



Divisional Futures & Community Relations Committee Minutes

Thursday, December 1, 2011 – 12:30 p.m.
Alexander School, Alexander

Present: P. Bowslaugh (Chairperson), K. Sumner, M. Snelling, (Alternate).
Regrets: J. Murray

"Accepting the Challenge"

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to order at 12:40 p.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 Alexander Student Council Members)

Principal, Mrs. Miller and eighteen students of Alexander School met with the Divisional Futures & Community Relations Committee. 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 several discussion groups. Students were asked the following three questions:

- 1) What are the good things about Alexander School?
- 2) What do Trustees need to know to make Alexander School better?
- 3) Is there something else you would like to tell Trustees that you haven't already said?

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 1:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

P. Bowslaugh, Chair

J. Murray

K. Sumner

M. Snelling (Alternate)

Meeting with Students of Alexander School Thursday, December 1, 2011

Questions:

1) What are the good things about Alexander School?

- Learning Through the Arts Program.
- A healthy canteen with lots of variety.
- Small school which means more one on one time with teachers, you get to know all the students, you get student privileges.
- Good Teachers.
- SmartBoards.
- Small class size.
- Always learning new things.
- Movement activities.
- Closer to the community and its volunteers.
- Smoothie Day.
- More learning opportunities.
- Guest artists.
- Opportunities for student leadership participation.

2) What do Trustees need to know to make Alexander School better?

- Larger gym.
- Three recess periods.
- A lunchroom that isn't the gym.
- Bigger library.
- More physical class space.
- More student access to supplies such as gym equipment and art supplies.
- Let us have more fundraising activities.
- A new stage
- Bigger washrooms – have to use washrooms as change rooms.
- More field trips.
- More lockers.
- Faster internet.
- Hand dryers instead of paper towels.

3) Is there something else you would like to tell Trustees that you haven't already said?

- Want to participate in the Science Fair.
- Want to participate in "We Day".
- Want the jungle gym back in the gym.
- Only have one washroom for each of boys and girls and the washrooms are also used as change rooms.
- Want to participate in more volleyball games – Girls team only got to play in one game this year.
- Want more subjects like a band program.
- Two students wanted to go back to the old system before they had "Balanced Day".