

**MEMORIAL COMPOSITE HIGH SCHOOL
SCHOOL COUNCIL AGENDA
May 25, 2020
Google Meet
Meeting Notes**

Present:

Brenda Baker, Doreen Engelhardt, Arlene Fieldhouse, Carolyn Jensen, Darcia Kostiuk, Paul McCann, Heather Plante, Jenise Robertson, Christina Rodriguez

1. Call to Order

- a. Brenda Baker called the meeting to order at 7:01.

2. Approval of the Agenda

- a. Doreen Engelhardt approved the agenda.

3. Approval of the Minutes

- a. [February 24, 2020](#) - Doreen Engelhardt approved the minutes.
- b. March 16, 2020 - cancelled due to class cancellation for COVID-19
- c. April 27, 2020 - informal meeting

4. Correspondence

- a. None

5. Old Business

- a. Teacher Appreciation
 - i. Cancelled
- b. MCHS 70th Anniversary Update
 - i. Postponed to the fall to make a decision if it can go forward.
 - ii. May have to wait until the 75th anniversary to celebrate.

6. New Business

- a. None

7. Reports

- a. Principal's Report - Ms. Jensen
 - i. Learning At Home
 - 1. At the last meeting teachers and students were just getting settled. Now they have found their routines.
 - 2. MCHS has approximately 90% engagement which is excellent compared to some of the rates reported elsewhere.

- ii. Budget
 - 1. 2019-20 - Some funds have been sent back to PSD to help make up the shortfall from the government clawback from education to support the COVID efforts.
 - a. MCHS is managing that well.
 - 2. 2020-21 - Bridging Funding
 - a. As the UCP campaigned, there will be a reduction in funding to education. This will take place over three years in a step down fashion.
 - b. MCHS will take advantage of three retirements this year and replace two of the three positions with temporary contracts which can be ended as the funding is reduced.
 - c. This will provide the staff with job security so that they can focus on their teaching.
- iii. Staffing
 - 1. Staff departures this June
 - a. Mr. Strangway, Assistant Principal, retired at Christmas
 - b. Mrs. Wendel, Assistant Principal, retiring
 - c. Mr. Hymanyk, Art, retiring
 - d. Mr. Jaspers-Fayer, Science, Assistant Principal at Duffield
 - e. Mr. Letts, Comm Tech, retiring
 - f. Ms. Mohammed, Counsellor, retiring
 - 2. For 2020-2021
 - a. Assist Principal - Mr. Coghill from CFL
 - b. Assist Principal - Mrs. Farrell from Copperhaven & Ft Mac
 - c. Art - Mr. Gee
 - d. Comm Tech - Miss Oshiki
 - e. Counselling - Mrs. Nuijens
 - f. Math - in the process of hiring
 - g. Science - in the process of hiring
 - h. Two temporary positions
- iv. Grad 2020
 - 1. June Ceremony
 - a. Postponed. AHS will not permit the event to take place.
 - 2. October 9 Ceremony Only
 - a. Currently have the date reserved with Edmonton Convention Center. We will confirm in the fall as to whether it will go ahead as per AHS direction.
 - b. Will not have the resources with school in session to be able to offer a banquet and dance.
 - c. This is what SGCHS is doing as well on the same date.

3. Drive Thru Graduation
 - a. As time went on in organizing the October event, we became concerned that we may not be able to offer it at all. We did not want to be in the position where it was cancelled and then there was no event.
 - b. Due to an initial communication error, there has been some negativity surrounding the drive thru event.
 - c. Two different parents have approached to inquire about additional features to the event which are in progress but not yet confirmed and MCHS will assist if possible.
 - i. Red carpet and photo opportunity somewhere else in the community.
 - ii. Grad photos being scrolled on the digital sign kitty corner from Zender Ford in Spruce Grove.
 - d. It is important to understand the scale of this event. To be inclusive we need to plan for approximately 300 grads participating. Three minutes each will be 900 minutes which is 15 hours. We know there will be less than that but do not have the capacity to add other features without compromising inclusivity.
 - e. The silver linings are that this will be the first graduation where students will have a complimentary yard placard with their grad photo on it and they will be able to come to the school to wave goodbye to their teachers.
 - f. A shout out to Lifetouch Photography who owns the graduation photos by copyright. MCHS signs a contract for specific uses of those photos (yearbook, class composite photo, and ceremony slideshow). Lifetouch has deemed that the placards will be the “outdoor slideshow” and are extending the contract to cover that activity.
4. Possible Postponement to Spring 2021
 - a. This will be very challenging apart from any AHS restrictions to offer two very large scale events at the same time or even combine the events into one larger one.
 - b. There are limited venues that have capacity for approximately 2500 people as per usual MCHS graduations or double that if we were to combine.
 - c. Parent groups would be welcome to help however would be excluded from activities that involve financial decision making or sharing of student information which is a significant number of the planning activities.
 - d. MCHS graduation events run on a shoestring budget and often lose money. Decisions must be made to ensure that

financial hardship does not follow a graduation event, especially since there are large sums of money involved in booking venues, etc. for such a large event.

- v. 20-21 Relaunch
 - 1. Three possible scenarios from the Minister regarding next year.
 - a. Return to school as usual any other year.
 - b. Return to a hybrid of online and in person schooling.
 - c. Remain fully in the online environment.
 - 2. The most likely scenario is the hybrid which is the most complex.
 - 3. The government will be advising school jurisdictions on August 1 of the details expected of the return to school.
 - 4. Conversations have started to identify the varied number of considerations that will be required to be addressed.
 - 5. Currently we are planning to return to school as usual as that is what we know how to do. We will apply the needed modifications as we learn what they are.
- b. Trustee Report - Mr. McCann
 - i. 20-21 Relaunch
 - 1. Currently considering what schools and families need to be supported in the return to school.
 - 2. Are seeking information from the community to assist.
 - ii. Administrative Staffing
 - 1. The Assistant Principal announcement was posted to the website late last week. The admin team is now assembled for 20-21.
 - iii. Board Meeting Times - 20-21
 - 1. Have currently been having them on Tuesdays with a balance of am and pm meetings.
 - 2. Considering moving the meetings to the first Tuesday of the month to improve communication flow with School Councils.
 - iv. PSD Summer Hours
 - 1. The Center for Education will be open during the summer but are closed on Fridays.
 - 2. Please access PSD as needed. An appointment is recommended.
 - v. Infrastructure Approvals
 - 1. PSD requested a number of smaller projects totalling \$4.1 million. All were approved and will begin shortly to be completed over the summer.
 - vi. Questions for Paul
 - 1. Please call PSD or email him at pmccann@psd70.ab.ca

8. Table Go Round

- a. Thank You Brenda!
 - i. This is Brenda's last meeting as School Council Chair. Her youngest daughter is graduating. Thank you for six years of service to MCHS!
- b. Reimbursing Fees
 - i. This is done at the school level and should be showing up in parent accounts shortly.
 - ii. The reimbursement of fees will take the form of credits on a student's account or on a sibling's account. Grade 12 students' families will be issued checks.
 - iii. Some course fee reimbursements were calculated based on the percentage of time the students were in the course, approximately 30% in attendance so 70% credit. (Stated 20% and 80% in the meeting.)
 - iv. Some were calculated based upon the supplies purchased. For example Art students were provided a package of materials to continue their course at home.
- c. Final Grades - Learning at Home
 - i. If a student was passing on March 15, the day classes were cancelled, their mark may go down during the rest of the semester due to lack of work but it will not go below 50%. For example, a student had 70% on March 15 and did no school work for the rest of semester. The actual mark would calculate to 42% but would receive a 50% on their report card
 - ii. If a student was not passing on March 15, that student would have to bring their mark up to a passing level and maintain that passing level until final marks are calculated to earn credits.
- d. Unallocated Credits
 - i. These are credits that are issued on a case by case basis to ensure that students' education is not harmed due to the COVID class cancellation.
 - ii. A good example is work experience. MCHS has had several students who had everything in place to earn their work experience credits but then got laid off. These students would be issued unallocated credits to ensure that not completing what was planned does not harm their graduation
 - iii. Another example for using unallocated credits is hardship. If the COVID class cancellation has placed undue hardship on a student, they can also be issued these credits if the family communicates their situation.
 - iv. Credits will not be handed out as liberally with grade 10 and 11 students as there is time for them to make up learning in their later high school years. There is room in a student's schedule to earn up to 120 credits.
- e. Timetable for Next Year - Hands on Learning
 - i. For courses like mechanics, etc. it is uncertain as to how they will be offered until we know what the plan to return to school is.

- ii. Students will have their schedules in their PowerSchool app by the third or final week of June. At that time, if a student wishes to change a course, the usual procedure to complete an online course request will also be opened.

9. Adjournment

- a. Brenda Baker adjourned the meeting at 8:14.

Brenda Baker, Chairperson

Carolyn Jensen, Principal