

"Accepting the Challenge

School Division/Parent Liaison Committee Minutes

Wednesday, November 19, 2009 7:00 p.m. Conference Room, Administration Office

Brandon School Division: Present:

B. Jolly, Dr. Michaels, D. G. Barnes, S. Lehman

Parents:

Eva Cameron, Karen Colquhoun, Judy Seib

Lynda Fowler, Sandy Fehr, Jo-Ann Pasklavich-Holder Regrets:

1. **WELCOME AND AGENDA REVIEW**

Trustee Jolly welcomed the members and introduced Shawn Lehman, Principal representative. Items added to the agenda were H1N1 under new business.

2. **REVIEW OF OCTOBER 21, 2009 MEETING**

The minutes of the October 21, 2009 Committee meeting were reviewed. It was agreed that the minutes would be circulated after each Committee meeting prior to being presented at the Board Meeting with Committee members advising of necessary amendments.

3. **BUSINESS ARISING FROM MEETING OF OCTOBER 21, 2009**

i) Student Information Sessions (Grades 5-7)

The Committee discussed this matter at length. It was agreed that a session would be held in late February with Grade 5-8 students. The Committee felt the questions should be similar to previous years. It was felt that the focus should be on education and how the student feels around their learning experiences in school. It was agreed that the information from previous years would be supplied for review at the next meeting to be used in finalizing the agenda for the February 2010 session.

Eva Cameron stated that it was important that all Division Parent Liaision committee members need to be involved in this forum – not just the parents.

There was also discussion regarding school supply lists. It was agreed that Shawn Lehman would take three options back to the Principals for discussion and input:

- 1. Have \$40 incorporated into the budget so that the schools could purchase all of the school supplies for the students.:
- 2. Parents pay a straight \$40 fee and the schools purchase all of the supplies for the students with it.; or
- 3. A basic school supply list be created for each grade. Teachers would then have the option of adding supplies with an explanation as to what they are for.

It was agreed that Brandon Group Parent Council be asked about this as well. This input will be brought back to the next meeting for discussion.

4. **NEW BUSINESS**

Terms of Reference of School Division/Parent Liaison Committee i)

The information on the establishment and purpose of the Committee that had been circulated with the agenda was reviewed. The purpose and operation of the Committee was discussed at length noting parental involvement, school supply lists, student fees, etc. There was discussion regarding previous information on this matter. Senior Administration was requested to follow-up on this item and bring it back to the Committee prior to the end of the school year.

ii) H1N1

This matter was referred to the next meeting.

iii) Canadian Home and School

Eva Cameron reported on the Canadian Home and School session she had recently attended noting there is a resolution coming forward to their Annual General Meeting in June 2010 with regards to the banning of the sale of energy drinks to children up to the age of eighteen (18).

5. UPDATE REPORTS

i) Brandon Group Parent Council

No report was presented as no meeting had been held.

ii) Board of Trustees

Trustee Jolly reported on Board matters noting single track French immersion program implementation, meetings with constituent groups regarding 2010/2011 budget preparations and the meeting with Dr. J. Gerrard, Provincial Liberal Leader.

iii) Schools

Shawn Lehman, Prinicipal Earl Oxford School, informed the Committee of current school activites including the upcoming Celebration of Learning, presence of student teachers in many schools, preparation of student report cards, on-going teacher evaluations and planning for Christmas concerts. Mr. Lehman was requested to provide an overview of the Kinder-Links program that is operating at his school. Mr. Lehman responded to questions from the parent reps.

iv) Senior Administration

- G. Barnes reported on commencement of 2010/2011 budget preparations, CUPE support staff contract settlement and single track French immersion implementation.
- Dr. Michaels informed the Committee of activites being undertaken by the Superintendent's Office including Grade 3 student achievement, the partnership with Brandon University for the school professional development project, the Senior High review, the teacher evaluation process, assessment of student potential and budget.

6. WRAP UP AND ADJOURNMENT

Trustee Jolly thanked the members for their attendance.

The meeting adjourned at 9:20 p.m.

NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Wednesday, December 16, 2009 7:00 p.m., Conference Room

Respectfully Submitted
B. Jolly, Trustee