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., MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2012.

PRESENT:
Mr. M. Sefton, Chairperson, Mr. M. Snelling, Vice-Chairperson, Mr. P. Bartlette, Mrs. P. Bowslaugh, Mr. D. Karnes, Mr. G. Kruck, Mr. J. Murray, Dr. L. Ross, Mr. K. Sumner (exited at 10:18 p.m.)

Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. K. Zabowski and Recording Secretary, Ms. S. Bailey.

Senior Administration: Dr. D. M. Michaels, Superintendent, Mr. G. Malazdrewicz, Associate Superintendent, Mr. Denis Labossiere, Assistant-Secretary-Treasurer, Ms. B. Switzer, Director of Human Resources.

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance to the meeting. The Chairperson requested a moment of silence for Ms. Marianne Benson, a Division teacher who passed away during the Christmas break.

AGENDA

1.00 AGENDA/MINUTES:

1.01 Reference to Statement of Board Operations

1.02 Approval of Agenda

Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Zabowski, noted the addition of a memo regarding a conference call held with the Deputy Minister and Metro School Division Secretary-Treasurers. He would speak further on the matter under Report of Senior Administration.

Trustee Kruck noted he would be bringing forth an item under “Giving of Notice”.

Superintendent, Dr. Michaels, confirmed she had In-Camera Personnel Matters to discuss.

Mr. Kruck – Mrs. Bowslaugh
That the agenda be approved as amended.
Carried.

1.03 Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meetings

a) The Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held December 12, 2011 were circulated.

Mr. Murray – Mr. Kruck
That the Minutes be approved as amended.
Carried.

2.00 GOVERNANCE MATTERS:

2.01 Presentations For Information

a) Two students from École Neelin High School spoke to the Board about their experiences at the "Student Leadership Conference" held in Cornerbrook, Newfoundland this past fall. The Chairperson thanked the students for their presentation. Trustees asked questions regarding what the students had learned through the process and any ideas and initiatives they had brought back to their school. The students thanked the Board for their support and assistance.

2.02 Reports of Committees

a) BSD/BTA Committee Minutes

The written report of the BSD/BTA Committee Meeting held November 29, 2011 was circulated.

Trustees requested clarification regarding possible budget implications regarding items raised at the meeting. Trustees also requested further clarification regarding substitute teacher working conditions.

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

b) Facilities & Transportation Committee Minutes

The written report of the Facilities & Transportation Committee Meeting held December 7, 2011 was circulated.

Trustee Snelling noted the Division had assisted the City the last time it hosted the Canada Games by providing facilities and transportation.

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

c) Education Committee Minutes

The written report of the Education Committee meeting held December 8, 2011 was circulated.

Trustee Bartlette noted Dayle Hughson from Career Connections would be attending the Committee meeting. He invited all Trustees to attend should they be interested in her presentation.

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

d) Divisional Futures and Community Relations Committee Meeting

The written report of the Divisional Futures and Community Relations Committee meeting held December 12, 2011 was circulated.

Trustee Kruck requested further information regarding the sensory intervention programming.

Mrs. Bowslaugh – Mr. Sumner
That the Minutes be received and filed.
Carried.

e) Finance Committee Meeting

The written report of the Finance Committee meeting held December 19, 2011 was circulated.

Trustee Kruck inquired about the financial statements were. The Secretary-Treasurer noted all the financial statements are electronically stored in the Trustee Conference under Committee Agendas.

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

f) Policy Review Committee Meeting

The written report of the Policy Review Committee Meeting held January 3, 2012 was circulated.

Trustees requested clarification regarding the Committee's views on the Lunch Program policy. Trustee Sumner confirmed the Committee was referring the policy to the School Division/Parent/Guardian Advisory Committee for consultation. He also referenced the Committee's comments in the Minutes regarding their view on the policy as it relates to equity.

Mr. Sumner – Mr. Kruck
That the Minutes be received and filed.
Carried.

g) Other

- Trustee Kruck reported on a workshop sponsored by MERN which he attended December 15 and 16, 2011 in Winnipeg on Treaty Relations.

2.03 Delegations and Petitions

NIL

2.04 Communications for Action

a) Nancy Allan, Minister of Education, December 13, 2011, thanking the Board for their recent letter regarding the Government's class size initiative, noting it will present challenges but also opportunities to improve teaching and learning in our classrooms. She agrees that the perspective of school boards is important and that is the reason the previously established oversight committee assisting in the development of a provincial report card will also be engaged in the class size project. The Committee does have representation from Manitoba School Boards Association as well as other education partners. She is confident that the concerns of school boards will be voice effectively by the representatives of the Manitoba School Boards Association.

Referred Business Arising.

2.05 Business Arising

- From Previous Delegation

a) Mr. Jamie Burt, Parent, requesting transportation for his Grade 9 student to École Neelin High School.

This item was deferred until such time as Mr. Burt was able to attend the Board Meeting to hear the Board's discussion shortly after 8:00 p.m.

Trustee Kruck requested clarification regarding the difference between 1.6 kms noted in the Public Schools Act and the 2.4 kms the school division adhered to under policy/practice.

Trustee Karnes noted the difference between transporting high school students at 1.6 kms to 2.4 kms was approximately 900 students which would require 10 more buses and drivers adding significant costs to the Division.

Trustee Murray stated there was no such thing as exception to policy, only precedent. He cautioned the Board should they make an exception noting they were "opening the door" to other similar requests. He confirmed all three high schools had special courses which were offered only at their particular high school. This was why the Division had

moved to an open catchment concept as it relates to high schools. Mr. Murray confirmed the only way he would agree to such an exception was if there were very clear and strict rules put in place that noted the non-funded student could ride the bus as long as there was space available.

Trustee Snelling supported Trustee Murray's statements regarding the exception and having clear restrictions in place. He felt the policy needed to be clarified as it relates to where measurements for distance are taken. He requested that the policy and Division practice be in sync.

Trustee Sumner noted he would be in favour of supporting the request for exception to policy. He confirmed the Board of Trustees had recently voted in favour of allowing parents exception to the School of Choice policy in order for their Kindergarten Students to continue at Linden Lanes School in Grade 1 at a cost of $90,000. He therefore felt an exception could be made for this one student to take the bus to Neelin High School. He agreed restrictions to the approval needed to be included. He also noted that should the Board receive a large number of such requests then the Board would need to review the transportation policy.

Trustee Bowslaugh reviewed the Public Schools Act as it relates to eligibility for transportation. She agreed with Trustee Sumner and inquired as to how many exceptions to policy would be required before the Board should change their policy.

Trustee Sefton opposed the request and was concerned about establishing a precedent by making an exception. He confirmed the Grade 9 registration guide, under "Frequently Asked Questions" noted that bussing questions should be directed to the Transportation Department with respect to whether or not a student meets the bussing qualifications.

Trustees agreed to refer the matter to motions.

- From Board Agenda

a) Correspondence from Nancy Allan, Minister of Education, from Communications for Action 2.04a, thanking the Board for their recent letter regarding the Government's class size initiative and noting the Committee does have representation from Manitoba School Boards Association as well as other education partners was discussed. Trustee Ross requested the Board raise the matter at the MSBA Regional Meeting as she would be interested in hearing other Division's views on the Committee selection process. She expressed concern that this was the same Committee which had reviewed the Government's standardized report card initiative. It was agreed MSBA needs to have more meaningful discussions with its membership on this matter. Trustee Sefton noted Dr. Farthing would be willing to meet with the Division and this concern should also be raised with him. It was further noted MSBA did not have a resolution on this matter, therefore did not have clear direction from its membership. Trustee Murray asked Trustee Sefton to raise the Board's concerns at the MSBA Convention in March when the Minister meets with all Board chairs. Trustee Kruck asked if the Board would like him to raise the matter with the Minister of Finance on January 16th. It was noted this was not a matter for the Minister of Finance at this point in time.

- MSBA issues (last meeting of the month)

NIL

- From Report of Senior Administration

a) School Reports – Crocus Plains Regional Secondary High School – T. Osiowy.

Superintendent, Dr. Michaels, introduced Mr. Terry Osiowy, Principal, Crocus Plains Regional Secondary High School and highlighting some of the work he has done at the school administratively since appointed principal.

Mr. Osiowy highlighted the schools six strategic goals and spoke briefly to each one. He confirmed his presentation would highlight the action being taken by the school to achieve Strategic Goal #1 – "Improving Student Achievement Opportunities in Mainstream Classrooms – 90% on Track Graduation". Mr. Osiowy noted the first action was to restructure student management teams in order to have a Grade 9 team which would focus on Grade 9 transition supports. He noted the demographics of the current grade 9 class. He spoke about the transition activities and academic and programming supports which had been put in place to assist Grade 9 students. Mr. Osiowy also noted the second action was to establish Crocus' Continuing Education – Flexible Programming model. This initiative provided students with an alternate learning setting and opportunity to study and earn provincially approved credits required by the school. He spoke about the demographics of the students participating in this programming as well as the courses offered.

At the conclusion of his presentation the Trustees asked Mr. Osiowy a number of questions for clarification, including: on-line tracking for graduation; the flexible programming as it relates to Bill 13 legislation; and the school's 2011 graduation rate. Trustees requested Mr. Osiowy email to the Board the school's projected grad rate for aboriginal students prior to budget discussions.

b) Learning Support Services Presentation – MIST Update – Mr. B. Ewasiuk – Director of MIST.

Mr. Ewasiuk, Director of MIST, provided the Board of Trustees with a report regarding various updates which have been made with respect to the Divisions Technology. He noted the installation of the Storage Area Network (SAN) and virtualized servers; the move to an Active Directory at the Division Office; the wireless access installed in areas running the Active Directory; the installation of a firewall at the Division Office; the installation of a gigabit link to the internet; the contract with WCG for building to building connectivity; and the re-cabling currently completed at 17 of the Division's buildings. Mr. Ewasiuk provided further in depth detail regarding the re-cabling project and the connectivity project. Mr. Ewasiuk concluded his presentation by providing the Board with future plans and deadlines for completion of the Division's various network projects. The chairperson thanked Mr. Ewasiuk for his presentation.

c) Items from Senior Administration Report
- Giving of Notice – Policy 9038 – Referred Motions.
- Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School/École Secondaire Neelin High School Off-Site Activity Request – Referred Motions.

- Meeting with Government Class Size Committee – Referred Business Arising.
- Trustee Inquiries:
    - Career Connections – Trustee Bartlette.
    - Kindergarten Class Size at École Harrison – Trustee Murray.

2.06 Public Inquiries (max. 15 minutes)

NIL

2.07 Motions

01/2012 Mr. Bartlette – Mr. Kruck
That Policy and Procedures 9038 – "Public Advertising on School Property" be rescinded and replaced with Policy and Procedures 9038 – "Restricted Public Advertising on School Property".
Carried.

02/2012 Mr. Karnes – Mr. Bartlette
That the trip involving thirty-nine (39) high school students from Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School/École Secondaire Neelin High School to New York, NY from April 8, 2012 to April 16, 2012 be approved and carried out in accordance with Board Policy/procedures 4001: Off-Site Activities.

Trustee Sumner requested clarification regarding the numbers of students going on the trip versus the number of students enrolled in the courses. He also asked what consideration had been given to local productions and venues. Mr. Ken Hudson, Teacher, Crocus Plains Regional Secondary High School was invited to the Board table to address some of the Trustee concerns.
Carried 7-2. (Trustees Sumner and Kruck Opposed).

03/2012 Mr. Snelling – Mr. Kruck
That Senior Administration be authorized to enter into negotiations/arrangements with the City of Brandon for the use of Brandon School Division facilities, as to be mutually agreed upon, in connection with a bid to host the 2017 Canada Games.

It was noted this motion was to allow Senior Administration to work with the City of Brandon in a bid to host the 2017 Canada Games, however, final details, should the City win the bid, would be brought back to the Board for approval at a later date.
Carried.

04/2012 Mr. Kruck – Mr. Snelling
That the Facilities and Transportation Committee arrange a meeting with representatives of the Public Schools Finance Board to determine the status of the Brandon School Division's 5 Year Capital Plan, the George Fitton and Green Acres School gyms, Capital Asset plan.
Carried.

05/2012 Mrs. Bowslaugh – Mr. Sumner
That Procedures 4047 – "Nutrition Policy" be amended as follows:

- The words "(to be implemented by September 1, 2008) be removed in procedures numbers 5, 6 and 7.
- The words "in the fryer" and "(i.e. Sysco Oil or Bung Neutra-Clear Oil)" at the end of procedures number 7 be removed.
- The words "and other cultural festivities" be added to the end of procedure 9.

Trustee Bowslaugh noted she had concerns with the third amendment eliminating the names of various holidays which have been part of the culture for many years. Trustee Murray suggested a friendly amendment to remove the third amendment which stated "The words 'Halloween, Valentine's Day, Easter and Christmas function' be removed in procedures number 9 and replaced with the words 'cultural festivities" and replace same with "The words 'and other cultural festivities' be added to the end of procedure 9. The Board agreed to the friendly amendment.

Carried 8-1 (Trustee Bartlette Opposed).

06/2012 Mr. Sumner – Mr. Bartlette
That provisions for bussing be made available for the Burt Family to allow their Grade 9 daughter to travel by Division bus to École Secondaire Neelin High School from 811 – 25th Street, Brandon, Manitoba (J.R. Reid School) until such time that there is no longer sufficient capacity on the bus.

Carried 5-4(Trustees Sefton, Karnes, Ross and Murray Opposed).

2.08 Bylaws

NIL

2.09 Giving of Notice

Mrs. Bowslaugh
That I, or someone in my stead, will introduce a motion to approve Policy 4059 - "Numeracy".

Mr. Bartlette
That I, or someone in my stead, will introduce a motion to rescind Policy 1008 – "Communications Protocol" and replace same with Policy 1008 – "Communications".

Mr. Kruck
That I, or someone in my stead, will introduce a motion to write a letter to the Minister of Family Services with regards to inadequate Social Assistance rates for low income families in our Division.

2.10 Inquiries

- Trustee Inquiries

a) Trustee Murray asked Senior Administration if any of the schools had nominated a student for the MSBA Student Citizenship.

Superintendent, Dr. Michaels confirmed there would be a Senior High Access meeting on January 18, 2012, at which time she would inquire.

3.00 ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION:

3.01 Report of Senior Administration

Superintendent, Dr. Michaels, highlighted the Appendix "C" of the Report regarding a meeting held in Winnipeg with Dr. Farthing, Deputy Minister of Education, and members of MERN regarding the creation of a "public sector network". She confirmed due to the late hour she would postpone highlighting any other items from the Report of Senior Administration to the January 23, 2012 Board Meeting.

Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Zabowski, reported on a conference call held with the Deputy Minister and the Metro Secretary-Treasurers regarding the upcoming funding announcement.

The Secretary-Treasurer asked for direction from the Board of Trustees regarding Dr. Farthing's offer to meet with the Board of Trustees regarding the Class Size Committee. The Board directed Mr. Zabowski to accept the Deputy Minister's offer and arrange for a meeting.

Mr. Murray – Mr. Sumner
That the report be received and filed.
Carried.

3.02 Communications for Information

a) Dr. Michaels, Superintendent/CEO, December 12, 2011, addressed to Mr. Claren Turner and thanking him for his recent book recovery efforts. This is the ninth consecutive year he has undertaken this endeavour on behalf of the Brandon School Division students. She also thanks Mr. Turner for the purchase of 18 French language books. These recovery projects involve time, money and effort on behalf of Mr. Turner and it is greatly appreciated by the Division.
Ordered Filed.

b) Carolyn Duhamel, Executive Director, Manitoba School Boards Association, December 14, 2011, noting the work of the Manitoba Class Size Reduction Oversight Committee is underway. Discussions about that strategy as a means of improving student achievement will become an increasingly common occurrence and in order to assist trustees and administrators who find themselves engaged in such discussions she had attached a fact sheet on the topic. The fact sheet is a one page summary. The entire document may be

found online at http://www.cea-ace.ca/sites/cea-ace.ca/files/cea-2010-foe-class-size.pdf. Links to this document and others on the topic can be found on the MSBA website.

Referred to Education Committee.

c) Barb Gribben, Secretary, CUPE Local 737, December 16, 2011, noting on Wednesday, December 14, 2011 CUPE local 737 held their elections for offices. The Executive Officers for 2012 are as follows:

President	Deb Arpin
Vice-President	Jamie Rose
Treasurer	Christine Rempel
Recording Secretary	Barb Gribben

Ordered Filed.

3.03 Announcements

a) Divisional Futures and Community Relations Committee Meeting with 1st Nations – 7:00 p.m., Tuesday, January 10, 2012, École New Era School.

b) Facilities and Transportation Committee Meeting – 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, January 11, 2012, Board Room.

c) Education Committee Meeting – 11:30 a.m., Thursday, January 12, 2012, Board Room.

d) Board of Trustees Retreat – Friday, January 13, 2012 – 5:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. and Saturday, January 14, 2012 – 8:30 a.m. to 2:15 p.m., Victoria Inn.

e) Finance Committee Meeting -1:00 p.m., Monday, January 16, 2012, Board Room.

f) Special Board Meeting – 7:00 p.m., Monday, January 16, 2012, Board Room.

g) Workplace Safety and Health Committee - 1:30 p.m., Wednesday, January 18, 2012, Conference Room.

h) Divisional Futures & Community Relations Committee Meeting – 11:30 a.m., Thursday, January 19, 2012, Board Room.

i) Region 1 Meeting, Manitoba School Boards Association – Monday, January 23, 2012, 9:30 a.m. to 4:00 p.m., Victoria Inn, Brandon.

j) Personnel Committee Meeting – 12:00 noon, Monday, January 23, 2012, Board Room.

k) NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING – 7:00 p.m., Monday, January 23, 2012, Board Room.

Mr. Karnes– Mr. Sumner
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) Superintendent, Dr. Michaels provided an update on two personnel matters noting further detailed information will be provided at the January 23, 2012 meeting.

- **Trustee Inquiries**

4.03 Property Matters/Tenders

- Reports

- Trustee Inquiries

4.04 Board Operations

- Reports

a) Confidential #2 regarding an MSBA item was referred to the Education Committee for review and recommendation.

- Trustee Inquiries

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

IN BOARD

5.00 ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Murray – Mr. Snelling
That the meeting does now adjourn (10:48 p.m.)
Carried.

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Chairperson Secretary-Treasurer