Divisional Futures & Community Relations Committee Minutes

Friday, June 3, 2011 – 11:30 a.m.
Board Room, Administration Office

Present: M. Snelling, Chairperson, P. Bowslaugh, K. Sumner, Dr. D. Michaels.

Regrets: Dr. D. Michaels.

Invited Guests: Approximately 20 Grade 7 and 8 Green Acres Students

1. CALL TO ORDER:

Committee Chairperson, Mr. M. Snelling resigned as Committee Chairperson. The Committee agreed that Trustee Bowslaugh would assume the position of Chairperson for the remainder of the 2010-2011 term. The meeting was called to order at 11:30 a.m. by the Chairperson, Mrs. Bowslaugh.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Divisional Futures and Community Relations Committee Agenda was approved.

3. COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE GOAL ITEMS

NIL

4. OTHER COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE MATTERS

A) Equity and Sustainability in Education (Meeting with Grade 7 and 8 Green Acres Students.

Chairperson, Mrs. Bowslaugh, thanked all in attendance for their participation and reviewed the role of the Brandon School Division Board of Trustees' Divisional Futures and Community Relations Committee. The students were organized into six discussion groups. Students were asked to discuss a number of questions regarding how they felt about their school. Following the break-out discussions, students were asked to report out on their discussions. A summary of the points raised by students is attached to the Minutes as Appendix "A".

At the conclusion of the meeting Mrs. Bowslaugh thanked all present for participating noting that student feedback was vital.

5. OPERATIONS INFORMATION

NIL

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Snelling, Chair

P. Bowslaugh

K. Sumner

G. Kruck (Alternate)

Appendix "A"

Meeting with Grade 7 and 8 Students
Green Acres School
Friday, June 3, 2011

Questions:

1) **What are the great things about being at Green Acres School for Grade 7 and 8?**
   - "Pizza parties and food days."
   - "The teachers."
   - "Field trips."
   - "Every class has a Smartboard."
   - "Extracurricular Activities."
   - "Small size with a community feel."
   - "We have lockers."
   - "Computers in all the classrooms and the library."
   - "Everyone gets along."
   - "Teachers know all the students."
   - " We still see our Harrison friends at Band and gym."
   - " We are included in decision making."
   - "We have one on one time with the teachers."
   - "There are more sports opportunities."
   - "Because we are small we can do more stuff."
   - "We don't have to switch classrooms."
   - "Everyone knows each other well."

2) **What can Trustees do to try and make the school better?**
   - "Newer textbooks."
   - "More gym time."
   - "Bigger lockers."
   - "Faster computers."
   - "Wi-fi."
   - "More art supplies."
   - "Better bathrooms."
   - "Change rooms."
   - "Outside basketball court."
   - "Don't block websites that we need to do research."
   - "Drink machines with juice."
   - "A lunchroom that is not the library."
   - "More teachers."
   - "Younger kids can't do stuff we do."
   - "Change the weather rules."
   - "Need a new playground."
   - "Let us hold our dances some place else."

- "Bigger selection of teen books in the library."
- "Fix the water leak in the music room wall."
- "Newer musical instruments."
- "More space for everything."
- "More activities for the older kids instead of making us work the events for the younger kids."
- "iPads."
- "Single desks."

3) Is there anything else you would like to say?

- "Even out the school resources so it is the same at all schools."
- "Let English kids go to Harrison."
- "Should have kept us at Harrison."
- "Get a bigger gym at Green Acres and George Fitton."
- "Harrison is getting all the field trips."
- "Would like to be able to go back to library any time."
- "Self library check out."
- "More age appropriate books."
- "Take more time to make good decisions."
- "Listen to the people more."
- "Free time on Fridays – last class."
- "We really need faster computers."
- "iPads for all students so that we save trees."