



# BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION

## Divisional Futures & Community Relations Committee Minutes

Tuesday, March 19, 2013 (11:45 a.m.)  
Earl Oxford School

Present: P. Bowslaugh, Chairperson, M. Snelling, K. Sumner  
10 grade 7 and 8 students.

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### A) Equity and Sustainability in Education (Meeting with Earl Oxford Students)

Ten grade 7 and 8 Earl Oxford students met with the Divisional Futures and Community Relations Committee. Mrs. Bowslaugh thanked all in attendance for their participation and reviewed the role of the Brandon School Division Board of Trustees' Divisional Futures and Community Relations Committee. Students were asked the following questions:

- 1) What are the good things about Earl Oxford School?
- 2) What do Trustees need to know to make Earl Oxford School better?
- 3) Is there anything else Trustees should know about Earl Oxford School.

A summary of the points raised by students is attached to the Minutes as Appendix "A".

At the conclusion of the meeting Mrs. Bowslaugh thanked all present for participating, noting that student feedback was vital.

The meeting adjourned at 12:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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P. Bowslaugh, Chair

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M. Snelling

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K. Sumner

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D. Karnes (Alternate)

# Meeting with Students of Earl Oxford School Tuesday, March 19, 2013

## Questions:

### 1) What are the good things about Earl Oxford School?

- The staff is very polite and helpful
- It is a fun environment - Pep Rallies, Spirit Week and other fun stuff
- The school is big enough – we have lots of space
- We have lots of technology available – computers/lap tops and the younger grades have iPads
- The students get to make lots of decisions
- Teachers are always there for you
- Teachers supervise at lunch and recess and there is a lack of conflict because of it
- We have a big playground
- We have lots of outdoor space
- Field trips, meetings, Youth Revolution, student council
- Our gym teacher is great
- Our classrooms are a fair size
- Lockers are spacious and everyone has one except for the Kindergarten students
- Teachers make class fun with lots of role playing and things like music videos

### 2) What do Trustees need to know to make Earl Oxford School better?

- Most of the students like the school just the way it is
- Newer gym equipment like climbing walls would be nice
- Bigger lockers for the grade 8 students (they have half lockers)
- Canteen could be bigger and have music to bring in more people
- Canteen could sell more of a variety, perhaps a "food of the day" item
- School Dances after school instead of in the afternoon (although students realize the reasoning for afternoon dances – teacher time, student after school activities, family transportation issues, etc.)

### 3) Is there anything else about Earl Oxford you would like to tell the Trustees?

- Bussing issues: Concerns were raised regarding the number of buses coming down the road to places that are within walking distance; the number of students on a bus; and why the bus driver couldn't pick up a student who wasn't at their proper pick-up point. Students also asked why buses at Crocus dropped students off on the street, away from the door, yet still drove up to the door before leaving the bus loop.
- High School Tours: The grade 8 students were asked if they had taken any of the school tours and to provide their feedback on the tours. Students noted they had chosen their high school registration based on course options.
- Bullying: Students were asked to discuss bullying in the school. Students noted they did not feel there was as much bullying in the school than what there used to be. Those who had been in the school since early years noted it used to be very bad but felt it had changed due to better teaching and awareness of bullying issues. Students noted Pink Day, assemblies, and guest speakers who had experienced bullying first hand all helped to contribute to awareness about bullying.