



# 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. (Public), MONDAY, NOVEMBER 13, 2017.

## **PRESENT:**

Dr. L. Ross, Chairperson, Ms. S. Bambridge, Vice-Chairperson, Mr. P. Bartlette, Mrs. P. Bowslaugh, Mr. G. Buri, Mr. G. Kruck, Mr. J. Murray, Mr. M. Sefton, Mr. K. Sumner.

Mr. D. Labossiere, Secretary-Treasurer, Ms. B. Sangster, Recording Secretary, Ms. T. Curtis, Live Streaming Video Operator.

Senior Administration: Dr. M. Casavant, Superintendent/CEO, Mr. M. Gustafson, Assistant Superintendent, Mr. G. Malazdrewicz, Assistant Superintendent.

## **REGRETS:**

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

## **AGENDA**

### **1.00 AGENDA/MINUTES:**

#### **1.01 Approval of Agenda**

Senior Administration added three (3) items for In-Camera.

Trustee Bambridge added one (1) item for In-Camera.

Mr. Bartlette - Mrs. Bowslaugh  
That the agenda be approved as amended.  
Carried.

#### **1.02 Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meetings**

- a) The Minutes of the Board Meeting held October 23, 2017 were circulated.

Mr. Kruck – Mr. Buri  
That the Minutes be approved.  
Carried.

Mr. Murray – Mr. Sefton  
That the Board do now resolve into Committee of the Whole In-Camera. (6:01 p.m.)  
Carried.

IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE IN CAMERA**2.00 IN CAMERA DISCUSSION:****2.01 Student Issues****- Reports**

- a) Dr. Marc Casavant, Superintendent/CEO provided an update on a Student Matter and Mr. Greg Malazdrewicz, Assistant Superintendent, distributed and reviewed further information on the matter.

**- Trustee Inquiries****2.02 Personnel Matters****- Reports**

- a) Confidential #1 – Personnel Report was presented.
- b) The Superintendent/CEO provided an update on a Personnel Matter.
- c) Mr. Denis Labossiere, Secretary-Treasurer, provided information on three (3) Personnel Matters.
- d) Trustee Bambridge requested information on a Personnel Matter.

**- Trustee Inquiries****2.03 Property Matters/Tenders****- Reports**

- a) The Superintendent/CEO provided information on a Property Matter.

**- Trustee Inquiries****2.04 Board Operations****- Reports**

- a) Trustee Ross discussed a Board Operations Matter.
- b) Trustee Sumner discussed a Board Operations Matter.
- c) The Superintendent/CEO discussed a Board Operations Matter.

**- Trustee Inquiries**

Mrs. Bowslaugh – Mr. Sumner

That the Committee of the Whole In-Camera do now resolve into Board. (6:50 p.m.)

Carried.

The Chairperson called the public portion of the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. with a traditional heritage acknowledgement and welcomed everyone in attendance.

**3.00 PRESENTATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:****3.01 Presentations For Information**

Ms. Angela McGuire-Holder, Youth Revolution Coordinator, and four Youth Revolution (YR) members from Division schools shared their October 25<sup>th</sup> WE Day experiences with the Board. Ms. McGuire-Holder provided background on the event, including the fact that students have to earn their ticket to WE Day, by taking local and global actions for their communities. This year the Division's YR students earned over 500 tickets in recognition of their outstanding citizenship contributions and community volunteerism. A special recognition was given to three of the Division's YR students,

who were chosen to go on the WE Day stage to talk about their passions to 15,000 other peers from across the province. The group shared a video of the day's events and spoke on their experiences at WE Day.

Trustee Kruck noted he was very impressed with their work and the report. Trustees asked questions regarding WE Day and what attracted the students to this involvement and what makes the YR group different and stand out.

Trustee Ross congratulated the students on their enthusiasm and noted she is pleased to see students of their caliber in Brandon.

### **3.02 Communications For Information**

### **3.03 Communications For Action**

## **4.00 REPORT OF SENIOR ADMINISTRATION**

Dr. Marc Casavant, Superintendent/CEO, provided highlights on the following items from the November 13, 2017 Report of Senior Administration:

- Administrative Information
  - Celebrations
    - Indigo Love of Reading Foundation – Contribution to Riverview School
    - WE Day – October 25, 2017
    - Violence Threat Risk Assessment Community Protocol Signing
  - Information Items
    - IODE Book Donation to each K-8 School – Sea Change
    - Book Donation – Claren Turner – 68 Books donated, fifteenth year
  - Presentations
    - 2016-2017 Continuous Improvement Report – Ms. Marnie Wilson and Dr. Marc Casavant
    - French Language Specialist – Ms. Eva Eberts
    - Achieving Excellence for Indigenous Canadian Learners – Trustee Peter Bartlette, Trustee George Buri, Dr. Marc Casavant

Trustees asked questions for clarification regarding Provincial support for the French language program, programming, and the earliest grade that students study French.

Trustee Ross noted that professional development opportunities for Senior Administration and Trustees are important and money well spent.

Ms. Bambridge – Mr. Buri

That the November 13, 2017 Report of Senior Administration be received and filed.

Carried.

## **5.00 GOVERNANCE MATTERS**

### **5.01 Reports of Committees**

## **5.02 Delegations and Petitions**

- a) Ms. Alison Johnston, Chairperson – BTA Learning Information For Teachers (LIFT) Committee, provided information on the history and impact of LIFT. Ms. Johnston's presentation included the following information:

- 1,200 teachers from across the Province attended LIFT on October 20, 2017
- A look at various sessions held
- Registration Instructions
- Outside groups recognized for their assistance:
  - Crocus Plains Hockey Team – parking
  - Westman Retired Educators Association – participant check-in
- Community Partners
- The impact on the City of Brandon
- How educators feel about LIFT

Trustee Bartlette thanked Ms. Johnston for her comprehensive history of where the Division has been and where the Division is as a result of what's transpired.

Trustee Ross thanked Ms. Johnston for her presentation and for all the work the BTA LIFT Committee has done.

- b) The Brandon School Division Human Ecology and Industrial Arts teachers presented on the importance of both the Human Ecology program and the Industrial Arts program for all middle years students in Grades 7 and 8. Highlights of the presentation are as follows:

- The group thanked the Board for the opportunity to speak and invited them at any time to visit their classrooms
- Technology Education
  - These programs create life long learners using hands-on skills
  - Literacy and numeracy is used on a daily basis
  - ELA – reading/following directions
  - Math – measurement/calculating
  - Science – problem solving/experimenting
  - Social Studies – environment/social responsibility/ethics
  - These programs create independent critical thinkers
  - Organization/listening skills
  - Safe work culture
  - Teamwork
  - Designing and creativity
  - Eye hand coordination/physical dexterity
  - Equivalent to teaching a second language with its own set of vocabulary and meanings
- Response to reviews
  - The group asked for clarification regarding the following concerns:
    - Truancy vs. absenteeism vs. absences
    - What was the process used in developing/collecting survey results?
    - Why were we not involved?
  - Relevance of the Programs?
    - The Human Ecology curriculum was redone and implemented in 2016
    - These programs are endorsed and supported by the Province of Manitoba
- Program Improvements – the group would like:

- A department head Tech Ed consultant
- The opportunity to meet together as a PLC on Administration Days
- More transparency
- How can they help?

Trustees asked questions for clarification regarding program value, teacher involvement in the process and truancy vs absenteeism vs absences.

**- From Previous Delegation**

**- From Board Agenda**

**- MSBA Matters**

- a) Ebulletin – October 25, 2017
- b) Ebulletin – November 8, 2017
- c) 2018 Recognition and Award Programs
- d) Letter to Cameron Friesen, Minister of Finance
- e) Call for Workshop Proposals – MSBA 2018 Convention
- f) Compendium of Triple P Capital Resources

Trustee Ross commented on the letter to Cameron Friesen, Minister of Finance. She commented on the paragraph where the MSBA thanked the Minister for eliminating the 20K3 cap, indicating that there is no research to indicate that this helpful. While they are not incorrect about that, it is also the case that the Division has not had time to collect data to indicate whether it is helpful or not. Trustee Ross is concerned that this letter has gone to the Minister of Finance as it does not represent her view. Trustee Sefton echoed Trustee Ross's concerns.

Trustee Sumner noted that the paragraph could have been worded differently. He noted that this allows us to more appropriately address our school system and put resources where they are most needed in individual schools and individual classrooms.

Trustees discussed this matter further and it was suggested that letter be sent to Mr. Ken Cameron at MSBA. Trustees agreed to take no action at this time.

**5.04 Public Inquiries (max. 15 minutes)**

- a) Mr. Jamie Rose, President, CUPE Local 737, asked questions regarding the Middle Years Options Program Review. He noted the 2012 and 2017 reports have a few common themes around his questions:
  - What are your concerns with Home Ec. and Industrial Arts Program?
    - Transportation
    - Student safety is a huge issue
    - Accessibility
    - Behaviour
    - Truancy

All students would benefit from Division transportation.

CUPE Local 737 has been expressing the same concerns after watching students board the City bus on 26<sup>th</sup> Street and 18<sup>th</sup> Street. A student was hit by a car last year after getting off a City bus. Now Educational Assistants (EA) and Home School Liaisons (HSL) are driving students who miss the City bus to IA and Home Ec. classes. This puts the EA, HSL and student at risk. Number 4 in the 2017 consultant recommendations is that the Brandon

School Division provides transportation for all off-site programming for grade 7 and 8 students. With this process possibly taking six months to a year or two, does the Board of Trustees have a plan to address the safety of our students before something tragic happens.

Trustee Bowslaugh commented on the cost of the Division busing students vs Brandon Transit providing bus passes and the cost effectiveness. Mr. Rose responded that the liability costs to the Division of a student getting injured when getting off a city bus will change the Division's mind about the costs of busing.

Trustee Ross noted that consideration of the transportation issue will be part of this consultation and planning. The Board will not have an answer to that as it will take some time to have a plan in place. Trustee Ross thanked Mr. Rose for his concerns.

- b) Ms. Sheri Bailey, parent and past frequent chaperone of many school trips during her children's time in the Brandon School Division, made an inquiry and requested clarification. She noted that she wasn't sure if comments made at the Board table during the last Board meeting regarding teachers and chaperones receiving a "free ride" was intended as an attack on the integrity of those who give up their time to chaperone or merely a misguided and uninformed statement.

Ms. Bailey indicated she was frequently asked to chaperone when she was a stay at home mother, and once she returned to the workforce, used up precious holiday time or banked time in order to continue this practice. She noted the high standard of care and responsibility expected by parents, teachers and the school administration, when looking after someone else's children, and considered it a privilege to be entrusted with the responsibility of chaperoning Brandon School Division students. She did not see herself as receiving a "free ride".

Ms. Bailey noted "What's best for the children" is a statement mentioned on more than one occasion as it relates to the students of the Brandon School Division. What's best for the children on any field trip or outing are parents and teachers who have willingly given up their free time to ensure that other people's children enjoy a safe outing under the supervision of a chaperone who takes the job seriously.

Ms. Bailey respectfully requested clarification as to the type of chaperone experience that could be considered a "free ride".

Trustee Sumner asked if Ms. Bailey could be more specific regarding the comment that was made. Ms. Bailey responded that at the October 23, 2017 Board meeting, during the report of the Education and Community Relations Committee, where the Committee will be looking at curricular and co-curricular activities etc., it was noted that other school divisions require their chaperones and teachers to pay for their participation. A Trustee had asked if the Brandon School Division will be looking at that as well as the Trustee did not want to see people receiving a free ride.

Trustee Kruck responded that he understands that coaches and chaperones work hard, and others do the same thing in many divisions, and they pay their way. He clarified that other Divisions handle this in a different manner.

## **5.05 Motions**

**5.06 Bylaws**

Mr. Kruck

**By-Law 12/2017****1st Reading:**

That By-law 12/2017 being a borrowing by-law in the amount of \$490,300 upon the credit of the Division by the issue and sale of the security to meet partial costs for several construction projects in the Division be now read for the first time.

Carried.

**5.07 Giving of Notice**

Mr. Bartlette

I hereby give notice that at the next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, I, or someone in my stead, will introduce By-Law 13/2017 being a by-law to regulate the proceedings of the Board of Trustees of the Brandon School Division and repealing By-Law 3/2014 passed on September 22, 2014 (as amended by By-law 6/2014 on January 12, 2015, By-law 10/2015 on January 11, 2016, By-law 3/2017 on April 24, 2017 and By-law 9/2017 on October 10, 2017).

Mr. Bartlette

I hereby give notice that at the next regular meeting of the Board of Trustees, I, or someone in my stead, will introduce By-Law 14/2017 being a by-law to authorize payment of indemnities and mileage to Trustees and repealing By-Law 4/2014 passed on September 22, 2014 (as amended by By-Law 2/2015 on April 13, 2016, By-Law 1/2016 on March 7, 2016, By-Law 10/2017 on September 11, 2017).

**5.08 Trustee Inquiries**

- a) Trustee Sumner asked when the Continuous Improvement Report will be available on the Brandon School Division website.

Dr. Casavant responded that it will be available as soon as administratively possible.

- b) Trustee Murray noted that recently one of the Division's high school teams had competed at a provincial level for a championship. He asked if money is available to those teams to offset the coaches and volunteers for their meals for the day and even for the students.

Mr. Mathew Gustafson, Assistant Superintendent, responded that the Board does provide some funds for transportation to Provincial championships, but not the full cost of attending.

Trustee Murray asked that the Finance and Facilities Committee look into this matter and consider additional funds to offset costs as this is an honour for Division teams to be able to compete in a Provincial championship. Trustee Sefton, Finance and Facilities Committee Chair, responded that the Committee will review this request.

**POINT OF PRIVILEGE**

Trustee Bowslaugh commented that Dr. Marc Casavant attended the No Stone Left Alone Remembrance Day ceremony and did lay a wreath on behalf of Brandon School Division. She noted that Mr. Eric Been, Industrial Arts teacher at Riverheights School, was involved in this event and thanked him for his participation. She attended the Vincent Massey High School Remembrance Day Service and added that it was a wonderful service presented by the students. Mrs. Bowslaugh thanked Dr. Ross for attending the Remembrance Day Service at Westman Place.

**6.00 ANNOUNCEMENTS**

- a) Brandon Community Drug and Alcohol Education Coalition Meeting – 9:00 a.m., Wednesday, November 15, 2017, Boardroom.
- b) NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING – 7:00 p.m. (Public), Monday, November 27, 2017, Boardroom.

Mr. Sumner – Mr. Bartlette

That the Board do now resolve into Committee of the Whole In-Camera (9:37 p.m.)

Carried.

Trustees discussed a Personnel Matter In-Camera.

**IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE IN CAMERA (9:43 p.m.)**

Mr. Sumner – Mr. Murray

That the Committee of the Whole In-Camera do now resolve into Board. (9:44 p.m.)

Carried.

**7.00 ADJOURNMENT**

Mr. Buri – Ms. Bambridge

That the Board do now adjourn. (9:45 p.m.)

Carried.

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Chairperson

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Secretary-Treasurer