



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., MONDAY, AUGUST 26, 2013.

PRESENT:

Mr. M. Sefton, Chairperson, Mr. J. Murray, Vice-Chairperson, Mr. P. Bartlette, Mrs. P. Bowslaugh, Mr. D. Karnes, Dr. L. Ross, Mr. Mr. Snelling, Mr. K. Sumner.

Acting Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. D. Labossiere, Recording Secretary, Ms. S. Bailey, Live Streaming Video Operator, Ms. K. Boklaschuk.

Senior Administration: Dr. D. M. Michaels, Superintendent/CEO, Mr. G. Malazdrewicz, Associate Superintendent, Ms. B. Switzer, Director of Human Resources.

REGRETS:

Mr. G. Kruck.

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m. He welcomed everyone in attendance to the meeting.

AGENDA

1.00 AGENDA/MINUTES:

1.01 Reference to Statement of Board Operations

1.02 Approval of Agenda

Mr. Sefton, Board Chairperson, requested the addition of five in-camera items.

Trustee Bowslaugh requested the addition of one item for in-camera discussions.

Superintendent, Dr. Michaels, noted she had one item to discuss in-camera.

Trustee Ross also requested the addition of one item for in-camera discussions.

Mr. Bartlette – Mr. Snelling

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 July 8, 2013 were circulated.

Mr. Snelling – Mr. Murray
That the Minutes be approved as circulated.
Carried.

- b) The Minutes of the Special Board Meeting held August 19, 2013, regarding Tenders, were circulated.

Mrs. Bowslaugh – Mr. Bartlette
That the Minutes be approved as circulated.
Carried.

- c) The Minutes of the Special Board Meeting held August 19, 2013, regarding a CUPE Grievance, were circulated.

Dr. Ross – Mr. Karnes
That the Minutes be approved as circulated.
Carried.

2.00 GOVERNANCE MATTERS:

- a) Board of Trustees Governance Goals (2010-2014) Update.

Superintendent, Dr. Michaels, spoke to the Board of Trustees Governance Goals (2010-2014) update. She highlighted several areas of progress to date.

2.01 Presentations For Information

- a) The Chairperson recognized the following staff accomplishment immediately following approval of minutes and prior to Section 2.00 – Governance Matters:
- Mr. Ashley Dyson, teacher, Vincent Massey High School, on completing the Carleton College Summer Teaching Institute Chemistry: General Topics Workshop. It was noted the workshop focused on curriculum and teaching methods central to Advanced Placement courses.

The Chairperson offered the opportunity for the honouree to speak following receipt of his recognition. Trustees asked questions with respect to student enrollment in the advancement placement program at Vincent Massey High School.

2.02 Reports of Committees

NIL

2.03 Delegations and Petitions

NIL

2.04 Communications for Action

NIL

2.05 Business Arising

- From Previous Delegation
- From Board Agenda
- MSBA issues (last meeting of the month)
- From Report of Senior Administration

- a) School Reports – NIL
- b) Learning Support Services Presentation – NIL
- c) Items from Senior Administration Report
 - Five Year Capital Plan – Referred Motions.
 - Waverly Park School – Two Classroom Additions – Referred Motions.
 - Lease Agreement for At-Risk Youth Program – Referred Motions.
 - Custom Truck Sales Scholarship – Referred Motions.
 - Extended Health Benefits Plan – Referred Motions.

The Acting Secretary-Treasurer spoke to the motions with respect to the Waverly Park School two classroom additions, the Lease Agreement for the At-Risk Youth Program, and the Five Year Capital Plan.

2.06 Public Inquiries (max. 15 minutes)

NIL

2.07 Motions

95/2013 Mr. Karnes – Mr. Snelling

That the Five-Year Capital Plan 2014/15 – 2018/19 be approved for submission to the Public Schools Finance Board.

The Acting Secretary-Treasurer spoke briefly to the Five-Year Capital Plan. The Chair noted the Director of Facilities and Transportation had been invited to the Board Meeting to answer any questions Trustees might have with respect to the Five-Year Capital Plan. Trustee Snelling stated he agreed with the priorities listed. He suggested that the Division may want to include a second school on the north side of the river at some point in the future.

Carried.

96/2013 Mr. Karnes – Mr. Snelling

That MCM Architects Inc. be appointed as consultant to design a two classroom addition of 860 sq. ft. each (with link and ancillary space to be determined) for Waverly Park School.

Carried.

97/2013 Mr. Snelling – Mr. Karnes

That the Lease Agreement between the Brandon School Division and Lynn Hink and Vernon Hink to rent the property commonly known as 729 Princess Avenue for the period August 1, 2013 to July 31, 2014 at an annual rent of \$34,100.00 plus utilities for operation of the At-Risk Youth Program be approved; and the Chairperson and Secretary-Treasurer are hereby authorized to affix their signatures and the seal of the Division thereto.

Trustees requested clarification with respect to how long into the future the Division may be able to rent the current location and the budget implications with respect to the lease.

Carried.

98/2013 Dr. Ross – Mr. Snelling

That the Agreement for the establishment of the scholarship to be known as “The Archie MacArthur Memorial Scholarship”, sponsored by Custom Truck Sales Inc., in the amount of \$500.00 annually over the next three years be approved and the Chairperson and Secretary-Treasurer be and are hereby authorized to affix their signatures and the seal of the Division thereto.

The Board of Trustees directed the Secretary-Treasurer’s Department to forward a letter of thanks and appreciation to Custom Truck Sales Inc. for continuing the scholarship originally established by the late Archie MacArthur.

Carried.

99/2013 Dr. Ross – Mr. Snelling

That the Brandon School Division Board of Trustees approve the Collateral, Auxiliary Agreements and Letter of Understanding with respect to the Extended Health Benefits Plan endorsed by the Manitoba School Boards Association and the Manitoba Teachers Society; and the Chairperson and Secretary-Treasurer be authorized to sign same.

Trustees spoke to the motion noting they would vote in favour of the motion, but did so reluctantly. They spoke to their disappointment in the Manitoba School Boards Association’s handling of the process and lack of accountability in explaining their actions. They confirmed their previous defeating of the motion was not meant to punish the teaching staff but rather to attempt to initiate some kind of action from the MSBA regarding their handling of the matter. They noted this did not happen. Trustees recognized the urgency of approving the motion as the teaching staff’s current benefits plan expired at the end of the month. Trustees still requested an explanation from MSBA regarding this matter and that follow-up was still required. A motion requesting a meeting with the MSBA Executive to discuss this matter would therefore be brought forward.

Carried.

100/2013 Dr. Ross – Mr. Murray

That the Brandon School Division Board of Trustees request a meeting with the Manitoba School Boards Association Executive with respect to the Extended Health Benefits Plan.

Carried.

Following unanimous approval of the motion the Board directed the Chairperson to write the letter. The Board requested the letter be copied to all Manitoba School Divisions and include the following:

- a statement regarding the Board’s disappointment in the manner in which this item was handled and the MSBA Executive’s continued failure to accept responsibility regarding how the matter was handled;

- approval of the motion was done strictly out of respect for the teachers of the division as the Board is against the manner in which the matter was handled by the MSBA;
- the Board does not appreciate the position the Secretary-Treasurers across the province were placed in as the Secretary-Treasurers answer to their individual Boards and not the MSBA;
- the MSBA in future is not bargain on behalf of the school boards regarding collective bargaining items;
- the Board requests that the MSBA Executive attend in Brandon to meet with the Board of Trustees regarding the handling of this matter.

2.08 Bylaws

2.09 Giving of Notice

Mr. Murray

I hereby give notice that at the next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, I, or someone in my stead, will introduce By-law 6/2013 for the purpose of amending part II of By-Law 1/2011 to make changes under "Meetings of the Board" of Trustees to include a statement regarding inclement weather and notice of cancellation of the meeting.

Mrs. Bowslaugh

I hereby give notice that at the next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, I, or someone in my stead, will introduce a motion to approve Policy 1023 – "Scent/Fragrance Free Facilities".

2.10 Trustee Inquiries

Trustees requested the following information:

a) Trustee Murray:

Trustee Murray referenced a recent incident in Ontario wherein a mentally challenged child was bullied by a neighbour. He noted during the course of the investigation it was determined that mental capacity did not constitute a hate crime. He felt that if the country did not recognize such behavior as a hate crime, then it was up to others to begin to change things. Therefore, he requested that the Division review their policies to include mental capacity in appropriate policies regarding bullying.

Superintendent, Dr. Michaels, confirmed that she and the Associate Superintendent would review the Division policies regarding bullying, inclusion and non-violent crisis intervention and bring back a report to the Board in due course. She thanked Trustee Murray for raising the issue.

b) Trustee Bartlette:

Questions were made by an individual who asked "When does the Board hire Principals and when does the Superintendent appoint principals?"

Superintendent, Dr. Michaels, confirmed that only one new principal had been hired for the upcoming school year. She also noted that the appointment of a school principal is done by the Board of Trustees and not the Superintendent. However, the Superintendent does have the right to have an opinion on any appointment of a school principal made by the Board of Trustees.

3.00 ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION:

3.01 Report of Senior Administration

Acting Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Labossiere, spoke to the 2013-2014 MSBA School Insurance Program and noting the increased costs and PST now charged on the insurance.

Trustees asked questions for clarification regarding the taxes charged; the impact on budget; and the possibility of considering alternatives to the current MSBA School Insurance Program. Discussions were also held regarding facilities assessment and replacement costs should a school be destroyed in a fire.

Trustee Ross requested the following information:

"What would be the cost of insurance comparable to the current one provided by MSBA, if provided via an alternate insurance provider?" The Board agreed to this inquiry.

Superintendent, Dr. Michaels noted the meeting she held with representatives from Brandon University, including a research initiative and a meeting with the new Dean of Education for the University.

Mr. Murray – Mr. Karnes

That the August 26, 2013 Report of Senior Administration be received and filed.

Carried.

3.02 Communications for Information

- a) Aileen Najduch, Assistant Deputy Minister, School Programs Division, and Jean-Vianney Auclair, Assistant Deputy Minister, Bureau de l'éducation française Division, Manitoba Education, June, 2013, noting Manitoba Education recently introduced a provincial report card with the goal of providing clear, consistent information to parents. Starting in the Fall of 2013, all public schools will be required to use the report card templates as provided by the Department. Therefore they are writing to provide updates on the provincial report card, including the following: implementation; policy and support documents; business requirements documents; and feedback from the report card implementation monitoring process.

Referred Superintendent's Office.

- b) Mr. Floyd Martens, President, Manitoba School Boards Association, addressed to Mr. Reg Klassen, MASS and dated July 9, 2013, thanking Mr. Klassen for his invitation to support the "National Inventory of Interventions for LGBTQ-Inclusive Schools" study. As the obligations of public school boards in Manitoba is to ensure the well-being and success of all gender diverse youth in provincial schools, MSBA supports this research effort to inventory relevant policies, programs, curricula and events/activities currently in effect in Manitoba public schools. Therefore the MSBA endorses the aims of this particular research endeavour and this endorsement will be communicated to Dr. Catherine Taylor, lead researcher for the project.

Ordered Filed.

- c) Mr. Floyd Martens, President, Manitoba School Boards Association, addressed to Teresa Rezansff, British Columbia School Trustees Association and dated July 9, 2013, congratulating the BSCTA for hosting the CSBA Congress 2013 in Vancouver. He asks that thanks and best wishes be forwarded to BSCTA members and staff for all their hard work in organizing and hosting a truly engaging and enjoyable conference experience.

Ordered Filed.

- d) Bailey Wright, undated, thanking the Division for a \$100 scholarship which will be put toward tuition at the University of Lethbridge in the fall.

Ordered Filed.

3.03 Announcements

- a) Board Planning Session – 5:00 p.m., Tuesday, August 27, 2013, Board Room.
- b) Welcome Back Breakfast – 7:30 a.m., Tuesday, September 3, 2013, Victoria Inn.
- c) Inaugural Board Meeting – 9:30 a.m., Tuesday, September 3, 2013, Board Room.
- d) NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING – 7:00 p.m., Monday, September 9, 2013, Board Room.

Mr. Murray – 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

- a) The Parent Request contained in Confidential #3 was addressed by Sr. Administration. Direction was provided by the Board.
- b) Sr. Administration noted the Parent Request in Confidential #4 had been addressed.
- c) The Superintendent spoke to a student placement issue.

- Trustee Inquiries

4.02 Personnel Matters

- Reports

- a) Confidential #1 – Personnel Report was noted.
- b) The Secretary-Treasurer Selection Committee presented and spoke to Confidential #5

Mr. Snelling – Mr. Karnes

That the Committee of the Whole In Camera do now resolve into Board.

Carried.

101/2013 Mr. Sumner – Mr. Bartlette

That Confidential #5 and the recommendation therein from the Secretary-Treasurer Selection Committee be approved and that the recommendation be released to the public upon acceptance of contract.

Carried.

Mr. Snelling – Mr. Karnes

That the Board do now resolve into Committee of the Whole In Camera.

Carried.

- c) The Superintendent provided information regarding a staffing matter.

- Trustee Inquiries

4.03 Property Matters/Tenders

- Reports

- Trustee Inquiries

4.04 Board Operations

- Reports

- a) The Board Chair spoke to Confidential #2 regarding a response to Board Operations Matter.
- b) The Chairperson provided an update on two Board Operations Matters he had followed up on with legal counsel.
- c) Trustee Bowslaugh inquired about a Board Operations Matter. The Board directed Trustee Bowslaugh to obtain further information and report back at a future meeting.

- Trustee Inquiries

Mr. Bartlette – Dr. Ross

That the Committee of the Whole In Camera do now resolve into Board.

Carried.

5.00 ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Snelling – Mr. Murray

That the meeting does now adjourn (9:25 p.m.)

Carried.

Chairperson

Acting Secretary-Treasurer