

**THRIVE CHARTER SCHOOL SOCIETY
MINUTES**

Type of Meeting:	Board	Date:	10.30.2025	Initials:	Chair	MH
Approved:	YES	Recorded By:	M. Hladun	MH	Secretary	JM

October 30, 10:30 a.m.

Board Members Present at Call to Order:

M. Hladun
VICE-CHAIR

J. Smith
EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

C. Burrows
BOARD SECRETARY AND
TREASURER

J. Priestner
CHAIR

B. Cochrane
DIRECTOR

Board Members Joining During the Meeting:

J. Priestner and B. Cochrane attended by video conference

Administration Present at Call to Order:

D. Lindquist
SUPERINTENDENT

J. Milliken
SECRETARY TREASURER

Members Not in Attendance:

1. Welcome

This Board Meeting's primary focus is to report on school operations, table documents and decisions requiring board approval, student registration updates, and year-to-date financial status reporting for Thrive Elementary.

2. Call to Order

Vice-Chair M. Hladun called the meeting to order at 10:30 a.m.

Statement of Territorial Acknowledgment

The Board of Directors of the Thrive Charter School Society respectfully acknowledges that the land on which we meet is Treaty 6 territory, a traditional home, gathering place, and travelling route for diverse Indigenous Peoples, including Cree, Saulteaux, Blackfoot, Nakota, and Sioux, as well as the homeland of the Métis Nation. We recognize our responsibility as Treaty members and honour the heritage and gifts of the First Peoples of this land.

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3. Approval of Agenda

<i>Motion 2025-10-30-01</i>	<i>Carried that the agenda for the Board Meeting of October 30, 2025 be adopted as presented.</i> <i>Moved: J. Smith</i> <i>Seconded: B. Cochrane</i> <i>Carried</i>
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4. Approval of August 18, 2025, Board Meeting Minutes

<i>Motion 2025-10-30-02</i>	<i>Carried that the Board Meeting Minutes for August 18, 2025, be adopted as presented.</i> <i>Moved: C. Burrows</i> <i>Seconded: J. Smith</i> <i>Carried</i>
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5. Vice Chair report on School Operations

<i>Report 2024-10-30-01</i>	<i>Vice Chair provided the following Operations Update Report:</i> 1. 2025-2026 Registration Update: a. Registration – September 30 enrolment count for Alberta Education and Childcare funding is 171 Students. b. Grade distribution is: Kindergarten: 23 Grade 1.: 28 Grade 2.: 30 Grade 3.: 31 Grade 4.: 23 Grade 5.: 23 Grade 6.: 13
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	<p>2. Update on Staffing:</p> <p>a. We are at full compliment of staffing with one new position requirement, Behaviourist Assistant, to assist with classroom complexity, primarily in the Kindergarten this year. It will be a term contract position that will end in June this school year.</p> <p>3. Update on Key Deliverables to the ministry:</p> <p>a. Fiscal Year Ending August 31, 2025, Audited Financial Statements submission due to the Ministry on November 30.</p> <p>b. Annual Education Results Report (First Official Submission in November) which is a ~65-page document covering Accountability to our 3-Year Education Plan, Stakeholder Engagement, Priorities, Assurance Model, along with all the supporting performance data from student academic achievement, government and school administered surveys to parents, students and teachers, and other charter goal outcome performance measures. We are now at final draft stage of the report for an on-time submission.</p> <p>c. Charter Review in February/March (Thrive Year 3) – Full 10-page evaluation report with supporting appendices, followed by a 3–4-day on-site interview and observation by team of 4. Ministry evaluation report will be prepared, and the evaluation team will present findings to the Thrive Board. We will be requesting a 15-year extension to our charter in December of 2026 and the findings of this review and recommendation by field services will support the minister's decision. A copy of the outlined requirements and process from the ministry is in your board package.</p>
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<p><i>Motion 2025-10-30-03</i></p>	<p>4. Board Approvals:</p> <p class="list-item-l1">a. By Ministerial Order #034/2025 Standards for the Selection, Availability and Access of School Literary Materials handed down this past summer, we have developed a new policy #220 Learning Commons and Classroom Resources to comply with the new legislation. Motion to approve the amended and new policies as presented in the Board package:</p> <p><i>Moved: M. Hladun Seconded: C. Burrows Carried</i></p> <p>5. Update on Thrive Together Initiative</p> <p class="list-item-l1">a. Capital Project Plan Submission: Since last meeting, we had our kick-off meeting on September 8th with Alberta Infrastructure and Capital Planning on our approved second campus project. We were introduced to the team members from the various departments we will be working with and the process steps for the project were outlined.</p> <p>Next step is our selection of the available surplus sites they will be presenting when solidified between the department and EBSB. We will likely have 3 sites to select from. They were expecting to have this for us by mid October but there are delays due to the resources being placed on the teachers strike. We expect the department will engage again with options by the end of November.</p> <p>From what we do select, the first step will be to do a site readiness assessment that both us and the department will be involved in. Any and costs associated with this will be covered in our first phase of funding already allocated in the</p>
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	<p>pre-planning phase of the project. On a chosen site, it could either be a modernization (as we did with Thrive, or a complete demolish and build new.</p> <p>One potential opportunity outlined in the meeting is their acknowledgement that have we have resourcing within our real estate team for consideration of this being a “Grant Funded” project, where we can take lead on project management (as they do with the larger school boards).</p> <p>b. Update on Donor Partnerships</p> <ol style="list-style-type: none"> 1. BMO - \$25K from local (Calgary) office received (Sam Ng) and applied to this school year external donation funding. We will go back with an application again in next year’s round for submissions. 2. TD – re-submission (Zeeshan assistance) review meeting on Monday last week with Robyn Small to clarify qualification and now going to Sherry Sweeney (CGY) who manages the Financial Security Ready Now Applications – she will also contact her to discuss and determine if a resubmission is again required – they are now at intake for this year and in process for the next 6 weeks on application. Tick-tock – still in play 3. CIBC – I received yesterday their automated “unsuccessful application email). I have followed up with Jannel to explain how when I was able to discuss with other bank committee members about how the request isn’t for school related funding (TD, ATB, TELUS) that
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	<p>they have re-upend our submission to a further review to grant funding. She since followed-up to work with me on their re-engagement.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> 4. ATB – met with Stacey Goodard, program coordinator, on July 16 to answer/clarify questions on our application. Information going back to committee for review and (awaiting) response. Still in-play. 5. National Bank – James Watt has presented the Thrive Together information to their sponsorship team and emailed me this past Wednesday that it was well-received. He is now connecting me with them to work on next steps to secure donation funding. 6. TELUS – re-submission completed and awaiting response. Confirmed in for review from Lorna St. Thomas – still in-play. 7. Mortgage Connection Community Grant – June 16 application submission for max \$25K in process. Still in-play. 8. New potential source uncovered with recent talk/tour and follow-ups with Gina Cherkowski from the University of Calgary. I will be presenting with Donna at the Mental Health Summit in Banff in April about Thrive. We were introduced by our contact Geoff at Alberta Mental Health Foundation. Aside from the program and mental health research work she does at the U of C Werklund School, she also manages a substantial donor program with education and mental health philanthropists in both Canada and the US. In an exchange we
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	<p>had late last week she mentioned wanting to support our vision for expansion to a middle school and has indicated she would like to bring some folks for a tour of the school that we could benefit from. More news to come, we are scheduling this now.</p> <p>9. Global Philanthropic – met this morning with Sheila Steger (worked with her when she was ED of the Alberta Collage of Chiropractors years ago when at Optimum) to explore their fit to help us on Thrive Together fundraising – they have successfully managed large program efforts in the city – notably she works with UHF on their donor campaign strategy and planning.</p> <p>10. Melton and Allard family foundations have toured, and both will be having their funding meetings this fall for the coming year, and we are on the list. These will likely amount to ~\$50-75k combined.</p> <p>11. KPMG, Denton's connections made and still in progress (fall is timing).</p> <p>12. Exploring next large corporate programs like MC, VISA, AMEX, Auto OEMs. and Costco. Jeff Knechtel of the Mental Health Foundation is now also working with me on the deep list of donor connections he has (and been quite successful with – Gina Chernowski was his first connection).</p> <p>13. Final note: likely, we won't be opening the new campus until 2027 earliest, giving us an almost two-year window to</p>
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	<p>secure the partner donation funding target.</p> <p>14. Jason Smith conveyed his disappointment in the response of banking partner response to our donation applications thus far. He also requested that we pull a key vendor and OEM contact list together to submit requests to that would include a cover letter from Thrive founder, Jared Priestner. Justin and Michael will follow through on this direction.</p>
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6. Secretary Treasurer Report on Finance:

<i>Report 2024-10-30-02</i>	<p><i>Secretary Treasurer provided the following report:</i></p> <p>1. 2024-2025 Year End Financial Results</p> <p class="list-item-l1">a. Since last report, and as expected, we have continued to reduce the foundation donation amount for the 2024-2025 school year. Our year end results now have Thrive Foundation donation at \$1.332 million. Note that the Foundation \$1.332 million is comprised of \$1.306.5 million from Go Auto and \$25.5K from external donation sources. Also, with the adjustment to have 1% retained earnings on the Thrive books, the actual Go Auto portion of foundation donation is \$1.281 million.</p> <p class="list-item-l1">b. On a full-year basis, The Go Auto portion of the Thrive Foundation donation will come in at \$277K or 17% lower than the approved budget.</p>
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2. 2025-2026 Budget Update based on 171 Student Enrolment

- a. Our re-forecasted budget (based on 171 enrolment) is now projected to be \$4.264 million of which the foundation portion has been reduced to \$1.539 million. Of the Foundation amount, \$1.495 million is from Go Auto, and \$43,500 is from external sources. It's important to note that included in the Go Auto portion is \$134,500 related expenses to the enhancement of athletics programming. Drivers to improved budget picture are tighter expense control and maximization of provincial and external donation grant funding.

7. Upcoming Key Milestones and Deliverables

Report 2024-10-30-03	<p>Vice Chair provided the following report:</p> <p>1) Upcoming Key Milestones and Deliverables:</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a) November 6 - Student Assembly b) November 10 – PD Day c) November 10-14 – Fall Break (School Closed) d) November 28 – Tentative Date for Board Meeting (Required submission approvals) e) November 28 – 2024-2025 Audited Financial Statement Submission to AB Ed. f) November 30 – Thrive Annual Education Results Report due to ministry g) NOTE – Thrive Charter Evaluation & Renewal Process with ministry has commenced with deliverables in December, February and March. Final step will be the ministry evaluation team making a presentation to our board sometime after Mid-March.
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8. New Business

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Agenda 2023-10-30-08 | No New Business was tabled.

9. Meeting Called to Close

Moved: C. Burrows

Seconded: J. Smith

Carried

10. Adjournment M. Hladun adjourned the meeting at 2:30 p.m. Next meeting to be scheduled