



"Accepting the Challenge"

## **Divisional Futures & Community Relations Committee Minutes**

Friday, June 10, 2011 – 11:30 a.m.  
École Harrison School

Present: M. Snelling, Chairperson, P. Bowslaugh, K. Sumner.

Regrets: Dr. D. Michaels.

Invited Guests: 11 Grade 7 and 8 École Harrison School Students.

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### **1. CALL TO ORDER:**

The meeting was called to order at 11:30 a.m. by the Committee Chairperson, Mrs. Bowslaugh.

### **2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The Divisional Futures and Community Relations Committee Agenda was approved.

### **3. COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE GOAL ITEMS**

NIL

### **4. OTHER COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE MATTERS**

- A) Equity and Sustainability in Education (Meeting with Grade 7 and 8 École Harrison School Students.

Chairperson, 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. The students were organized into two discussion groups. Students were asked to discuss a number of questions regarding how they felt about their school. Following the break-out discussions, students were asked to report out on their discussions. 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.

### **5. OPERATIONS INFORMATION**

NIL

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

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M. Snelling, Chair

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P. Bowslaugh

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K. Sumner

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G. Kruck (Alternate)

# Meeting with Grade 7 and 8 Students

## École Harrison School

### Friday, June 10, 2011

#### Questions:

#### 1) Explain how you felt about coming to a new school. Were there challenges? What was easy?

- "Smaller school and easier to get around."
- "The gym is smaller."
- "The move was scary."
- "The library is smaller."
- "The music room is bigger."
- "We have to share the gym."
- "The playground isn't as good."
- "The computers are old."
- "The lockers are small and hard to close."
- "We have good teachers."
- "We have a good sound system in the gym."
- "There are less sub teachers that know French."
- "There is a lot of bitterness of other students who lost this school. There is vandalism and they make fun of the French language."
- "We don't have to share the school like we had to at New Era."
- "Don't like the logo for the school."
- "Bathrooms are not good."
- "It is a safer area than at New Era."
- "We had to leave the new playground that we fundraised for."
- "It doesn't feel safe at the bus loading area."
- "The school is too small."

#### 2) What are the good things about your school?

- "It's a French school and I like French."
- "The teachers are good."
- "The sound system in the gym is good."
- "Shop class is in the school."
- "We have bells to start recess."
- "It is a good learning environment."
- "Grades are mixed."
- "Older kids are separated from the younger kids."
- "We have an ORFF Club."
- "We get to go to Festival d'Voyager."
- "We get to speak more French."
- "We get more opportunity to speak French."
- "The school is very easy to get around."

- "We have lots of French oriented activities."
- "The staff is very good."
- "There is a waiting list for Kindergarten."
- "There is more extra-curricular activities."

**3) What is it that you need to make the school better?**

- "More subs that speak French."
- "Better textbooks."
- "Newer washrooms."
- "Better computers."
- "Better sound system for announcements."
- "A bigger gym."
- "More sock-hops."
- "New gym equipment."
- "Bigger lockers."
- "Ventilation in the gym."
- "Wi-Fi."
- "Move the snow hill away from the parking lot in winter."
- "Refinish the gym floor."
- "Improve the loading zone for buses."
- "Have more vending machines that work and serve juice."
- "Change the logo."
- "Have more celebration events."
- "Fix the bathrooms and change rooms."
- "There is no water pressure in the sinks."
- "Supervisors on the playground need to wear bright vests so we know where they are."
- "More fiction English books in library."