

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, MARCH 12, 2012.

PRESENT:

Mr. M. Sefton, Chairperson, Mr. M. Snelling, Vice-Chairperson, Mr. P. Bartlette, Mrs. P. Bowslaugh, Mr. D. Karnes, Mr. G. Kruck, Mr. J. Murray, Dr. L. Ross, Mr. K. Sumner.

Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. K. Zabowski and Recording Secretary, Ms. S. Bailey.

Senior Administration: Dr. D. M. Michaels, Superintendent, Mr. G. Malazdrewicz, Associate Superintendent, Mr. Denis Labossiere, Assistant-Secretary-Treasurer, Ms. B. Switzer, Director of Human Resources.

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. and welcomed everyone in attendance to the meeting.

AGENDA

1.00 AGENDA/MINUTES:

1.01 Reference to Statement of Board Operations

1.02 Approval of Agenda

Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Zabowski, confirmed item g) under 3.03 "Announcements" is to be deleted as the Divisional Futures Meeting for March 22, 2012 was postponed.

Superintendent, Dr. Michaels, noted she had several verbal updates to provide In-Camera relating to personnel matters.

Trustee Bartlette requested the addition of a verbal update from the Education Committee.

Trustee Bowslaugh noted she would be bringing forth two points of personal privilege at some point during the meeting.

Mr. Kruck – Mr. Murray

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 February 27, 2012 were circulated.

Mr. Snelling – Mr. Bartlette

That the Minutes be approved as circulated.

Carried.

- b) The Minutes of the Special Board Meeting held March 5, 2012 were circulated.

Dr. Ross – Mrs. Bowslaugh

That the Minutes be approved as circulated.

Carried.

2.00 GOVERNANCE MATTERS:

2.01 Presentations For Information

2.02 Reports of Committees

- a) Divisional Futures & Community Relations Committee Minutes

The written report of the Divisional Futures & Community Relations Committee meeting held on February 23, 2012 was circulated.

Mrs. Bowslaugh – Mr. Snelling

That the Minutes be received and filed.

Carried.

- b) Personnel Committee Minutes

The written report of the Personnel Committee meeting held on February 27, 2012 was circulated.

Trustee Bowslaugh inquired as to whether or not the Committee had discussed the questions raised by CUPE regarding their pension. It was noted the Committee Meeting had taken place prior to the Board meeting when CUPE raised their request. The matter was to be placed on the next Personnel Committee agenda.

Dr. Ross – Mr. Kruck

That the Minutes be received and filed.

Carried.

- c) Other

- Trustee Sefton noted the Joint Meeting which had taken place on February 29, 2012 between the Board of Trustees and the Brandon City Council. He noted discussions revolved around the budget, funding of playgrounds, the joint use agreement, and the need for another school in the near future. He confirmed another meeting would take place in the fall with the date yet to be determined.
- Trustee Bartlette provided a verbal report on the Education Committee. He confirmed that each member of the Board of Trustees would be receiving the information provided by Dale Hughson from Career Connections in the near future.

2.03 Delegations and Petitions**2.04 Communications for Action**

- a) Scott Pedlow, undated, communicating his thoughts on the budget process used by both the City of Brandon and the Brandon School Division to communicate and request feedback from the public. He notes it is unfortunate when “Joe public has to bring a conflict in two budget meetings to the attention of 20 elected officials and the administration of both of these organizations.” His major concern is the way the impact to the taxpayers is conveyed. He is not confident that the numbers given as examples have enough rock solid stats behind them to be presented as accurate examples. He notes the Board Chairperson has conveyed to him that some of the recommendations that have been made have already been talked about for the next budget cycle and that the Board will take a closer look at the tax examples used. Also that the Division will make sure there is communication of dates to the City. He notes it is the right of taxpayers to ask questions, give suggestions and question where and how their money is being spent. He believes the school board is aware of this statement and has made every effort to balance the needs of the division to tax dollars spent and thanks the Board for their efforts in representing the citizens well.

Referred Business Arising.

- b) Kim and Brian Kooistra, March 7, 2012, and Kristy and Ed Forrestall, March 7, 2012, both letters requesting Full Day Every Day French Immersion Kindergarten be implemented at O’Kelly School. They feel it would be beneficial for their children to have the extra time to learn French while keeping up with the regular curriculum. In addition, one of the children already experienced full day French Immersion Kindergarten in another school division with a successful outcome and would therefore like to have their younger child experience it here in this school division.

Referred Business Arising.

- c) Trevor Maguire, Western Manitoba Science Fair, undated, noting this year’s Western Manitoba Science Fair will be held on Tuesday, March 13, 2012 at the Keystone Centre. The Division’s support of this event is critical to ensure that students continue to have the opportunity to develop their Science and Technology skills. A copy of the 2011 Profit and Loss Standard has been included.

Referred Motions.

2.05 Business Arising

- From Previous Delegation

- From Board Agenda

- a) The correspondence from Scott Pedlow, from Communications for Action 2.04 a), regarding the budget process and changes which could be made for future budgets was noted. The Secretary-Treasurer was directed to forward a letter to Mr. Pedlow acknowledging his correspondence.
- b) The correspondence from Kim & Brian Kooistra and Kristy & Ed Forrestall, from Communications for Action 2.04 b), both requesting Full Day Every Day French Immersion Kindergarten be implemented at O'Kelly School was discussed. It was noted that Full Day Every Day French Immersion Kindergarten had not been part of the proposed budget for 2012-2013 and therefore could not be considered at this time. It was agreed this matter would be referred to the 2013-2014 budget deliberations. The Secretary-Treasurer was directed to forward a letter to the parents thanking them for their input.

- MSBA issues (last meeting of the month)**- From Report of Senior Administration**

- a) School Reports – NIL
- b) Learning Support Services Presentation – NIL
- c) Items from Senior Administration Report
 - 2012-2013 Final Budget – Referred Motions.
 - Vincent Massey High School Off-Site Activity Request – Paris – Referred Motions.
 - Vincent Massey High School Off-Site Activity Request – New York – Referred Motions.
 - Kirkcaldy Heights School Off-Site Activity Request – Referred Motions.
 - Trustee Inquiries
 - L. Ross – Full Day Every Day Kindergarten – Percentage of Aboriginal Heritage Students Affected by Budget Decisions Regarding Full Day Every Day Kindergarten.

2.06 Public Inquiries (max. 15 minutes)**2.07 Motions**

Prior to discussions on the Final Budget for 2012-2013, Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Zabowski, reviewed the documentation attached to the Report of Senior Administration. He concluded his review by highlighting the budget deadlines which still remained, including submitting the notice of tax requirements and special levy to the rural municipalities by March 15, 2012.

The Chairperson noted he would be relaxing the rules around Motion 22/2012 regarding how many times a Board member can speak to the motion, and the length of time they can speak, in order to ensure the motion has been discussed to the satisfaction of all Trustees.

22/2012 Mr. Bartlette – Mr. Karnes

That the Final Budget for 2012-13 and the 2012 Special Levy be approved as follows:

<i>Total Operating Expenditures</i>	<i>\$78,472,200</i>
<i>Total Capital Expenditures</i>	<i><u>\$ 1,882,700</u></i>
<i>Total Expenditures</i>	<i><u>\$80,354,900</u></i>
<i>2012-13 Special Requirement</i>	<i><u>\$37,458,300</u></i>
<i>2012 Special Levy to be raised from Municipalities</i>	<i><u>\$34,565,405</u></i>

Mr. Kruck – Mr. Snelling

That Motion 22/2012 be amended to include \$82,766.00 for bussing of Grades 7 and 8 students to Industrial Arts and Home Economics.

Trustee Kruck supported the amendment as he agreed with the presenter at the March 5, 2012 meeting that the School Division is responsible for its students and therefore, he did not feel the Division could delegate responsibility to a transit driver.

Trustee Murray did not support the amendment. He confirmed the Board had heard similar presentations in the past. He reminded Trustees the Division is responsible for students from the time they leave their front door and that the Division does not drive every student in the Division from their front door to the schools. He further noted the students who are taking the transit buses to home economics and industrial arts are 12 and 13 years old, not small children.

Trustee Bowslaugh noted she would not support the amendment. She reminded the Board that taxpayers pay for the transit system and the school bus system and did not see the need to duplicate services. She confirmed the feedback she had received shows the current arrangement works well. She noted the parents always had the option of driving their student to class should they so choose.

Trustee Snelling agreed with Trustee Bowslaugh and Murray. He wished to avoid duplication of services. He would not be supporting the amendment but would discuss the matter at the Joint City Task Force Ad-Hoc Committee meeting and asked that the presentation from March 5, 2012 on this item be added to that agenda.

Defeated (1-8)

Dr. Ross – Mrs. Bowslaugh

That Motion 22/2012 be amended to include \$349,800 for Full Day Every Day Kindergarten.

Trustee Ross received permission from the Board of Trustees to speak longer than five minutes on this matter. She provided a presentation to the Board of Trustees addressing the Board's concerns raised on Budget Day regarding the need for data and funding from the government.

Trustee Murray confirmed that he supported Full Day Every Day Kindergarten, but could not support the proposed amendment. He noted the importance of the Division having its own data to support the need for Full Day Every Day Kindergarten. With respect to the initiatives noted in the presentation, he confirmed that except for Neelin Off-Campus, all the initiatives were mandated by the Government, even though the Government did not provide sufficient funding. He reminded Trustees that this was still a pilot project in the Brandon School Division and therefore needed to be treated as such. The Division needed to let the pilot project run its course, evaluate the data and then make decisions. He also noted he was not prepared to put this budget line on to the taxpayer in perpetuity. We confirmed the Board does advocate for children. He also reminded Trustees there was a resolution to be discussed at the Manitoba School Boards Association on this item.

Trustee Sumner confirmed he looked forward to the day the Division has Full Day Every Day Kindergarten but felt there were too many questions that still needed to be answered before final decisions could be made. He noted space and the logistics of having enough classrooms needed to be addressed before Full Day Every Day Kindergarten could be addressed. He reminded Trustees of the Government's impending K-3 class size cap. He agreed that one could not argue the benefits of Full Day Every Day Kindergarten, but the Board needed to be conscientious of showing returns to the taxpayer. He felt by waiting until all the data had been collected would be very beneficial in moving forward in this area.

Trustee Sefton agreed with Trustee Murray and Trustee Sumner. He stated he believes in the value of data and reminded the Board of decisions made in the past that was data driven. He looked forward to receipt of the full data on this item which could then be taken to the Government. Based on discussions in the past, he felt the Brandon Chamber of Commerce would support the Division in advocating in this area. He did not feel the burden should be placed on the taxpayer.

Trustee Snelling felt the research presented was valuable and he also believes in Full Day Every Day Kindergarten but reminded the Board they had made a commitment to the taxpayer on February 21 and reasons for the decisions made on that date had been noted. He felt space was a concern and did not believe the Division could deliver the program with quality at this time. He proposed this item be a priority in the next budget and the Division continue to lobby the Government on this matter.

Trustee Bartlette felt very strongly about the power of early education. He noted it was the Division's best investment dollar. However, he noted it is incumbent on the Board to show the community that the Division has the data. He noted the Government has voiced an interest in Full Day Every Day Kindergarten but has provided no commitment. He felt the Division's pilot in this area will provide the data base the Province requires to make its own decision on the matter. He noted he believes in collaboration and lobbying the government and hoped other communities will join the Brandon School Division on this item.

Trustee Bowslaugh thanked Trustee Ross for all the work she did. She noted she understands the value of Kindergarten, but felt the amendment would not move forward.

Point of Privilege: Trustee Bowslaugh noted six years ago a school in the Division had nine students attend nine extra half-days of kindergarten with one of their kindergarten teachers. These students were identified as experiencing difficulties in developing foundational literacy skills. She noted an increase in literacy skills had been experienced by every one of the students. As an alternative to Trustee Ross' amendment, Trustee Bowslaugh proposed the Board look at the possibility of a similar program to be included in the budget.

The Chairperson requested clarification as to whether or not this proposal was an amendment to the amendment currently being discussed. It was agreed the proposal would be brought forth as an amendment, if needed, following the question currently on the table.

The Chairperson thanked Trustee Ross for her presentation and asked her for final remarks before calling the question. Trustee Ross noted the Secretary-Treasurer had provided information regarding the impact of the inclusion the Full Day Every Day Kindergarten programming need request into the budget would have on the local taxpayer. She understood the argument presented by Trustees, but noted waiting for final data and lobbying the government would mean the students entering Kindergarten this fall would miss out on the opportunity to benefit from Full Day Every Day Kindergarten.

Defeated (2-7)

Trustee Bowslaugh proposed amending motion 22/2012 requesting the Board accept the alternate proposal for Full Day Every Day Kindergarten in the amount of \$100,000 and targeting certain students. As there was no seconder this proposed amendment was defeated.

Mr. Sumner – Mr. Karnes

That motion 2012/2013 be amended to include 1.75 vice-principal positions as originally presented to the Board of Trustee on February 21, 2012.

Trustee Sumner noted the request for 1.75 vice-principal positions from Senior Administration was a reduction from the 2.75 positions originally requested. He spoke to the needs of the students in the Division, the growth and diversity in the Division, and the advantages to school administrators who have a vice-principal.

Discussions were held regarding the number of vice-principal positions that have been added over the past two years, the number of positions provided for in the current proposed budget, and the number of positions to be requested in future budgets.

Defeated (5-4)

Amended Motion:

The Chairperson read the original motion for the Board to consider noting the decision is a collective decision of the Board:

That the Final Budget for 2012-13 and the 2012 Special Levy be approved as follows:

<i>Total Operating Expenditures</i>	<i>\$78,529,500</i>
<i>Total Capital Expenditures</i>	<i><u>\$ 1,882,700</u></i>
<i>Total Expenditures</i>	<i><u>\$80,412,200</u></i>
<i>2012-13 Special Requirement</i>	<i><u>\$37,515,600</u></i>
<i>2012 Special Levy to be raised from Municipalities</i>	<i><u>\$34,590,507</u></i>
<i><u>Carried.</u></i>	

23/2012 Mr. Karnes – Mr. Bartlette

That the trip involving 5 high school students from Vincent Massey High School to Paris, France from April 6, 2012 to April 12, 2012 be approved and carried out in accordance with Board Policy/Procedures 4001: Off-Site Activities.

Carried.

24/2012 Mr. Bartlette – Mr. Murray

That the trip involving 24 students from Vincent Massey High School to New York, NY, from May 20, 2012 to May 25, 2012 be approved and carried out in accordance with Board Policy/Procedures 4001: Off-Site Activities.

Trustee Kruck inquired about the fundraising efforts which had taken place.

Carried. (8-1)

25/2012 Mrs. Bowslaugh – Mr. Sumner

That the trip involving 21 students from Kirkcaldy Heights School to Quebec from June 1, 2012 to June 6, 2012 be approved and carried out in accordance with Policy/Procedures 4001: Off-Site Activities.

Trustee Kruck requested clarification regarding the four accounts which had been paid in full. It was noted those were four families who did not wish to participate in fundraising and therefore paid their child's account in full. Superintendent, Dr. Michaels, confirmed the principal had recently received a French revitalization Program grant in the amount of \$4,000 which was to be applied towards this trip

Carried.

Prior to discussions regarding Motion 26/2012, Trustee Bowslaugh declared a conflict of interest and exited the meeting.

26/2012 Mr. Kruck – Mr. Sumner

That the request of the Western Manitoba Science Fair for financial support be approved in the amount of \$1,400.

Trustee Murray noted he had recently represented the Board of Trustees at a Rotary Club meeting. While at the meeting a motion had been approved to cover the cost of the T-shirts the students receive for participating at the Western Manitoba Science Fair. He wish to publicly acknowledge the contribution of the Rotary Club to the Western Manitoba Science Fair.

Carried.

Following the motion Trustee Bowslaugh returned to her seat at the Board table.

2.08 Bylaws

NIL

2.09 Giving of Notice

NIL

2.10 Inquiries

1. Trustee Bartlette requested the following information:

“School registrations will be affected by the passing of the budget this evening. The Board decision to remove student registration fees for the band program may change the minds of students and parents. Will schools advise parents of the change? Will schools allow option changes? Will this affect the offering of the band beyond the existing East Side/West Side programs?”

The Superintendent reminded the Board of Trustees that disbursement of funds was subject to the Brandon Schools Instrumental Music Association reactivating their corporate status. She confirmed there is a need for an additional band program as both the East Side and West Side programs are oversubscribed. She noted Senior Administration is reviewing this over the next several weeks. She confirmed schools will be advised of the change in fees. She also noted that school options may or may not change with the budget proposal. Band parents are very committed to the program.

2. Trustee Bowslaugh requested Board approval to send congratulatory letters to the following:

- Lana Krieser, Home School Liaison, George Fitton School who recently received the Medal of Bravery in Ottawa for saving the life of a student;
- Cathy-Jane Green, teacher, École O'Kelly School, on her receipt of Teacher of the Year Award from Kim Campbell, Yes I Can! Co-Chair of the Manitoba Council for Exceptional Children.

- Louise Lamont and Lili Jardine, teachers, Vincent Massey High School, who were both nominated for the YWCA's Women of Distinction Award.
3. Trustee Sumner, noting the timelines requested in Communication for Information 3.02a) in the current Board Agenda package asked if such communication could be forwarded to Trustees electronically when there is an RSVP date included. The Secretary-Treasurer agreed to send out such communication via email for response but would also include in the agenda for record keeping purposes.

3.00 ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION:

3.01 Report of Senior Administration

Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Zabowski, provided further information regarding the tax increase with respect to the addition of .75 vice-principal positions.

Superintendent, Dr. Michaels, highlighted the English as an Additional Language update in the Report of Senior Administration.

Mr. Murray – Mr. Snelling
That the report be received and filed.
Carried.

3.02 Communications for Information

- a) Agnieszka Desjardins, Heritage Days Coordinator, February 21, 2012, inviting the Board of Trustees to Heritage Days on March 14 and March 15, 2012 at Vincent Massey High School. Deadline to RSVP is March 5, 2012.
Ordered Filed.

- b) Randy Stankewich, Manitoba Education, Schools' Finance Branch, February 27, 2012, addressed to Secretary-Treasurers of School Divisions, attaching the 2011 Enrolment Report which summarizes the enrolment by grade for all schools in Manitoba as reported on September 30, 2011. This report can be viewed on the internet in both PDF and Excel formats at http://www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/finance/sch_enrol/index.html.
Ordered Filed.

- c) Sarah Cahill, RD, Nutrition Programs – School Milk & Dairy Education, Dairy Farmers of Manitoba, March 5, 2012, addressed to Superintendent Dr. Donna Michaels, extending recognition to George Fitton School for participating in the School Milk Program for the 15 consecutive years. Request is also made to forward a copy of the letter to the milk coordinator and principal of George Fitton School. Further request to send acknowledgement to Dairy Farmers of Manitoba office in Winnipeg.
Ordered Filed.

3.03 Announcements

- a) Divisional Futures & Community Liaison Committee Meeting – 11:30 a.m., Tuesday, March 13, 2012, Board Room.
- b) Workplace Safety & Health Committee Meeting – 1:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 14, 2012, Conference Room.
- c) Manitoba School Boards Association (MSBA) Conference 2012 – Thursday, March 15, 2012, to Saturday, March 17, 2012, Delta Inn, Winnipeg.
- d) Finance Committee Meeting – 1:00 p.m., Monday, March 19, 2012, Board Room.
- e) Friends of Education Committee Meeting – 11:30 a.m., Wednesday, March 21, 2012, Board Room.
- f) Facilities/Transportation Committee Meeting – 1:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 21, 2012, Board Room.
- g) Personnel Committee Meeting, 12:00 p.m., Monday, March 26, 2012, Board Room.
- h) NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING – 7:00 p.m., Monday, March 26, 2012, Board Room.

Mr. Snelling – 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) Associate Superintendent, Mr. Malazdrewicz provided an update on student registration for children in care.

- Trustee Inquiries**4.02 Personnel Matters****- Reports**

- a) Confidential #1 – Personnel Report was noted.
- b) Superintendent, Dr. Michaels, provided information relating to Policy 5026.
- c) Dr. Michaels provided a verbal update on a personnel matter.

- Trustee Inquiries

4.03 Property Matters/Tenders

- Reports

- Trustee Inquiries

4.04 Board Operations

- Reports

- Trustee Inquiries

- a) Discussions were held regarding the Joint City Task Force Ad-Hoc Committee. The matter was referred to the Divisional Futures and Community Relations Committee for follow-up and review.

Mr. Murray – Mr. Snelling

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

Carried.

IN BOARD

5.00 ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Snelling – Mr. Sumner

That the meeting does now adjourn (9:45p.m.)

Carried.

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer