



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, JANUARY 28, 2013.

PRESENT:

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

Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. K. Zabowski and 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, Mr. Denis Labossiere, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer.

REGRETS:

Dr. L. Ross, Mr. G. Kruck, 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. He noted the artwork on the Board Room walls had been supplied by the Grade 12, Fine Arts Students at Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School. He thanked the students, noting the artwork was stunning and brightened the Board Room.

AGENDA

1.00 AGENDA/MINUTES:

1.01 Reference to Statement of Board Operations

1.02 Approval of Agenda

Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Zabowski, requested the following additions:

- One Board Operations matter for In-Camera discussion;
- One Personnel matter for In-Camera discussion;
- A late motion from the Finance Committee meeting which had been held earlier in the day;
- A brief discussion on the Provincial Funding Announcement.

Mr. Zabowski also noted the deletion of the school report from Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School under Section 2.05 – Business Arising – From Report of Senior Administration.

Trustee Snelling confirmed he had a verbal report under Section 2.02 – Report of Committees.

Trustee Sefton requested the addition of one In-Camera item.

Mr. Snelling – 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 January 14, 2013 were circulated.

Trustee Bartlette noted he had a follow-up inquiry regarding HALEP and the clarification of the implementation of “Stage 2” which he would be bringing forth under Trustee Inquiries.

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

- b) The Minutes of the Special Board Meeting held January 21, 2013 were circulated.

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

2.00 GOVERNANCE MATTERS:

2.01 Presentations For Information *(Video Streaming 7 minute mark)*

- a) Sherry Baker, Resource – Grade 5-8, George Fitton School, speaking to the school’s “Project of Heart” initiative.

Ms. Baker, with the assistance of five students, spoke about the “Project of Heart” initiative. She noted the program taught students about residential schools in Canada. She stated the goals of the program were to: Investigate the history and legacy of the residential school system; Honouring those children who did not survive the residential school system; Fostering positive relationships into the future. Part of the program involved painting tiles to honour those who died while in the residential school system. Samples of the tiles were circulated for trustees. She was pleased to confirm that the student tiles would be on display at the Winnipeg Museum of Human Rights in the spring. Each of the five students in attendance spoke about what they had learned through the study of residential schools in Canada. Ms. Baker concluded her presentation by inviting trustees to learn more about the initiative at the following website: <http://www.projectofheart.ca/>

The Chairperson thanked Ms. Baker and her students for the presentation, noting such presentations helped the Board to understand how important this is to the students. He presented Ms. Baker with a Certificate of Recognition for the work she and the students have done in this area. Ms. Baker thanked the Board for inviting her and her students to the meeting. She also thanked the parents for their support and the George Fitton School BSSAP worker and the school’s Vice-Principal for all they did to help make this project a success for the students at George Fitton School.

2.02 Reports of Committees *(Video Streaming 20 minute mark)*

a) Personnel Committee Meeting

The written report of the Personnel Committee meeting held on January 14, 2013 was circulated.

Mr. Murray – Mr. Bartlette

That the Minutes be received and filed.

Carried.

b) Education Committee Minutes

The written report of the Education Committee meeting held on January 15, 2013 was circulated.

Mr. Bartlette – Mr. Snelling

That the Minutes be received and filed.

Carried.

c) Other

- Trustee Bartlette reported on the Minister of Education's visit on January 17, 2013. He noted the Minister visited the Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School Welding Shop to view the new ventilation system. He confirmed Trustee Bowslaugh was also in attendance, together with the school administrator, the Director of Facilities and Transportation, the Secretary-Treasurer, teaching staff and students. The Minister spent time talking to the students about their course before retiring to a separate room for coffee and conversation with the adults in attendance.
- Trustee Sefton reported on the MSBA Region 1 meeting held on January 21, 2013 at the Elkhorn Resort. He confirmed topics of conversation at the meeting included the MSBA budget; whether or not to continue membership in the CSBA; and a new model for submitting resolutions to the MSBA at the annual convention.
- Trustee Sefton reported on the Manitoba Premier's visit to École New Era School on January 22, 2013. He noted the purpose of the Premier's visit was to announce joint funding with the Red Cross on an anti-bullying initiative entitled "Beyond the Hurt". He complemented the Grade 4 students who had been a part of the Premier's visit noting the students were very well behaved and focused on what the Premier had to say to them. He felt the Premier had done a wonderful job of connecting with the students and even had his picture taken with the students at the end of the visit.
- Trustee Snelling reported on the Brandon Urban Aboriginal People's council meeting noting the council was looking for submission of names for an Elder. Mr. Snelling would like to propose the name of Kevin Tacan the Division Elder and asked the Board for their consideration of this nomination.
- Trustee Bowslaugh reported on the B.J. Hales Ad-Hoc Committee meeting which took place on Friday, January 18, 2013. She confirmed the purpose of the meeting was to review the proposed agreement which had been prepared by the Division's solicitor.

2.03 Delegations and Petitions

2.04 Communications for Action

NIL

2.05 Business Arising**- From Previous Delegation****- From Board Agenda****- MSBA issues (last meeting of the month)**

a) Trustee Sumner asked the Board if the MSBA Regional meetings were ever held at alternative times in order to accommodate the schedules of those Trustees who work at a full-time day job. Trustee Murray confirmed this was a regional decision and provided examples of when other regions hold their regional meetings. He confirmed Region 1 likes to meet during the day on a Monday. Trustee Sumner suggested that perhaps next time this question is asked at a regional meeting someone could suggest an alternate time to accommodate those Trustees who work during the day.

- From Report of Senior Administration (*Video Streaming 35 minute mark*)

a) School Reports – Riverheights School

Mr. John Minshull, Principal, Riverheights School, provided his report for the Board of Trustees. Mr. Minshull highlighted the student literacy intervention program, a partnership with Brandon University which began on January 28, 2013. He noted the work Mr. Reg Reimer had been doing with his staff regarding technology and the use of iPads to provide students with the skills they will require in High School. Mr. Minshull spoke to the school results of the “Tell Them From Me” survey and in particular the results regarding bullying. He noted the school’s response to the issues identified in the survey.

The Chairperson thanked Mr. Minshull for his presentation. Trustees asked questions regarding Mr. Minshull’s opinions and observations with respect to the implementation of Full Day/Every Day Kindergarten noting they looked forward to receiving data on these students as they continue to move through the grades in years to come.

Superintendent, Dr. Michaels, thanked Mr. Minshull, for bringing forth the results of the student survey and being proactive in addressing the issues raised by students.

b) Learning Support Services Presentation –NIL

c) Items from Senior Administration Report

- Invite Minister of Children and Youth Opportunities to Committee Meeting – Referred Motions.
- Nomination for Region 1 Director – Referred Motions.
- Trustee inquiry – Trustee Sumner – Enrolment data and school capacities in other divisions.

The Secretary-Treasurer reviewed the Provincial funding announcement which had been received earlier in the day. He noted Division's would be receiving, on average, a 2.3% increase in the coming year. He confirmed the Ministry was working towards "improving quality and helping students develop in math, reading and writing". Highlights in the funding included: new resources for anti-bullying programs and continuing support for stay-in-school initiatives; additional resources for numeracy to help students in early and middle years build strong foundational skills in math; and additional resources for early childhood literacy to help students get a strong start in reading. Mr. Zabowski noted the funding announcement did not include any money for the 20K-3 class size initiative; however, he had received a letter from the Minister confirming additional funding for this initiative will be provided prior to the spring budget. He stated this meant the Board would need to budget for the 20K-3 class size initiative without knowing the level of support the Division will receive in the spring.

2.06 Public Inquiries (max. 15 minutes)

2.07 Motions (Video Streaming 55 minute mark)

Mr. Zabowski, Secretary-Treasurer, spoke to the motion being brought forth regarding the Fleming School sale proceeds. He also provided clarification regarding debenture by-laws, their purpose, how they are recorded on the Division books, and that 2nd and 3rd reading of debenture by-laws may take place at one meeting. Mr. Zabowski noted an additional motion regarding the nomination of Mr. Tacan as an elder for the Brandon Urban Aboriginal People's Council had been prepared should the Board wish to proceed to put forth Mr. Tacan's name for consideration.

12/2013 Mr. Bowslaugh – Mr. Bartlette

That an invitation be extended to the Honourable Kevin Chief, Minister of Children and Youth Opportunities to a meeting following the inaugural meeting of the Brandon School Division's Aboriginal Education Advisory Committee.

Carried.

Prior to Motion 13/2013 being read, Mr. Sefton stepped down from the position of Chairperson. The Vice-Chairperson, Mr. Jim Murray, assumed position of Chairperson.

13/2013 Mr. Bartlette – Mr. Snelling

That the nomination of Trustee Sefton for the position of Director – Region 1, Manitoba School Boards Association is hereby approved.

Carried. (Trustee Sefton abstained).

Trustee Mark Sefton resumed the position of Chairperson for the remainder of the meeting.

14/2013 Mr. Snelling – Mr. Bartlette

That the amount of \$298,009.03, being the sale proceeds of the sale of Fleming School, be allocated to the Building Reserve fund.

Carried.

15/2013 Mr. Snelling – Mr. Bartlette

That the Brandon School Division approve the nomination of Kevin Tacan, Aboriginal Elder for the Brandon School Division, as a possible Elder for the Brandon Urban Aboriginal People's Council.

Carried.

2.08 Bylaws

Mr. Karnes – Mr. Sumner

That By-Law 3/2012 being a borrowing by-law in the amount of \$3,510,700.00 upon the credit of the Division by the issue and sale of a debenture to meet partial costs for construction of the following projects: Betty Gibson Boiler Replacement, Waverly Park Boiler Replacement, Crocus Plains Welding Shop Ventilation Upgrade, Green Acres Roof Replacement, Vincent Massey Emergency Gym Roof Replacement, Neelin Steam Heating System Replacement, Vincent Massey Roof Replacement, Riverview Furnace Replacement, and Valleyview Emergency Roof Replacement, be now read for a third and final time, and taken as read, finally passed.

Carried.

2.09 Giving of Notice

NIL

2.10 Trustee Inquiries

1. Trustee Bartlette requested from the Superintendent the following:

“Please provide details of Stage 2 (HALEP) with plans or requirements given to schools with respect to Stage 2 – i.e.: Academic Enrichment focus.”

3.00 ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION:**3.01 Report of Senior Administration *(Video Streaming 1 hour and 2 minute mark)***

The Secretary-Treasurer reviewed his response to Trustee Sumner’s inquiry regarding enrolment data and school capacities in other divisions.

Superintendent, Dr. Michaels noted in the funding announcement the Minister’s statement regarding focusing on literacy and was pleased to advise the Board of Trustees that the Brandon School Division has been dedicating resources to the improvement of student literacy for a number of years. She highlighted school reports from Earl Oxford, Linden Lanes and St. Augustine. She also spoke to the Suspension Report. Dr. Michaels highlighted the increase in EAL registration noting the Division now has 1,388 EAL students enrolled in the Division. Dr. Michaels spoke of her final meeting with Brandon Police Chief Atkinson prior to his retirement and confirmed she looked forward to meeting with new Chief of Police in due course. She concluded her report by noting the letter received from IB Program Manager regarding the IB Program at École Secondaire Neelin High School.

Trustee Sefton thanked Dr. Michaels for her report noting the increase in new EAL students to the Division since September and the impact this will have on the budget.

Mr. Murray – Mr. Bartlette

That the January 28, 2013 Report of Senior Administration be received and filed.

Carried.

3.02 Communications for Information *(Video Streaming 1 hour and 14 minute mark)*

- a) Mr. David Yeo, Director, Manitoba Education, January 7, 2013, noting the 2013/2014 school year will be comprised of 194 days. The project of the school calendar for the next four years is included. Parameters applicable to the 2013-2014 school year, including Christmas Vacation, Spring Break and in-service days are noted. Divisions are asked to complete the form attached once they have established the dates of the days to be used for non-instruction purposes and submit to the Department.

Referred Superintendent's Office.

- b) Robert Rivard, President, Manitoba School Boards Association, January 16, 2013, addressed to the Honourable Stan Struthers, Minister of Finance, encouraging the Government to continue funding education at the rate of provincial economic growth as the futures of the Province's young people are dependent upon the strong public school system that such support engenders. They also ask that the government provide sufficient new funding to school boards to enable them to fully implement the kindergarten to grade 3 class size reduction strategy, announced by the Premier in 2011. Many school boards face significant costs in the upcoming years and are concerned that without a clear and sustainable funding model, the cost of this provincial initiative will ultimately be borne by local taxpayers. Their second request is that school boards once again be allowed to exercise their authority to "determine the number, kind, grade and description of schools to be established and maintained", as outlined in Section 41(1)(p) of *The Public Schools Act*. He notes this authority was curtailed by the passage of Bill 28, *The Strengthening Local Schools Act*, in 2008 which amended *The Public Schools Act* to require both community consensus and ministerial approval in order to close a school. Since the passage of Bill 28, both the government and school boards have spent millions of dollars to repair and maintain schools that are not required for educational purposes. Expenditures that could have been avoided if school boards had been able to manage the capital resources entrusted to them in a fiscally and educationally appropriate manner. They asked the government to revisit this policy.

Ordered Filed.

3.03 Announcements *(Video Streaming 1 hour and 15 minute mark)*

- a) Divisional Futures & Community Relations Committee Meeting – 11:30 a.m., Wednesday, February 6, 2013, Board Room.
- b) Public Budget Consultation – 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, February 6, 2013, Earl Oxford School.
- c) Facilities & Transportation Committee Meeting – 11:30 a.m., Thursday, February 7, 2013, Board Room.
- d) Personnel Committee Meeting – 12:00 noon, Monday, February 11, 2013, Board Room.
- e) NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING – 7:00 p.m., Monday, February 11, 2013, Board Room.

Mr. Snelling – Mrs. Bowslaugh

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) The Secretary-Treasurer reviewed a personnel item and provided an update.
- c) Confidential #2 relating to a Letter of Understanding between the Division and the Brandon Teachers Association was discussed and referred to Motions following the conclusion of In-Camera discussions.

- Trustee Inquiries

4.03 Property Matters/Tenders

- Reports
- Trustee Inquiries

4.04 Board Operations

- Reports
- Trustee Inquiries

- a) Trustee Bowslaugh inquired about a MSBA matter. It was noted the deadline for submission had passed and would be brought forward again for December, 2013.
- b) Trustee Sefton confirmed an upcoming Board item.
- c) Trustee Bartlette raised a question regarding a Board Operation matter.

Mr. Sumner – Mr. Murray

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

Carried.

16/2013 Mr. Sumner – Mr. Karnes

That the Letter of Understanding between the Brandon Teachers' Association of the Manitoba Teachers' Society and the Brandon School Division amending Article 32 – Preparation Time” of the Collective Agreement to allow preparation time to accumulate to half day or full day blocks of time, and be returned by agreement with the member be

approved for the 2012/2013 and 2013/2014 school years; and the Chairperson and Secretary-Treasurer be authorized to affix their signatures therefore.

Carried.

5.00 ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Snelling – Mrs. Bowslaugh

That the meeting does now adjourn (9:02 p.m.)

Carried.

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer