

## **KTCEA Board Meeting Highlights**

## June 3, 2021

KTCEA Central Office, Red Earth Creek (Virtual Meeting)

## Dr. Daphne Mai-Stoina, Superintendent Report

**New Board Members:** Three new members were sworn in to the KTCEA Board; Councillor James Nahachick and Councillor Hughie Tallman from Whitefish Lake First Nation #459, and Councillor Frank Whitehead from Woodland Cree First Nation.

**COVID-19 update and measures:** There has been no transmission of COVID cases in any KTCEA schools and updates on school closures and openings were shared. We continue to remind our staff to be vigilant and to ensure they follow local Nation protocols and directives.

**Student participation rates:** Rates at Atikameg remained the same at 33% but as the school reopened to grade 10-12 students and will open to junior high grades, the rate is expected to increase. At Cadotte Lake School, there was a slight increase to 29%. Rates at Clarence Jaycox School, increased to 90% and at Kateri school, participation increased to 88% in May. Rates dipped slightly at Little Buffalo to 35%. Student participation rates are higher when schools are open for in-person learning.

**Knowledge Loss Update:** KTCEA has been moving forward to address knowledge loss through teacher-based assessment, literacy and numeracy benchmarking and completing CAT-4 assessments for reading, writing and math. We have hired a temporary position to work with the Nations to integrate knowledge loss outcomes into summer camps.

**2021 Graduates:** In 2020-2021, we have 23 grads on track to graduate. This is almost a 100% increase in graduates, which is remarkable during a COVID year. We want to congratulate our staff and our board for their tireless efforts supporting our high school grads.

**Jordan's Principle:** A motion was passed to approve the KTCEA proposal to ISC for Jordan's Principle funding that will support for programs including speech and language services, physical therapy, learning and behavior consultants, occupational therapy, assistive technology, mental health and equine assisted learning.

Outreach School Update: Updates on the KTCEA Outreach School to begin in

September 2021 were shared with the Board. Based on the availability of space, the Outreach program will begin at Atikameg in one central location and we will continue to expand the program to other nations as space for satellite locations becomes available and viable. KTCEA is currently hiring a Principal/Teacher.

**Land-Based Learning Sub-Committee:** A motion was passed to approve the Land-based learning sub-committee terms of reference as presented to the Board. This sub-committee includes at least one representative from each Nation, KTCEA curriculum and instruction specialists and other staff that support Land-based learning objectives.

**COVID-19 Staff Vaccination:** We gave an overview of staff vaccination rates in KTCEA schools and the obligation of a school authority to keep staff, students and communities safe. As the Board requested in May, proposed options for a policy on staff vaccinations was shared with the Board for discussion. Further discussion with individual Nations was requested. KTCEA is partnering with KTC Health to plan a Facebook Live event June 10<sup>th</sup> with Windspeaker Radio and Dr. Parminder Thiara.

Human Resources: Meetings were held with each Nation about how staffing levels are calculated for schools. Year-end letters were sent to teaching staff and principals. Interviews for teacher and principals are being held to fill positions for the fall. KTCEA is supporting 17 staff to complete Masters of Education degrees, and supporting CIILDI students and EAs to complete Education degrees at the U of A and as an Aboriginal Teacher Education Program cohort with the First Nations University of Canada starting in September.

**Teacherage Update:** Capital Services has been meeting with each Nation and progress is being made on repairs and plans, pending approvals by Chief and Council, add new teacherages in KTCEA Nations.

Government of Alberta Data-Sharing Agreement: A motion was approved for the Superintendent to sign the data-sharing agreement for Alberta Education to provide KTCEA with information on education measures to inform strategic planning.

**Strategic Planning:** KTCEA Board members confirmed the annual strategic planning session and AGM would be held in person August 17 – 19 in Kananaskis if public health guidelines allow.

**2021-2022 Budget:** A motion was passed to approve the KTCEA 2021-2022 budget as presented by KTCEA Finance.

¬"∆¬> P¬P¬"¬L¬A¬ ¬Ь¬A nîhiyaw kiskinohamâkîwin nakacîwin Excellence in Indigenous Education