



BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, THE BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION, HELD IN THE J. L. MILNE BOARDROOM, ADMINISTRATION OFFICE, 1031 - 6TH STREET, BRANDON, MANITOBA, AT 7:00 P.M. (Public), MONDAY, MARCH 9, 2020.

PRESENT:

Dr. L. Ross, Chairperson, Ms. S. Bambridge, Vice-Chairperson, Mr. P. Bartlette, Ms. K. Fallis, Ms. D. Kejick, Ms. L. Letain, Mr. J. Murray.

Mr. D. Labossiere, Secretary-Treasurer, Ms. B. Sangster, Recording Secretary, Ms. K. Rance, Live Streaming Video Operator.

Senior Administration: Dr. M. Casavant, Superintendent/CEO, Mr. M. Gustafson, Assistant Superintendent, Ms. E. McFadzen, Assistant Superintendent, Ms. E. Jamora, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer.

REGRETS:

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.

AGENDA

1.00 AGENDA/MINUTES:

1.01 Approval of Agenda

Senior Administration added six (6) In-Camera items to the agenda.

Trustee Ross added one (1) item for In-Camera.

Mr. Murray – Mr. Bartlette

That the agenda be approved as amended.

Carried.

1.02 Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meetings

- a) The Minutes of Budget Deliberations held February 24, 2020 were circulated.

Ms. Bambridge – Ms. Letain

That the Minutes be approved.

Carried.

- b) The Minutes of the Board Meeting held February 24, 2020 were circulated.

Trustee Bartlette asked that the Minutes be updated to include comments he made regarding Brandon School Division busing the Industrial Arts and Home Economics students.

Mr. Murray – Mr. Bartlette

That the Minutes be approved as amended.

Carried.

- c) The Minutes of the Public Budget Feedback Presentations held March 2, 2020 were circulated.

Ms. Kejick – Ms. Fallis

That the Minutes be approved.

Carried.

Ms. Letain – Mr. Bartlette

That the Board do now resolve into Committee of the Whole In-Camera. (6:07 p.m.)

Carried.

IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE IN CAMERA

2.00 IN CAMERA DISCUSSION:

2.01 Student Issues

- Reports

- a) Dr. Marc Casavant, Superintendent/CEO, provided information on a Student Matter.
- b) The Superintendent/CEO spoke on a Student Matter. It was agreed this Matter will be referred to the next Board meeting.

- Trustee Inquiries

2.02 Personnel Matters

- Reports

- a) Confidential #1 – Personnel Report was presented.
- b) The Superintendent/CEO provided an update on a Personnel Matter.
- c) The Superintendent/CEO provided information on a Personnel Matter.
- d) Trustee Ross and Dr. Casavant provided an update on a Personnel Matter.

- Trustee Inquiries

2.03 Property Matters/Tenders

- Reports

- a) Mr. Denis Labossiere, Secretary-Treasurer, provided an update on a Property Matter.

- Trustee Inquiries

2.04 Board Operations

- Reports

- a) Trustee Ross provided information on a Board Operations Matter.

- Trustee Inquiries

Ms. Fallis – Ms. Bambridge

That the Committee of the Whole In-Camera do now resolve into Board. (6:55 p.m.)

Carried.

The Chairperson called the public portion of the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. with a traditional heritage acknowledgement and welcomed everyone in attendance.

3.00 PRESENTATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

3.01 Presentations For Information

3.02 Communications For Information

3.03 Communications For Action

4.00 REPORT OF SENIOR ADMINISTRATION

The Superintendent/CEO provided highlights on the following items from the March 9, 2020 Report of Senior Administration:

- Administrative Information
 - Celebrations
 - Grade 9 Information meetings and Open Houses
 - Information Items
 - Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School Off-Site Activity
 - Presentations
 - Continuous Improvement at George Fitton School – B. Twordik, S. Baker, J. Wood
 - International Trips – Spring Break 2020 – E. McFadzen
- Business Arising for Board Action
 - 2020-2021 Final Budget

Trustee Ross thanked the George Fitton School students for attending and singing, and also thanked the families for attending.

Dr. Casavant spoke on the COVID-19 virus outbreak and how it has become a growing issue, and with Division students travelling around the globe as part of their learning. There are two (2) trips that are scheduled to go to areas of Europe that have become areas of concern in terms of the safety and wellbeing of the students, staff and chaperones.

Ms. Elaine McFadzen, Assistant Superintendent, indicated that Principals from the two (2) high schools met with families recently to discuss potential risks and concerns for the travelers. A survey was taken to ensure there was clarity provided at the meeting and that the parents understood the ramifications of the trip. Parents were asked if they wanted their children to continue on the trip or not. Survey results from one school indicated that 50% of the parents were in support of trip cancellation, and the parents from the other school were 93% in support of trip cancellation. It was additionally noted that the other 50% of parents that were still supportive of the trip, indicated that they would also support trip cancellation if the Board made that decision.

Ms. McFadzen explained the travel insurance cancellation options. If a School Board cancels an EF Tour due to a determination that there is a risk of harm to travelers during the trip when they are scheduled to travel to a specific region of a country, the Insurance Company will reimburse the traveler for the non-refundable tour payments, excluding the non-refundable insurance fee (\$189) and the non-refundable deposit (\$199).

The Superintendent/CEO addressed staff travel, noting that the Brandon School Division and the Brandon Teachers' Association have a collective bargaining agreement where there is a clause in it

that allows funds to be disbursed for teachers to travel for professional development. He indicated that in the last two or three days, a number of professional development events teachers were to attend were cancelled.

Ms. Bambridge – Ms. Fallis

That the March 9, 2020 Report of Senior Administration be received and filed.

Carried.

5.00 GOVERNANCE MATTERS

5.01 Reports of Committees

5.02 Delegations and Petitions

5.03 Business Arising

- From Previous Delegation
- From Board Agenda
- MSBA Matters

The Chairperson reminded the Board that Trustee Sherilyn Bambridge is running for MSBA Region 1 Director at the 2020 MSBA Convention taking place on March 12 and 13, 2020.

5.04 Public Inquiries (max. 15 minutes)

5.05 Motions

18/2020 Mr. Murray – Ms. Fallis

That the Final Budget for 2020-2021 and the 2020 Special Levy be approved as follows:

Total Operating Expenditures	\$ 107,770,000
Total Capital Expenditures	<u>\$ 4,540,600</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 112,310,600</u>
2020-2021 Special Requirement	<u>\$ 49,308,400</u>
2020 Special Levy to be raised from Municipalities	<u>\$ 49,093,845</u>

Mr. Mathew Gustafson, Assistant Superintendent, recommended on behalf of Senior Administration on the three (3) schools demonstrating the greatest need for Full Day Every Day Kindergarten. Mr. Gustafson noted that the process used to determine what schools demonstrated the greatest need included using the 2012 to 2017 Early Development Instrument (EDI) scores, the last three (3) years of phonological awareness scores, the student demographic index from the last three (3) years, the household need index based on the 2016 census data, and the 2018-2019 EDI scores that just came out. A cumulative analysis and a relative cumulative analysis of those measures was completed. In addition, Senior Administration looked at the variance for the multiple measures, which considered how consistent the results are versus how much they change from any given year.

The result was that Green Acres School, Meadows School and St. Augustine School demonstrated the greatest need in the seven (7) measures. The recommendation will result in six (6) classrooms for a total of 3.0 FTE staff and set-up costs for two (2) additional spaces.

The Secretary-Treasurer indicated that these changes will result in 3.0 FTE instead of 4.0 FTE, at a cost of \$281,600 instead of \$404,800.

Trustee Murray proposed an amendment to the motion in response to Senior Administration's recommendation regarding implementation of six (6) Full Day Every Day Kindergarten classes instead of the eight (8) Full Day Every Day Kindergarten classes estimated during Budget Deliberations.

AMENDED MOTION:

18/2020 Mr. Murray – Ms. Fallis

That the Final Budget for 2020-2021 and the 2020 Special Levy be approved as follows:

Total Operating Expenditures	\$ 107,646,800
Total Capital Expenditures	<u>\$ 4,540,600</u>
Total Expenditures	<u>\$ 112,187,400</u>
2020-2021 Special Requirement	<u>\$ 49,185,200</u>
2020 Special Levy to be raised from Municipalities	<u>\$ 49,039,369</u>

Trustee Bambridge asked questions for clarification.

Trustee Bartlette spoke in support of the motion and the six (6) additional classrooms receiving Full Day Every Day Kindergarten.

Carried.

LATE MOTIONS:

19/2020 Ms. Fallis – Mr. Murray

That the Vincent Massey High School trip to Germany, Switzerland, Italy and the Vatican City scheduled from March 25 to April 5, 2020 be cancelled due to health concerns regarding the COVID-19 virus outbreak.

Trustee Bambridge spoke to this motion and felt that the Brandon School Division needs to go by what is best for Brandon School Division students. She would personally hate to put any staff or student of Brandon School Division in that situation, adding that she felt this was a motion the Board needed to pass.

Trustee Bartlette noted that the Board has had to make difficult decisions in the past regarding the well-being of Brandon School Division students. He acknowledged that missing out on an adventure such as this is huge for those involved. Trustee Bartlette spoke in support of this motion.

Trustee Ross echoed the sentiments of Trustees Bambridge and Bartlette, noting the Board needs to put the safety and wellbeing of Brandon School Division students, staff and chaperones at the forefront. It is simply a risk the Board cannot take as the risk is too high.

Carried.

20/2020 Mr. Bartlette – Ms. Fallis

That the École secondaire Neelin High School Travel Club trip to Berlin, Germany; Prague, Czech Republic; Krakow, Poland; and Budapest, Hungary scheduled from March

26 to April 4, 2020 be cancelled due to health concerns regarding the COVID-19 virus outbreak.

Carried.

21/2020 Ms. Bambridge – Ms. Kejick

That all international travel for students be suspended due to health concerns regarding the COVID-19 virus outbreak until further notice.

Carried.

5.06 Bylaws

5.07 Giving of Notice

5.08 Trustee Inquiries

6.00 ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a) Finance and Facilities Committee Meeting – 10:00 a.m., Thursday, March 19, 2020, Boardroom.
- b) Workplace Safety and Health Committee Meeting – 1:00 p.m., Monday, March 23, 2020, Boardroom.
- c) NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING – 7:00 p.m. (Public), Monday, March 23, 2020, Boardroom.

Discussion took place regarding staff travel. It was agreed that Senior Administration will have conversations with CUPE Local 737 and the Brandon Teachers' Association before Thursday, March 12th so that the Board can come to a decision on this matter very quickly. Trustee Ross would like Trustees to make a decision by the end of the week.

7.00 ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Fallis – Ms. Letain

That the Board do now adjourn. (7:50 p.m.)

Carried.

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer