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 7:04 P.M., MONDAY, SEPTEMBER 28, 2009.

PRESENT:
Mr. G. Buri, Chairperson, Mr. D. Karnes, Vice-Chairperson, Mr. P. Bartlette, Ms. R. Coey, Mrs. B. Jolly, Mr. B. Mayes (entered 7:30 p.m.), Mr. J. Murray, Dr. L. Ross, Mr. M. Snelling.

Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. G. F. Barnes and Recording Secretary, Ms. S. Bailey

Senior Administration: Dr. D. M. Michaels, Superintendent, Mr. G. Malazdrewicz, Associate Superintendent, Mr. K. Zabowski, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer.

The Chairperson welcomed all visitors to the meeting.

AGENDA

1.00 AGENDA/MINUTES:

1.01 Reference to Statement of Board Operations

1.02 Approval of Agenda

Trustee Jolly noted she had three inquiries under "Trustee Inquiries" and one report under "Other Reports".

Trustee Buri noted he had one item for "In Camera" discussions.

Mr. Murray – Ms. Coey
That the agenda be approved as amended.
Carried.

1.03 Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meetings

a) The Minutes of the Special Board Meeting held September 10, 2009 were circulated.

Mr. Snelling – Mr. Bartlette
That the Minutes be received and filed.
Carried.

b) The Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held September 14, 2009 were circulated.

Ms. Coey – Mrs. Jolly
That the Minutes be received and filed.
Carried.

2.0 GOVERNANCE MATTERS:

2.01 Presentations For Information

2.02 Reports of Committees

a) Facilities/Transportation Committee Meeting

The written report of the Facilities/Transportation Committee meeting was reviewed as circulated.

Mr. Karnes – Mr. Murray
That the Minutes be received and filed.
Carried.

b) School Division Parent Liaison Committee Meeting

The written report of the School Division Parent Liaison Committee meeting was reviewed as circulated.

Mrs. Jolly – Mr. Snelling
That the Minutes be received and filed.
Carried.

c) Finance Committee Meeting

The written report of the Finance Committee meeting was reviewed as circulated.

Trustee Snelling requested clarification regarding the proposed recommendation to sign the 5 year endorsement contract with Suncorp Valuations Ltd. and the 60 month lease with IBM Global Financing.

Ms. Coey – Dr. Ross
That the Minutes be received and filed.
Carried.

d) Education Committee Meeting

The written report of the Education Committee meeting was reviewed as circulated.

Discussions were held regarding the recommendation to set a goal to increase the reading competency of Grade 3 students across the Division. It was noted such a recommendation was governance work and gave Senior Administration clear direction

as to the Board's expectations regarding student achievement. Trustee Murray requested that the Education Committee also review the possibility of setting student achievement goals with respect to aboriginal and at-risk students in order to maintain continued growth in this area of student achievement.

Ms. Coey – Mrs. Jolly
That the Minutes be received and filed.
Carried.

e) Divisional Futures & Liaison Committee Meeting

Trustee Jolly provided a verbal report with respect to the recently held Divisional Futures & Liaison Committee meeting.

f) Other

- Trustee Karnes spoke about the MTS seminar entitled "How the Black Box Works" held in Winnipeg on September 26, 2009. He noted he will provide the Finance Committee with the information he had received at the seminar.

- Trustee Karnes spoke about the Brandon Sport Alliance meeting held on September 21, 2009. He informed the Board of the purpose of the Alliance and the anticipated participation by the Brandon School Division with respect to providing gym space. He also advised the Olympic Flame will be in Brandon on January 8, 2010.

- Trustee Jolly noted that the Brandon School Division, in partnership with the Brandon University was receiving the Nicholas Michelli Award for Promoting Social Justice on October 16, 2009 in Bellevue, Washington. She congratulated Superintendent, Dr. Michaels on the award and asked the Superintendent to explain the work that had been completed in partnership with Brandon University regarding this matter.

2.03 Delegations and Petitions

2.04 Communications for Action

a) An invitation from J.R. Reid School for a representative of the Board of Trustees to join them as they celebrate their 50th Anniversary/Welcome Back BBQ to be held on September 24, 2009 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m.
Referred Business Arising.

b) Charles Carlson, Poppy Chairman, The Royal Canadian Legion, Brandon Branch No. 3, September 15, 2009 requesting the Board's continued support and participation in the Remembrance Day Service to be held at Westman Place in the Keystone Centre beginning at 10:40 a.m.
Referred Business Arising.

2.05 BUSINESS ARISING

- From Previous Delegations

a) The presentation from Darren Hardy, President, Brandon Teachers' Association, bringing greetings to the Board of Trustees from the Association was discussed. The Secretary-Treasurer was directed to send a thank-you note to Mr. Hardy on behalf of the Board of Trustees.

- From Board Agenda

a) The invitation from J.R. Reid School for a representative of the Board of Trustees to join them as they celebrate their 50th Anniversary/Welcome Back BBQ to be held on September 24, 2009 from 5:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. from Communications for Action 2.04a) was received as information. It was noted that Trustee Jolly, Mayes and Superintendent, Dr. Michaels attended the event at J.R. Reid School.

b) The correspondence from Charles Carlson, Poppy Chairman, The Royal Canadian Legion, Brandon Branch No. 3, from Communications for Action 2.04b) requesting support and participation in the Remembrance Day Service to be held at Westman Place in the Keystone Centre was discussed. Trustee Jolly agreed to represent the Board of Trustees at the service. The Secretary-Treasurer was also directed to ask for a second chair at the service in order to allow a Brandon School Division student to accompany Trustee Jolly to the Remembrance Day Service.

- MAST issues (last meeting of the month)

a) The correspondence from Barbara Unrau, Executive Assistant, MSBA (MAST), undated, writing on behalf of the Regional Director to invite the Board to identify topics which they would wish discussed with other meeting participants or to bring to the attention of the provincial organization at the Fall Regional Meeting to be held in the latter part of October was discussed. Trustee Jolly requested that the topic of mandatory Kindergarten be forwarded as a discussion topic.

- From Report of Senior Administration

a) School Reports – Riverview School

The Board received the school report of Riverview School from school Principal, Mr. Kelly Braun. Trustees asked questions for clarification regarding detentions, early years development and English as an Additional Language needs within the school.

b) Learning Support Services Report

Mr. Dwight Kearns, Physical Education Consultant, spoke to the Board regarding physical education within the Division. He referenced the recent conference he had attended on physical education in Manitoba noting such topics as nutrition, drug awareness, research on the Grade 11 and 12 curriculum, healthy schools as well as the opportunity to network with other Manitoba Divisions. He spoke about the physical education curriculum in the elementary and middle schools and the outcome based instruction to teach students activities involving balance, manipulation and transport with the assumption that these learned skills will promote active healthy pursuits. He demonstrated the "bodyball game" for the Board of Trustees. Mr. Kearns also spoke about the high school curriculum and updated the Board on the progress of the newly implemented Grade 11 and 12 physical education credit.

The Chairperson thanked Mr. Kearns for his presentation. Trustees asked questions for clarification purposes regarding heart rate monitors; reducing obesity and the need for parents and community to also take responsibility; the list of pre-approved activity providers; and moving towards a 75 out/25 in model for Grade 11 and 12 students.

c) Items from Senior Administration Report
- Tender for Cargo Van – Referred Motions.
- Christian Heritage School – Referred Motions.
- Head Teachers – Referred Motions.

2.06 Motions

161/2009 Mr. Bartlette – Mr. Karnes
That permission be granted to open the sole tender received for a full size cargo van.
Carried.

162/2009 Mr. Mayes – Mr. Murray
That the Shared Services Agreement between the Division and Christian Heritage School for the 2009/2010 school year for the provision of transportation services and for use of facilities and resources for Industrial Arts and Home Economics classes be approved, and that the Chairperson and Secretary-Treasurer be and are hereby authorized to affix their signatures and the seal of the Division to the Agreement and to all subsequent claims resulting therefrom in compliance with the Public Schools Act and Regulations thereunder.

Trustees asked questions for clarification regarding cost recovery.
Carried.

163/2009 Mr. Murray – Ms. Coey
That the people recommended by the Principals of the schools for the position of Head Teachers for the 2009/2010 school year be approved as identified in the Report of the Senior Administration.

Trustees requested clarification regarding the number of head teachers in various schools.
Carried.

164/2009 Ms. Coey – Mr. Murray
That the Five-Year Endorsement Contract with Suncorp Valuations Ltd., providing appraisal revision services for the five-year period January 1, 2008 to December 31, 2012 be approved, and that the Secretary-Treasurer be authorized to affix his signature thereto.
Carried.

165/2009 Mr. Bartlette – Mr. Karnes
That the 60 month lease with IBM Global Financing providing computer equipment in the amount of $10,000.00 annually (plus GST & PST) be approved, and that the Chairperson and Secretary-Treasurer be authorized to affix their signatures thereto.
Carried.

166/2009 Ms. Coey – Mr. Murray
That the request from Turtle Mountain School Division to share Brandon School Division computer hardware and software with respect to CIMS be approved subject to satisfactory financial arrangements between the parties.
Carried.

167/2009 Mr. Murray – Ms. Coey
That a letter be forwarded to the Minister of Education, Citizenship & Youth expressing concern that the Division was assessed $65,000 in back payment regarding the recent increase in copyright access fees and requesting that the Minister consider using the funds remaining in the TIG incentive to cover these retroactive payments.
Carried.

168/2009 Mr. Bartlette – Ms. Coey
That the Board of Trustees recognizes and endorses the importance of literacy development in young children and youth; to this end the Board of Trustees is requiring the School Division to address, through its focus on literacy, the basic reading competency of 3rd grade students and requests eighty (80%) percent of these children be able to demonstrate achievement levels that confirm this competency; and that in situations where this is not possible the Board of Trustees be apprised of the number of students not reading at a Grade 3 level and the reasons for such.

Trustee Karnes expressed concern regarding possible costs involved in reaching this goal and asked the Finance Committee to “keep an eye” on the matter. It was noted the possible financial implications had been discussed by the Education Committee. Discussions were held regarding how the standards would be defined and measured.
Carried.

169/2009 Mr. Murray – Ms. Coey
That a letter be forwarded to the Minister of Indian and Northern Affairs supporting Provincial efforts to meet with Federal officials in addressing Aboriginal educational priorities together with relevant statistics from the Brandon School Division supporting this request.
Carried.

2.07 Bylaws

Mr. Karnes – Mr. Bartlette
That by-law No. 5/2009 being a bylaw for the purpose of authorizing the borrowing of the sum of $245,200.00 upon the credit of the Division by the issue and sale of debentures to meet partial costs for construction of Valleyview Centennial School Grooming Room; Earl Oxford School Roof Replacement and Neelin High School Emergency Roof Replacement having first been read August 24, 2009 be now read for a second time.

Carried.

That the rules be suspended and By-Law No. 5/2009 be now read a third time, taken as read and finally passed.

Carried.

2.08 Giving of Notice

2.09 Inquiries

2.09a) Public Inquiries (last meeting of each month – max. 15 minutes)

2.09b) Trustee Inquiries

1. Trustee Jolly referencing the National Survey on Homophobia in Schools noted in a recent Winnipeg Free Press article, asked Senior Administration the following:

"Did Brandon Schools take part in this survey?"

Senior Administration noted that the Brandon School Division did not take part in the survey.

2. Trustee Jolly asked Senior Administration if there was any money available for FASD from Minister Gordon MacInstosh. Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Barnes, noted that the money flowed through the health system and not through the education system.

3. Regarding changes to The Public Schools Act, Trustee Jolly inquired about the possibility of "Trustees-at-Large". Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Barnes, noted that there is no change to what the Division currently has with respect to the make-up for the Board of Trustees with one trustee representing the rural ward and eight trustees representing the city ward.

POINT OF PRIVILEGE: Trustee Mayes referenced the article in the Winnipeg Free Press regarding the distribution of the Religious Diversity Pamphlet in the Brandon School Division.

4. Trustee Mayes noted he had attended a recent football game at Vincent Massey High School where spectators were smoking. He requested that a communication be sent to principals to announce at the beginning of the games that smoking is not allowed on school property. Superintendent, Dr. Michaels, noted that communication would be sent to school principals and they would also look into the possibility of displaying non-smoking signs as well.

5. Trustee Coey referencing the Student Mobility Report previously provided to the Board asked Senior Administration to keep the report in mind when dealing with the policy on equity. Associate Superintendent, Mr. Malazdrewicz, noted Senior Administration is working with the report as they move forward in such areas as school of choice guidelines, etc.

3.00 ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION:

3.01 Report of Senior Administration

Superintendent, Dr. Michaels, asked Trustees if they had any questions regarding the Single Track French Immersion Implementation report and upcoming meetings with parents and staff.

POINT OF PRIVILEGE: Trustee Karnes, referencing the smoke damage at Alexander School, publicly thanked the volunteers who came out to help Alexander School.

Trustee Coey asked if Senior Administration will look at reviewing the policy regarding Grade 11 and 12 Physical Education to ensure that the Division moves towards a 75/25 model. Superintendent, Dr. Michaels, noted that this would be an adaption to the policy that would be going before the Education Committee in due course.

Trustee Snelling congratulated the Human Resources Department on their “Go Green” report. He noted he would forward the “green newsletter” to the Division in the hopes of the Division gaining some national recognition on this initiative.

Trustees requested clarification regarding enrollment numbers and home schooled students who have been repatriated into the Division at Alexander School.

Mrs. Jolly – Mr. Bartlette
That the report be received and filed.
Carried.

3.02 Communications for Information

a) Paul Birston and Rick Dedi, Executive Director, The Public Schools Finance Board, dated September 2, 2009 authorizing the purchase of a stair crawler for the Meadows School Grooming Room.
Ordered Filed.

3.03 Announcements

a) Policy Review Committee Meeting – 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, September 29, 2009, Conference Room.

b) MAST Workshop – Focusing Resources – October 1, 2009 (7:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.) and October 2, 2009, (8:30 a.m. to 3:00 p.m.) Victoria Inn, Winnipeg.

c) Education Committee Meeting – 1:30 p.m., Monday, October 5, 2009, Conference Room.

d) Chamber-Division Ad-Hoc Committee – 11:30 a.m., Wednesday, October 7, 2009, Chamber of Commerce Office.

e) Facilities and Transportation Committee Meeting – 10:00 a.m., Thursday, October 8, 2009, Conference Room.

f) Finance Committee Meeting – 10:00 a.m. Tuesday, October 13, 2009, Conference Room.

g) NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING – 7:00 p.m., **Tuesday**, October 13, 2009, Board Room.

Mrs. Jolly – Mr. Snelling
That the Board do now resolve into Committee of the Whole In Camera.
Carried.

IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE IN CAMERA

4.00 IN CAMERA DISCUSSION:

4.01 Student Issues

- Reports

- Trustee Inquiries

4.02 Personnel Matters

- Reports

a) Confidential #1, Personnel Report was noted. B. Switzer, Director of Human Resources responded to several personnel inquiries.

- **Trustee Inquiries**

4.03 Property Matters/Tenders

- Reports

- Trustee Inquiries

4.04 Board Operations

- Reports

a) Confidential #2, a letter regarding Implementation of Single Track French Immersion was considered and directed to the attention of the Implementation Committee.

b) Chairperson Buri referenced a Board operation matter.

- Trustee Inquiries

Mr. Bartlette – Mrs. Jolly
That the Committee of the Whole In Camera do now resolve into Board.
Carried.

IN BOARD

5.00 ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Murray – Dr. Ross
That the meeting do now adjourn (9:25 p.m.)

Chairperson Secretary-Treasurer