kate Bakos	Admin Support	Lifelong Learning

Regrets

Name	Title/Position	Department
Jonathan Ferrier	Teacher	BOE

Discussions

Topic No. 1 – Opening of Meeting

Dorothy Opened the meeting 4:12.

4:30 quorum Eric, Val, Holly, Carly

Next meeting the board can take turns chairing the meeting, and if there is anything they wanted add to the agenda, they can rotate the chair, and we can do a chart and let them know the dates.

Val, Eric, Holly, Carly all agree that each member taking turns at chairing.

Kate to make a chart and share.

Time frame: before the next meeting

Topic No. 2 – Adoption of Agenda

a) Review Agenda

b) Additions to the Agenda

- Veronica McMaster IEC

- Algoma Last Call

Added review minutes and action items as item #3, will be a standing item on the agenda.

Topic No. 3 -Action items from January Meeting Follow-up:

Follow-up Action: James to get flyer made to send out to advertise supply teacher positions.

Time Frame: This week so we can get it out ASAP

Follow-up Action: James to share the land camp with the BOE once it is completed so we can post it across the six communities;

James is to share written document for the Education awareness meeting

Time Frame: Write-up for the next Education Awareness meeting. Tentative start date for July, waiting for more development.

Updates:

- Tentative dates early July.
- Patti to bring to C&C
- Development underway
- Actua partners to see if they can assist with components of the program.

Comments: Will James be able to reach out to all High Schools and our community members / are going to get approval for this?

The expected barrier is the student and staffing ratio and the financial aspect. Making sure the funds are in place. Those are all interrelated.

If we cannot complete this year, we can contribute to the next summer's offering.

Topic No. 4 – FNWS Update – Cindy Agius

Governance working group Jan 20

- 9 topics
- 3-day summit in April, expected that 7 rep from each FN would attend
- Need for the current status of Jett, and leadership.
- Important to lead with a consensus at the end of the summit.
- Begins with a panel of lawyers, regional education agreement community
- April 18, 19, 20
- Imperative Chief be there or acting chief
- Summit to ratify a chief signing

UNDRIP

- More engagement sessions held in Toronto
- Final report will be submitted and share with BOE once completed

Renewal

- MCFN has signed

Crowd Indigenous relations

- CIRNAC will be an active participant in JETT discussions
- We can now access funds from this process
- Have signed a letter of support

Data Model

- MCFN have submitted their data
- Case study by consultant will be presenting their findings to the collective
- Presentation will be sent to the communities

DOJ report

- 2 reports, and a guiding document for JETT

Pikangikum 8 FN to the collective,

Letter of Support Requests

- Garden river wants to tap into money for Garden river.

JETT Jan 27

- ISC presented on REA
- ISC working for a way forward for a TOR
- CIRNAC to submit their process

The three day summit – Patti put to the BOE if any would like to go.

Patti, Cindy, Veronica, and Chief will be going on the April 20.

Follow-up Action: BOE to let the DoLL by March 31st for the Summit

Who is responsible: Patti, Veronica, or Kate

Time Frame: By March 31st.

Topic No. 5 – Post-Secondary Update – Bernadette O’Grady Bomberry

Currently sponsoring 87 students

We had a few not complete previous semester in good standing, others have graduated.

Influx of applicants for Spring / Summer. Approx 10, some are new some are not

We were doing approval letters today.

We have a new LLPSA, and we went to HSS to talk to students about programs and PS. Still have to go to Steam and Assumption.

Still working on our database.

Carly – data, what fields are students primarily going into? What areas might be supporting their success in their respective fields?

Chem or biochem, where a lot of health students struggle, what areas are they also not going into?

B - Mohawk is very good at having pathways that lead to McMaster.

C -Also looking for Mentors, are there other support we can offer?

Bernadette writes letters for the EaglePress, and advertises students get into a study group, and go to the indigenous groups, it is up to the student to access those supports, as everything is school specific.

Val – The ones that fall through the crack are the ones that are not successful, they are going to a program, and they do not succeed and do they stay in the system of being penalized because they didn't succeed? What do they need? Does someone make an academic plan with them so that they do succeed? Our students sometimes do not make it in the Western system. How can we help them with a 2-eyed seeing approach? If the staff is limited, can the Board help support the student?

Carly – I agree. As a student, it is easier sometimes to walk away than get support. If they don't actively seek it they don't get it. There is many things they could be very successful at.

Bernadette – In some cases, I act according to the policy, but I do advise them to the best of my ability; sometimes, they get a hit and do repayment, but we work with them to make things so they can get things done in their own ways. One thing we can fund through ISC is 1 year of a pre-course. A whole program. It helps prepare for the PS environment and specific knowledge. We have been talking with George Brown for PS and all community members, and it is to help to get ready to figure out where they want to go. We are meeting soon to discuss how we can improve it. People don't know how to write etc. Something so basic to post-secondary, and they haven't been prepared. I love that you can be available for them, perhaps culture meetings on Mondays.

First, university access, they talk about and teach English and stuff. Jonathan offered the last meeting as well.

James – one silver lining of Covid, is that the learning management we used is the same as post-secondary schools. D2L and Brightspace our students have mastered. They still know how to use those online learning spaces.

Follow-up Action: Patti put forward Jonathan makes a YouTube video for students on how to write a paper etc. for our students so we can share those skills with our students.
Val and Bernadette to meet and see about Cultural meetings with our PSE students.

Who is responsible: Patti, Jonathan, Val and Bernadette

Time Frame: By Next meeting?

Topic No. 6 – Post-Secondary Support – Eric Sault

I think we need to do a lot more of this, we leave a lot up to them, I know a lot of our PSE students are struggling, they go out and they are gone, and we just move on.

I think we need to something different, or something more.

E.g. here is a group and this resource or that resource, and they don't utilize it for a number of reasons. When I went to school I was assigned a mentor without even been asked. It was someone I was required to meet with a couple times a year to touch base.

Patti – put this a part of strategic planning items

We can also do is subcommittee

We need a tutoring plan . mentoring plan.

Val – there a lot of traditional aspects and ways of how did it before and we were there for our people.

Follow-up Action: Add to Strategic Planning

Who is responsible:

Time Frame:

Topic No. 7 – Pillar 4 Update – Councilor Veronica

- Mississauga nation meeting for the strategic planning

4 day training for justice peace

Just finished HG

UTM Archeology camp for the summer

UTM for youth for video photography.

Moccasin Identifier – working with Carolyn to do it in the language.

Youth groups

The next language class is March 20-23 in Rama

Next session in Sault St. Marie for language conference.

June 21 2023, next Pow Wow in the city.

Follow-up Action:

Who is responsible:

Time Frame:

Topic No. 8 – LSK Expansion – Patti

LSK Expansion is 12 weeks behind schedule.

Have not yet received new schedule in writing.

Follow-up Action:

Who is responsible:

Time Frame:

Topic No. 9 – Early Years Proposal – Katharine and Patti

Tena entered call at 5:42

We can create whatever program we want to create for JK/ SK

We met with SERTS, the Curriculum lead, and Kindergarten Team

- We need 2 OCTs
- 2 additional RECE7.5 hour day, and work annually
- Creates care for summertime and after school opportunities
- Also asking for a Kindergarten Assistant.
- 1 language primary instructor
- EY Mental Health worker
- 1 VP / Principal Assistant
- 1 FS assistant
- 11 new roles to fill

Want to create an innovative wrap-around early years program.

Val – have you done research of that wrap-around anywhere else?

I worked with a program called wrap-around, it was used for wrap-around facilitators, holistic model for body, mind, spirit, and emotion.

Patti – this will create a good foundation for a two-eyed seeing approach

Katharine – Wraparound in our plan, we are thinking it as encompassing what a 4-6 require to start the journey to elementary to make that seamless, as well as having before and after school programming and hot lunch and moving into grade 1. The proposal doesn't have a name yet.

What you are mentioning is something EY is striving to provide. Staffing has been an issue, once we move to the new centre, we want to provide those support to families.

Val – Wraparound in a traditional way is going younger and younger, and our ways are being with aunties and based in love. I see it as wrapping them in love continuously. Giving them cognitive skills, based in love. We don't want them to feel they are being taken away from their homes.

Patti – I want that for our Kindergarten program as well.

Katharine – there is a paper called “Foster Resiliency with Indigenous Children” by Monique Gray Smith and she has created a model, I am reflecting on this paper and incorporating it more and more.

Patti – we are looking for Board Support, with the rolls as we have more needs. We are working on foundational work. To change the institutional ways of learning to ground it more in Indigenous learning.

Tena – When you talk about language teachers, I think there should be getting them a residence for them to live in.

Patti – the board has raised that. We have to make it available to the community. We need to revitalize it.

Tena – I really think that if we had a house, place and support system for the language teachers they would stay here to teach. I was lucky to live here and have a home of my own.

James – the government outlines the specific amount of minutes for the language program, and don’t know if anyone has done the math, but we are not meeting the recommended amount of language minutes. Mr. Shawana can only do so much, there is a need to meet those requirements and dividing it among the divisions would not only meet those requirements and then exceed them.

Holly had to leave to see if folks outside her house were okay.

Val, Tena, Carly, Eric in agreement with moving forward with the positions.

Follow-up Action:

Who is responsible:

Time Frame:

Topic No. 10 – Food Service Working Group – Katharine Brown

Walkthrough of construction.

Working on staffing plan, surveyed elementary school parents.

Will present the results next meeting. - Kate

We will be travelling to Chippewa of the Thames to see how they do their food service.

Val – how do community members find out for events?

Katharine – survey was only to parents first, but volunteer search will be going out to the community, Child Care will be welcoming community members back soon

Val – I had asked what is going to happen to the old daycare, and I am always talking about elder’s home, and I always thought it would be perfect. What is that space going to be utilized as.

Katharine – I have not been advised.

Eric –that would be a health building, heard it through grape vine.
Everyone is hearing different things

James – Val the door is open to you. Connecting with community members and elders has been Tyrell King connecting with everyone. He is growing into the position and maintain what we current have done, he is now at the moment reaching out to the folks in the community. Just to make sure we are incorporating people in the community. We also have a culture team, and if there is a culture thing, we reach out to the community.

We use SchoolMessenger, we have current parents and caregivers. We can add you to that. We send out monthly calendars as well. We provide everyone with a monthly calendar. We also have an annual calendar.

Val – maybe a discussion if you think it would be appropriate for the Board to be on the list.

Val recommended that BOE added to the SchoolMessenger.

Follow-up Action: James to raise SchoolMessenger at strategic planning session.
Kate to present FSWG survey results.

Time Frame: March 18th

Topic No. 11 – Preparations for Strategic Planning

March 18th

- Agenda vision and mission statement
- Discuss Early Years Framework
- Post Secondary tutoring / mentorship
- Discussion for the board
- TOR
- Education Symposium
- Members and when their terms are up.

Follow-up Action:

Who is responsible:

Time Frame:

Topic No. 12– Youth Representative Position – Kate and Veronica

Youth Position remains unfilled.

May have to get rid of the youth position.

Carly – does it need to be post-secondary, could it be younger?

We can change this position as it is not working.

Val – we were suppose to look at TOR every year.

Follow-up Action: Discuss Youth Position at Strategic Planning Session.

Who is responsible:

Time Frame:

Topic No. 13 – Algoma Gala

Val is interested in going.

Veronica would like to carpool.

Tena can go if there is carpool,

Dorothy can attend.

Can we look into a limo take it out of Pilar 4 for travel.

Follow-up Action: Kate to book a limo for the evening through Pillar 4 and follow up with parties for the Gala.

Time Frame: ASAP.

Topic No. 5 – Katharine – KASA New Business

March break, summer camps, have hired a new RECE.

The program is running out of the kindergarten room at LSK, then will be at ECC in the expansion once complete.

The cafeteria will be providing food for those programs as well.

Follow-up Action: N/A

Topic No. 6 – Additions to the Agenda/Other Business

Housing committee looking into a language house, trying to justify building a house while waiting for a house for years.

BOE to make a recommendation to housing committee, that is a part of our mandate to teach the language.

Bring forward on the strategic planning session.

Make a recommendation to get housing for the language teacher. This is a huge addition to the community. A place for the people as well.

Up at the green willow area, since it is a cultural area, it could be for the teachers that are coming and going.

Everyone is in agreement.

We can do it at the strategic planning session for the BOE and then leverage to meet the needs of the community.

Meeting close at 6:30pm

Next Meeting (if applicable)

Date:	Feb 27, 2023	Start Time:	4:00am	Location:	Zoom
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