

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, OCTOBER 25, 2010.

PRESENT:

Mr. G. Buri, Chairperson, Mr. D. Karnes, Vice-Chairperson, Mr. P. Bartlette, Ms. R. Coey, Mrs. B. Jolly, Mr. J. Murray, Dr. L. Ross, Mr. M. Snelling.

Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. G. Barnes and Recording Secretary, Ms. S. Bailey

Senior Administration: Dr. D. M. Michaels, Superintendent, Mr. G. Malazdrewicz, Associate Superintendent, Mr. K. Zabowski, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer.

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed all visitors to the last meeting of the current sitting Board of Trustees.

AGENDA

1.00 AGENDA/MINUTES:

1.01 Reference to Statement of Board Operations

1.02 Approval of Agenda

Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Barnes, requested the addition of Confidential #4 regarding a property sale matter.

Superintendent, Dr. Michaels, noted she had a student matter to discuss In-Camera.

Trustee Jolly noted she had an item under Trustee Inquiries.

Trustee Murray requested a Point of Personal Privilege following approval of the Minutes.

Mr. Bartlette and 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 October 12, 2010 were circulated.

Dr. Ross – Mr. Snelling
That the Minutes be received and filed.
Carried.

POINT OF PRIVILEGE: Trustee Murray wished to take a moment to reflect on the last four years and the work of the Brandon School Division Board of Trustees. He noted that Trustee Karnes would continue to represent Ward 2 through acclamation. He also noted Trustees Mayes and Coey would not be returning to the Board as they have chosen to move forward in a different direction; Mr. Mayes, as he has moved to Winnipeg and Ms. Coey as she has chosen to run for City Council. He confirmed the remaining Trustees were seeking re-election on October 27, 2010. He felt the Board of Trustees had worked well together and although they may have had their differences, they never lost sight of why they were there – for the children. Trustees Bartlette, Buri and Jolly had dedicated their life to education while Trustees Ross, Snelling and Murray had been long standing members of the Brandon School Division Board of Trustees. He noted the Board had made some mistakes, but the Board had made more than one decision and dealt with more than one issue. Mr. Murray cited the many positive changes that the Board had brought to the Brandon School Division, including the increased graduation rate, increased literacy and numeracy, the off-campus school, additional HALEP staff, additional resources, additional SmartBoards, library scanners, Workplace Safety & Health Officer, and Support Staff Sub-booking Clerk. Mr. Murray also noted that the past budget saw a 0% tax increase. He thanked the Board Members for their dedication over the past four years and hoped to work with them again as a member of the Brandon School Division Board of Trustees.

2.00 GOVERNANCE MATTERS:

2.01 Presentations For Information

Ms. Pam Kelso, Psychologist and Division Learning Disabilities Specialist, provided the Board with information regarding the key understandings of children's learning differences and disabilities. She also explained her role as it unfolds in the Division and provided some of her key findings. Trustees thanked Ms. Kelso for her presentation and requested clarification regarding how the students she works with are assigned to her, what happens in the schools she is not working with; middle years intervention, and resources used and needed to continue to assist students. Superintendent, Dr. Michaels, noted data collection is currently taking place and an enhancement request would be brought forward for the 2011/2012 budget regarding additional resources that would be required to address the issues identified through this data collection.

2.02 Reports of Committees

a) Friends of Education Committee Meeting.

The October 13, 2010 written report of the Friends of Education Committee meeting was circulated.

Mr. Karnes – Mr. Snelling
That the Minutes be received and filed.
Carried.

b) Facilities and Transportation Committee Meeting

The October 14, 2010 written report of the Facilities and Transportation Committee meeting was circulated.

Trustee Coey had concerns that the catchment area inquiry which had been referred to the Facilities and Transportation Committee from the September 27, 2010 Board Meeting had been misunderstood. She noted the parent was not concerned about her child being bused, but that a small area of the Brookwood neighbourhood was not in the Linden Lanes catchment area, but was in the Riverheights catchment area. She also noted the parent had made an application to attend Linden Lanes under School of Choice and that the application would be reviewed on a yearly basis for the child and did not guarantee that the child's siblings would be able to attend under School of Choice. Trustee Coey asked that the matter be sent back to the Facilities and Transportation Committee for further discussions. Discussions were held to clarify the request. Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Barnes, noted the child was given a one year special permission to attend Linden Lanes and not School of Choice as School of Choice guarantees the child can remain at their school of choice without further application. School of Choice for one child does not guarantee the siblings will also be granted school of choice status. He confirmed there must have been a reason at the school level for denying school of choice and instead allowing the child to attend Linden Lanes on a one year basis. Trustee Barnes noted there were currently 71 vacant seats in Linden Lanes School at this point. He felt the matter should be dealt with by the Facilities and Transportation Committee in December when the Committee reviewed the catchment areas. He further noted the child in question had a one year special consideration and so felt the matter could wait until the December Committee meeting. Trustee Coey agreed and asked that the Committee use a common sense approach when reviewing that particular catchment area.

Mr. Barnes – Mr. Snelling

That the Minutes be received and filed.

Carried.

c) Finance Committee Meeting.

The October 18, 2010 written report of the Finance Committee meeting was circulated.

Mr. Buri - Mr. Bartlette

That the Minutes be received and filed.

Carried.

e) Other:

NIL

2.03 Delegations and Petitions

Mr. Darren Hardy, President, Brandon Teachers Association, thanked the Board of Trustees for the past four years of governance and wished them luck in the upcoming elections. He felt the Board has grown over the past four years and developed into a flexible Board that takes its work very seriously. He noted that even though there have been differences and disagreements the Board has always been respectful. He looks forward to working with the new Board, whatever that Board may be. He stated the Division is stronger when everyone works together.

2.04 Communications for Action

- a) Drew Caldwell, MLA Brandon East, September 30, 2010, thanking the Board for their letter inviting him to meet with the Board “regarding the basis of the PSFB decision making process, the priority of the Brandon School Division’s five year capital plan requests and the length of time it takes to receive responses from the PSFB”. Although the meeting was requested prior to the October 27th Trustee elections, he felt it would be inappropriate to meet with the Board until the conclusion of the election period. Also, while he is happy to meet with the Board and has done so on many occasions, he feels the request is more appropriately put to the Minister or the Chair of the PSFB and he would be pleased to attend the meeting with them and is copying the Minister to better assist the Board in making such arrangements.

Referred Business Arising.

- b) Ron Lemieux, Minister, Local Government, October 7, 2010, regarding the Board’s recent letter to The Honourable Greg Selinger, Premier of Manitoba, regarding property taxes on educational properties. He notes that property tax exemptions are established under *The Municipal Assessment Act* which establishes the framework for property assessment and taxation for all properties in Manitoba. School-owned property up to 4.047 hectares (10 acres) is exempt. Most schools in Manitoba, including those in the Brandon School Division, are fully exempt from property taxes because they are situated on less than 10 acres of land. He notes in 2002 the Province began phasing out property taxes on property owned or used by a university for educational purposes. Beginning in 2007, universities no longer paid property taxes on property used for educational purposes however they continued to be required to pay taxes on other types of property, such as residential and commercial. The phase-out was implemented to ensure competitiveness with other universities across Canada, most of which are not required to pay property taxes.

Referred Business Arising.

- c) BDO Dunwoody LLP, Chartered Accountants, advising that they audited the consolidated statement of financial position of Brandon School Division as at June 30, 2010 and the consolidated statements of revenue, expenditures and accumulated surplus, change in net debt and cash flow for the year then ended; that these financial statements are the responsibility of the School Division’s management; that their responsibility is to express an opinion on these financial statements based on their audit; except as explained in the following paragraphs, they conducted their audit in accordance with Canadian generally accepted

auditing standards requiring that they plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the financial statements are free of material misstatement; that an audit includes examining on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the financial statements and includes assessing the accounting principles used and significant estimates made by management, as well as evaluating overall financial statement presentation; that the School Division offers sick pay benefits that accumulate but do not vest to several of its employee groups and under generally accepted accounting principles for public sector organizations, the School Division should recognize a liability and an expense for these benefits in the period in which employees render services to the School Division in return for the benefits; the School Division has not recorded employee future benefits liabilities relating to these benefits and because the School Division did not obtain an actuarial valuation to determine the amount of the liability at year end, they were unable to verify by alternate means whether sick pay benefits liabilities are fairly stated and accordingly, they were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to employee future benefits liabilities, employee benefits expenses, and accumulated surplus; also the School Division offers employee benefits related to long service that accumulate and vest to several of its employee groups and under generally accepted accounting principles for public sector organizations, the School Division should recognize a liability and an expense for these benefits in the period in which employees render services to the School Division in return for the benefits; the School Division has not recorded employee future benefits liabilities relating to future benefits and because the School Division did not obtain an actuarial valuation to determine the amount of the liability at year end, they were unable to verify by alternate means whether long term service benefits liabilities are fairly stated and accordingly, they were not able to determine whether any adjustments might be necessary to employee future benefits liabilities, employee benefits expense, and accumulated surplus; that in their opinion, except for the effect of adjustments, if any, which they might have determined to be necessary had they been able to satisfy themselves, with respect to the balance of employee future benefits liabilities described in the preceding paragraphs, these consolidated financial statements present fairly, in all material respects, the financial position of the School Division as of June 30, 2010 and the results of its operations and its cash flows for the fiscal year then ended in accordance with Canadian generally accepted accounting principles; that the financial information presented in the schedules to the consolidated financial statements was derived from the accounting records tested by them as part of the auditing procedures followed in their examination of the financial statements and, in their opinion, they are fairly presented in all material respects in relation to the financial statements taken as a whole;

and further, they have audited the EIS Enrolment File Verification Report prepared in accordance with Part I, Sections 1.1 and 1.2 of the Public Schools Enrolment and Categorical Grants Reporting for the 2009/2010 School Year of the Brandon School Division as at September 30, 2009 and this enrolment information is the responsibility of the Division's management and their responsibility is to express an opinion on this enrolment information based on the audit; that they conducted their audit in compliance with Canadian general auditing standards requiring that they plan and perform an audit to obtain reasonable assurance whether the enrolment information is free of material

misstatement; that audit includes examining, on a test basis, evidence supporting the amounts and disclosures in the enrolment information; and that in their opinion, this report presents fairly, in all material respects, the enrolment of the Brandon School Division as at September 30, 2009 in accordance with the Public Schools Enrolment and Categorical Grants Reporting for the 2009/2010 School Year referred to above.

Referred Motions.

- d) Rick Dedi, Executive Director, The Manitoba Public Schools Finance Board, October 8, 2010, thanking the Board for their letter requesting a meeting to discuss the Division's Five Year Capital Plan noting he would be pleased to meet with the Board after the October 27, 2010 trustee elections. He notes the reasons for postponing the meeting until after the election is: 1) to avoid any perception that provincial civil servants are involved in the electoral process; and 2) recognizing that the best time to deal with Five Year Plan requests and detail the Five Year Plan process would be with the new Board of Trustees. With respect to the Facilities/Transportation Committee concern about Five Year Capital requests and the length of time it takes to receive responses from The Public Schools Finance Board, he notes the PSFB responds formally to Five Year Plan requests as part of the annual Public Schools Capital announcement made by the government each spring. Major capital requests are reviewed annually as part of the budget process and a letter is provided to each school division identifying the projects that will be funded in the applicable budget year. He has included a copy of the most recent budget letter to the Division.

Referred Business Arising.

2.05 BUSINESS ARISING

- From Previous Delegation

The delegation of Mr. Darren Hardy, President, Brandon Teachers Association requesting an explanation of how the additional funding from the government that is not used for additional staffing salary is allocated was referred to the Secretary-Treasurer. Mr. Barnes noted he had provided details regarding the funding in the Report of Senior Administration. He noted there was currently \$163,200 unallocated. As the Division was still within the first few months of the school year, this money was being set aside for additional EAL students which may show up by the second semester. He also confirmed that the funds could be used for instructional material and as discussed by Senior Administration, could also be used to increase the number of SmartBoards in schools to make the distribution of SmartBoards equal for smaller schools. He confirmed he would be providing Mr. Hardy with a copy of the information in the Report of Senior Administration answering his request.

- From Board Agenda

- a) The correspondence from Drew Caldwell, MLA Brandon East, from Communications for Action 2.04a), thanking the Board for their letter inviting him to meet with the Board and noting it would be inappropriate to meet with the Board until the conclusion of the election period was discussed. Trustees debated whether or not to defer the matter to the next Board to arrange, or to follow-up with Mr. Caldwell and arrange a meeting. The Board agreed to set up a meeting with Mr. Caldwell, the Minister and the Chair of the Public Schools Finance Board.
- b) The correspondence from Ron Lemieux, Minister, Local Government, from Communications for Action 2.04b), regarding the Board's recent letter to The Honourable Greg Selinger, Premier of Manitoba, regarding property taxes on educational properties was discussed. It was noted the Minister had not answered the Board's question. The Board understood the Act. They were requesting an amendment to the Act to include vacant property owned by School Divisions. Discussions were also held regarding bringing the matter forward once again to the Manitoba School Boards Association as a resolution. The Board agreed to send a follow-up letter to the Minister regarding this matter.
- c) The correspondence from Rick Dedi, Executive Director, The Manitoba Public Schools Finance Board, from Communications for Action 2.04d), thanking the Board for their letter requesting a meeting to discuss the Division's Five Year Capital Plan was discussed. It was noted the matter had been dealt with under item a) and the letter received from Mr. Caldwell, MLA Brandon East.

- MSBA issues (last meeting of the month)

Trustee Murray noted resolutions regarding tax exemptions had been taken to the MSBA before but could be brought forward again. It was agreed that the matter would be referred to the MSBA Resolutions Committee pending the response received from Mr. Lemieux, Minister of Local Government.

Trustee Bartlette requested clarification as to what the Executive of MSBA will take to the government. Mr. Murray noted the Executive takes Association-wide items from resolutions to the government. He further confirmed that the Association provides individual Divisions with guidance, advice and support on individual matters as individual Divisions can lobby on their own behalf. He also noted the Association had changed their convention format to weighted ballots in order to provide an equal say amongst all Divisions no matter the size.

- From Report of Senior Administration**a) School Reports - Earl Oxford and J.R. Reid Schools****Earl Oxford School**

Mr. Shawn Lehman, Principal, Earl Oxford School, distributed the school's handbook to the Board of Trustees and spoke about the four school goals: to increase student achievement in literacy; to increase student achievement in numeracy; to increase student achievement and readiness for school at the Kindergarten level; and to increase EAL student achievement, English acquirement and readiness for school at the K-8 level. Mr. Lehman spoke about the diverse composition of the school and the increase in EAL students. He spoke about the challenges facing students entering Earl Oxford in Grades 7 and 8 from the "feeder schools".

Mr. Lehman also addressed the school's assessment scores for grades 3, 5, 7 and 9. He confirmed that he and his staff as well as the principals of the feeder schools and their grade 5 and 6 teachers would be planning and working together towards the same goals and academic structure to ease the transition from the feeder schools to Earl Oxford and in the process, improve the student assessment of the Grade 7 and 9 students.

Trustees thanked Mr. Lehman for his presentation and asked a number of questions for clarification regarding the effects of class composition, the resources available, the effects of transiency and the tests used to assess EAL students.

Trustee Ross exited the meeting at 8:26 p.m. and returned at 8:50 p.m.

J.R. Reid School

Mr. Rick Stallard, Principal, J.R. Reid School, provided the Board of Trustees with his school report. He noted the school was targeting comprehension and understanding through three layers of literacy, including ideas or strategies; consistent terminology and instruction between Early Years and Middle Years; and outcome and criteria-based results. Mr. Stallard noted several different strategies which teachers used to meet the criteria-based results. Mr. Stallard concluded his presentation by thanking the Board for their contributions to the Division and wishing them luck in the upcoming elections.

b) Learning Support Services Presentation – NIL**c) Items from Senior Administration Report:**

- Procedures 1001.1 – "Equity" – Referred Motions.
- Policy 5031 – "Employment of Educational Assistants" – Referred Motions.
- Policy 3030 – "Allocation for Appropriate Educational Programming" – Referred Motions.
- Auditor's Report and Financial Statements – Referred Business Arising.

Mr. Todd Birkhan, Auditor and Representative of BDO Dunwoody joined the Board at the table and spoke to the 2009/2010 audited financial statements from Communications for Action 2.04c). Mr. Birkhan noted there were two reservations included in this year's audit report. He noted the reservations were based on changes to PSAB being addressed by the Auditor General. The first reservation related to employee sick pay benefits that accumulate but do not vest. Mr. Birkhan noted sick pay benefits which accumulate but do not vest are normally paid out only upon the illness or injury related absence of the employee. The Brandon School Division has always treated this expense on a cash basis when the employee becomes ill and utilizes the sick pay benefit. However, under the PSAB rules, the Division would be required to determine the obligation based on the expectation of utilization of sick pay benefits. He confirmed this would require actuarial assumptions which would factor in age, gender and the likelihood of illness of each employee. The second reservation related to severance pay benefits. The Brandon School Division offers its support staff employees long term service benefits that accumulate and vest and are normally paid only upon retirement of the employee. The Division has always recorded the expense when the employee becomes eligible for the long term service benefit. However, under the PSAB rules, the Division would be required to determine the obligation based on the expectation of future eligibility for the benefit. He confirmed this would require actuarial assumptions which would factor in age and the likelihood of long term employment for each employee. Based on these two factors, the Auditor would be issuing a qualified report for the 2009-2010 audit.

The Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. G. Barnes, then reviewed the report, balance sheets and financial statements, elaborating on variances and answering Board questions. Discussions were held regarding what was required to remove the qualifications from the Division's audit. It was noted the Division should be cautious about moving forward on this matter until the Government has dealt with it at their level. It was agreed the matter would be referred back to the Finance Committee for further study.

- Trustee Inquiries:
 - Early Childhood Initiatives – Trustee Coey.

Trustees Murray and Snelling exited the meeting at 8:50 p.m. and returned at 8:53 p.m. Trustee Coey exited the meeting at 8:50 p.m. and returned at 8:55 p.m.

2.06 Motions

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| 157/2010 | Mr. Bartlette – Mr. Karnes
That Procedures 1001.1 – “Equity” is hereby approved.
<u>Carried.</u> |
| 158/2010 | Ms. Coey – Mr. Murray
That Policy 5031 – “Employment of Educational Assistants” is hereby rescinded.
<u>Carried.</u> |

- 159/2010 Mr. Bartlette – Mr. Karnes
That Policy 3030 – “Allocation For Appropriate Educational Programming” is hereby approved.

It was confirmed that Policy 3030 replaced Policy 5031 which had just been rescinded under Motion 158/2010.

Carried.

- 160/2010 Ms. Coey – Dr. Ross
That the Auditor’s Report and Financial Statements for the twelve month fiscal period ended June 30, 2010 be and are hereby accepted, and that the Chairperson be authorized to affix his signature and the seal of the Division thereto.

Carried.

- 161/2010 Mr. Bartlette – Mr. Karnes
That the school requests for music material from Friends of Education for Green Acres School of \$300, Meadows School of \$500, and O’Kelly School of \$420 be approved.

Trustee Snelling requested clarification regarding the amounts approved and if other schools had made any requests. Trustee Karnes noted a letter had been sent out by the Friends of Education Committee and the amount of money held in the Friends of Education account for this purpose was used. Other requests were received and these requests would be dealt with as a proposed 2011/2012 Budget Enhancement Request from the Friends of Education Committee.

Carried.

- 162/2010 Mr. Murray – Mr. Karnes
That the Secretary-Treasurer be authorized to sign an agreement to lock in natural gas rates at a rate below \$.21 per MCF for a 3 to 5 year period.

Carried.

2.07 Bylaws

Mr. Murray – Mr. Karnes
That By-Law 4/2010 for the purpose of authorizing payment of indemnities and mileage to Trustees and repeal By-law 4/2001 be given third and final reading, taken as read and approved.

Carried.

2.08 Giving of Notice

2.09 Inquiries

2.09a) Public Inquiries (last meeting of each month – max. 15 minutes)

1. Ms. Deb Arpin, President, CUPE Local 737, thanked Mr. Todd Birkhan and the staff of BDO, noting they are a great group to work with during the auditing process. She also congratulated Trustee Karnes on his acclamation and wished the rest of the Board all the best in the upcoming elections. She thanked the current Board for the implementation of the Workplace Safety and Health Officer and the Support Staff Sub-booking Clerk, as well as the work of Board members on the JJE Committee. She noted CUPE would be holding a meet and greet at some point in the new year for the Board of Trustees.

2.09b) Trustee Inquiries

1. Trustee Jolly noted she had recently attended Alexander School and found a multiage class of 28 students divided into three groups, which included a special needs student and one Educational Assistant. She wondered if anything was being done to address the situation. Superintendent, Dr. Michaels, confirmed that the matter has been reviewed extensively and given the current staff configuration, Senior Administration could not justify recommending additional staff for the school. She also noted that unless the school requested AEP assistance the Division would not be allocating additional EA resources either.
2. Trustee Jolly also inquired as to whether the Drug and Alcohol Coalition would be replying to the Manitoba Premier regarding drug and alcohol in the schools and note the work the coalition has been doing in this regard. Superintendent, Dr. Michaels, confirmed the matter would be raised at the next Coalition meeting but further noted that the Coalition has been in existence for 7 years and has kept the Government apprised of their work.
3. Trustee Murray noted he had met with Lorraine McConnell of Fuzzy Bears at King George School who had noted the Board's motion at the last meeting regarding Early Childhood Education. She noted she and others in the area of early childhood are very interested in a possible partnership and would like to be involved in any discussions taking place on this topic. The Board agreed to this request and directed the matter to the Education Committee agenda for discussions in November or December.
4. Trustee Coey noted she had been invited to a parent meeting of the George Fitton, Harrison Schools – Middle Ground Playground Redevelopment Committee regarding the establishment of a new playground for the two schools. She noted the Committee had requested a letter of support from the Board which could be attached to any grant application the Committee files with respect to this project. The Board agreed to write a letter of support.

3.00 ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION:**3.01 Report of Senior Administration**

Superintendent, Dr. Michaels, wished to provide closing remarks to the current Board on behalf of the staff, students and Senior Administration of the Brandon School Division. She noted Trustees are elected to sit in trust of the children of the Division and manage the funds of the Division. She spoke to the meaning of public education and noted the Board would be leaving a strong legacy that will continue to be part of the culture of Brandon. She confirmed she has worked with 14 Boards over the years and felt this Board was one of the most effective Boards she has worked with. She stated there have been many challenges and changes, but the Board has believed that every child is worth struggling for and advocating for. The Governance of the Board has been very visible. The Board set goals in 2006 which have served them well. She reflected on some of the key aspects of those goals noting the Board has worked hard to make sure no child falls through the cracks. She further noted the Board's work with the Brandon Chamber of Commerce as well as the various community organizations and groups the Board has met with during the past four years. She felt that Brandon School Division is a stronger, better school division because of the hard work of the Board of Trustees. She appreciated the efforts of the Trustees both individually and as a group, noting it has been an honour to work with them and wished them well during the upcoming elections.

Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Barnes, and Associate Superintendent, Mr. Malazdrewicz referenced the enrollment data and class size breakdown in the Senior Administration Report in response to requests from Trustees and the media.

Mrs. Jolly – Mr. Karnes

That the report be received and filed.

Carried.

3.02 Communications for Information

- a) Naomi Kruse, Executive Director, Manitoba Association of Parent Councils, October 5, 2010, addressed to Dr. Michaels, Superintendent, expressing appreciation to the Brandon School Division for their membership in 2010-2011. By having the schools join MAPC, they will have access to the valuable support, skills, and resources offered by their organization. A letter of welcome to each school supported by the Division outlining the benefits of membership and inviting them to consider joining the MAPC Board of Directors will be forwarded shortly.

Ordered Filed.

- b) Mr. Ralph Clark, Physical Education Specialist, Brandon School Division, October 12, 2010, addressed to Mr. Harley Grouette, Human Resource Manager, Maple Leaf Pork, thanking Maple Leaf for providing each K-8 school in the Division with a dozen soccer balls. The generous gift has provided many schools with equipment that will be utilized in both curricular and extra-curricular activities. He notes the use of these balls will enable students to develop their fundamental movement

skills, fitness level, and personal and social management skills. He notes their contribution will add to the success of the physical education programs in all K-8 schools in the Brandon School Division.

Ordered Filed.

- c) Carolyn Duhamel, Executive Director, Manitoba School Boards Association, October 7, 2010, noting school boards may wish to attend the Province's Pre-Budget consultations to take advantage of the opportunity to make their views known on some of the major, finance-related issues impacting Manitoba's children and youth in general, and its public schools in particular. She notes two issues of concern which are province-wide: early childhood learning and care and the provincial contribution to school division operating costs. Pre-budget consultations are an opportunity for school boards to lobby the provincial government in these two areas. If a board does make a pre-budget submission, she asks that the board provide MSBA with a copy.

Ordered Filed.

- d) Hugh Coburn, President, Manitoba School Boards Association, October 8, 2010, regarding the Brandon School Division Board of Trustees' letter to the Honourable Greg Selinger, Manitoba Premier concerning the Government's recent announcements about Government policy direction regarding report cards and the scheduling of teacher professional development and in-service days. The Division's concern about the continuing erosion of local school board decision-making authority is of equal concern to the MSBA and this concern has been conveyed to the Deputy Minister. The matter will also be raised with Government representatives at MSBA's upcoming meeting with NDP Caucus members in November. They also recognize that Government communications protocols continue to present challenges for school divisions and stakeholder organizations from time to time. MSBA continues to advocate for timely and open dialogue that respects the shared responsibility of Government and school divisions for K-12 education in the province,

Ordered Filed.

3.03 Announcements

- a) School Trustee Elections, Wednesday, October 27, 2010.
- b) Inaugural Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Monday, November 1, 2010, Board Room.
- c) Trustee Orientation, November 3 and November 4, 2010, All Day, Victoria Inn, Brandon
- d) Trustee Orientation on First Class System, 9:00 a.m., Friday, November 5, 2010, Training Centre, Administration Office.
- e) NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING – 7:00 p.m., Monday, November 8, 2010, Board Room.

Before moving In Camera, each member of the Board of Trustees took time to reflect upon the past four years; express their gratitude to the many people of the Division; and the experiences they had gained through service to the Brandon School Division as a member of the Board of Trustees.

Mr. Jolly – Mr. Murray

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) Dr. Michaels, Superintendent, provided a verbal update on a student matter.

- Trustee Inquiries

4.02 Personnel Matters

- Reports

- a) Confidential #1 – Personnel Report was referenced.
- b) Confidential #3 – MSBA Region 1 Meeting Minutes were noted.

- Trustee Inquiries

4.03 Property Matters/Tenders

- Reports

- a) Confidential #4 on the sale of Fleming School and Property was received as information.

- Trustee Inquiries

4.04 Board Operations

- Reports

- a) Confidential #2 – BDO Canada LLP, Chartered Accountants, 2009/2010 Audit Letter was accepted.

- Trustee Inquiries

Mr. Snelling – Mrs. Jolly

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

Carried.

IN BOARD

5.00 ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Murray – Ms. Coey

That the meeting do now adjourn. (10:45 p.m.)

Carried.

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer