



BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION

Education and Community Relations Committee Minutes

Wednesday, April 15, 2020 – 1:00 p.m.

Boardroom, Administration Office

Present: P. Bartlette (Alternate), D. Kejick, (by phone), L. Letain (by phone)
M. Casavant

Regrets: K. Fallis (Chair)

Guest: S. Bambridge, N. Warwaruk (by phone, exited at 1:18 p.m.)

1. CALL TO ORDER

The Education and Community Relations Committee Meeting was called to order at 1:04 p.m. by Committee Acting Chairperson, Trustee Peter Bartlette.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The agenda was approved as circulated.

3. PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MINUTES FOR INFORMATION PURPOSES ONLY

The Minutes of the January 15, 2020 meeting were received as information.

4. COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE GOAL ITEMS

5. OTHER COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE MATTERS

A) Tipi Tour – Riverview School Update

Ms. Nicole Warwaruk, Principal, Riverview School, attended the meeting by phone. She provided an update on Riverview School's Reflections Legacy Tipi Tour Parent Information Night, which took place on February 11, 2020 from 6:00 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. in the school's library. This event was in support of, and to acknowledge, the Fall 2020 ceremony and tipi installation at Riverview School. 26 adults and 6 children attended the event.

Ms. Warwaruk shared feedback from some of those who attended the event, including parents, students, staff, Indigenous Committee members, Indigenous Elders, Trustees and community members. It was felt that this was a very successful parent/community event, where all attendees seemed to be engaged in the presentations and appreciated the messages shared.

Trustee Kejick asked for the ratio of Indigenous students at Riverview School. Ms. Warwaruk responded that 30% of the students are Indigenous, and last year the number was around 40% Indigenous students. She added that there is a high transiency rate at the school so numbers tend to fluctuate.

Dr. Marc Casavant, Superintendent/CEO, asked Ms. Warwaruk to remind the Committee of the Tipi's theme.

Ms. Warwaruk shared the following theme, which was a collaborate effort between the Indigenous Committee, teachers, and the Division's Indigenous Elders:

The plaque outside the tipi will highlight the importance of Oral Tradition and storytelling in Indigenous cultures.

Oral storytelling is a mode of teaching and learning that requires the learner to listen, visualize and imagine. Storytelling is a natural shared experience between the storyteller and the listener.

- ❖ The role of Oral Tradition in Indigenous society is to pass on knowledge, values, culture, and history.
- ❖ This tradition may include poems, prayers, speeches, spiritual teachings, songs, stories, and histories.

The placards inside the tipi will highlight the following elements of Oral Tradition: Storytelling

HERITAGE: Traditional knowledge is part of the past and the future.

WISDOM: Share your knowledge with others.

RESPECT: Respect the person sharing a story with you.

LISTEN:

- ❖ Listen with your mind: Ask questions.
- ❖ Listen with your mouth: Wait your turn to talk.
- ❖ Listen with your eyes: Look at the person who is talking.
- ❖ Listen with your ears: Listen to the person who is talking.
- ❖ Listen with your body: Sit quietly and keep your feet and hands still.

COURAGE: Have the courage to share a story with others.

The Committee agreed that it fully supports the Riverview School Tipi Proposal and Trustee Bartlette indicated the recommendation would be put forward to the full Board.

B) Sub-Committee Reports – Received for Information

- Brandon Community Drug and Alcohol Education Coalition – March 5, 2020
- Brandon Urban Aboriginal People's Council – NIL
- Friends of Education Fund – NIL
- Parent/Guardian/Division – February 26, 2020

6. OPERATIONS INFORMATION

7. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: TBD

The meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

K. Fallis (Chair)

D. Kejick

L. Letain

P. Bartlette (Alternate)



BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION

COMMUNITY DRUG AND ALCOHOL EDUCATION COALITION MEETING

March 5, 2020 9:00 am to 10:30 am

Present:

Brandon Friendship Centre
Brandon Police Service
Brandon School Division

Child and Adolescent Treatment Centre
Child and Family Services
Department of Families
Prairie Mountain Health

Randa Nadjiwon Cancade
Chief Wayne Balcaen
Elaine McFadzen
Chad Cobbe
Brad Twordik
Jaime Lombaert
Angela McGuire-Holder
Chris Bromley
Breanna Dick
Mark Hewins
Kimberley Toews

Regrets:

Addictions Foundation of Manitoba

Assiniboine Community College
Brandon Friendship Centre
Brandon Ministerial Association
Brandon School Division

Brandon University
CFB Shilo
City of Brandon
Probation Services

Jamie Tompkins
Corinne Hamilton
Caley Strachan
Gail Cullen
Dwayne Dyck
Bryce Ridgen
Ken Seekings
Trustee Peter Bartlette
Trustee Lisa Letain
Karen Doty-Sweetnam
Elaine Desbiens
Mayor Rick Chrest
Liz Spence
Ferlin Asham

Welcome and Agenda Review

Mrs. McFadzen welcomed everyone to the meeting. Mrs. McFadzen thanked Richard Greer for his years of service to this Committee after receiving notification he will no longer be a member of the Committee.

Addition to agenda: Mrs. McFadzen and Mr. Bromley will speak to the Enhanced School Based Mental Health and Addictions Supports Initiative.

There were no changes or omissions to the October 24, 2019 meeting minutes.

Coordinator's Report (including Youth Revolution)

Ms. McGuire-Holder's report is attached.

Partner Updates

Brandon Friendship Centre

- Drop in Centre is very busy
- Stepping Out on Saturdays program has space for new participants – for children ages 5 to 12 with a diagnosis of FASD
- Hearing Voices training is being done with adults to learn about schizophrenia

Brandon Police Service

- Significant changes have been made for Parks and Recreation Department – more services will be provided to the Community
- Brandon School Division and Brandon Police Service have made their shared presentation to the Brandon School Division Trustees and the Brandon Police Board. This presentation shares information on Brandon School Division suspensions and Brandon Police Service statistics
- Community Mobilization continues to work with acute elevated risk families – a lot of cases involve youth or younger people
- Brandon Police Service, through Alice Potter, is running the Youth Cadet Program again this year. Criminal Property Forfeiture has supplied uniforms and funds for supplies as well. The program runs from late September/early October to the end of June
- School Resource Officers interact with over 9000 students on a regular basis
- Working with Prairie Mountain Health on the Acceptance Youth Task Force that talks about harm reduction
- John Howard Society – introduced a men's group partnering with Brandon Neighborhood Renewal Corporation, United Way and Brandon Area Foundation Corporation. The Men's Resource Centre teaches basic needs and help link men back with their families again
- May 29, 2020 – looking forward to the Youth Revolution year end event

Brandon School Division

Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School

- Have an onsite AFM counsellor four of five days of the week
- Continue to be proactive in activities to address concerns
- Vaping is significant. With vaping still being so new, we don't know the full effects that this may have on students in the future
- Mrs. McFadzen noted that in November Erin McDougall, Prairie Mountain Health, attended a principal's meeting to speak to the resources available to school around vaping
- In November a newsletter was received from Honorable Kelvin Goertzen, Minister of Education, regarding the use of e-cigarettes. This newsletter was shared with all families of students in grades 5 to 12
- Mrs. McFadzen responded to a Trustee Inquiry at the December 9, 2019 Board meeting regarding what steps are being taken to address the increasing issues of vaping, including information awareness, discipline, engagement with health providers, etc.
- Trustees forwarded a letter to the Ministry on their concerns around vaping
- Continue to appreciate the work that is done by the School Resource Officers

George Fitton School

- George Fitton has received a three year Community Schools Grant. They are in the process of looking to hire someone who will work towards continuing to build positive relationships with families by doing projects such as a walking school bus to increase attendance

Kirkcaldy Heights School

- Kirkcaldy Heights is working to educate students and families on the risks of vaping

Child and Adolescent Treatment Centre

- Mr. Bromley noted that there has been a change in legislation that information can be shared to adult family members if someone is in serious risk from drug and alcohol use/abuse
- SPIN had their Headstrong Anti Stigma Summit last week. The presenter is someone who has been through mental illness. The students start by answering a series of questions, then listen to the guest speaker, and then go back and debrief to see if their opinions change after meeting someone with mental illness
- Youth Wellness Day went over well again this year
- This year CATC has had more acute and difficult cases – have been full on the unit for three months and referrals have been about twenty percent more than usual
- Metis CFS will have Mental Health and Addictions Counsellor Supports added in Dauphin. Instead of apprehension, this model will be used to help try to keep the children in the homes with proper supports
- Street Reach in Winnipeg is a website that people can receive drug alerts from

Child and Family Services

- Alia is a trauma informed practice – based in the United States – shifting way of thinking of punitive measures on youth when they have addictions. Working on training workers and foster parents on treating these symptoms of trauma instead of treating the behaviours. Have two support workers working with youth suffering from trauma. Connecting youth with people who will forever be a constant person in their life for them
- Youth Engagement Program continues to run Teen Talk – opened up to youth on protection file as well
- Skills for Independent Living Course – program currently runs for children in care
- Looking to start a Youth Leadership Team

Department of Families

- Lots of changes in staffing / management. Children's Disability Services program is now case streaming. They are managing some of the larger pieces and are not able to do as much one on one with clientele
- Changes are being made whereby parents who are separating will be able to go online to use a system to go through and write their own separation agreements and a lawyer wouldn't necessarily have to be involved
- For the Sake of the Children – mandatory parenting program – will be going online after March 31, 2020. Families will be able to do the program and print their own certificates

Prairie Mountain Health

- Continue to work on the blood borne illness concerns – along with that comes harm reduction approaches to reduce the rate of transmission
- Have an outreach harm reduction bus now and some nursing staff that are being deployed to help community members and build relations to address the issues at hand
- Doing their best to respond to drug and alcohol issues in the community with the supports they have
- Manage the health promotions program – psychiatric nursing students worked on a stigma reduction program. Worked with Bear Clan and others who are providing support to those who are affected by substance use

Enhanced School Based Mental Health and Addictions Supports Initiative

Mrs. McFadzen spoke to the Enhanced School Based Mental Health and Addictions Supports Initiative beginning in Brandon, Portage la Prairie and Steinbach, which is one of the initiatives the Manitoba government is investing \$4.4 million to enhance access to school-based mental health and addictions supports.

As per the News Release from Manitoba Education: This three-year investment will enhance existing school-based clinical teams with psychiatric nurses and addiction support workers. In partnership with school divisions, the Manitoba Adolescent Treatment Centre, regional health authorities and the Addictions Foundation of Manitoba, teams will provide mental health services directly in schools and support students with moderate mental health and addictions needs.

Brandon School Division, Addictions Foundation of Manitoba and Child and Adolescent Treatment Center Prairie Mountain Health are working on how they will work together to provide mental health and addiction supports to students in Brandon.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 am.

Next Meeting Date

May 7, 2020

Mission: *Emphasis on the prevention of harm from the rise of drugs and alcohol through students' choice of positive lifestyles. Accomplished through education, life-style wellness activities, leadership opportunities together with community & school volunteerism*

Theme: *Making The Difference in their schools and community
* 100 Random Acts of Kindness

November - World Kindness Day (Nov. 13th)

January- Mental Health Week/Bell Let's Talk

Various Activities highlighting mental health & wellness

Hannah Leckie (YR Crocus High School) winner: EF Youth Ambassadors: Ottawa & Panama with other Canadian Changemakers

<https://landing.eftours.ca/youthleadchange-winners>



☺ Hannah's idea is to provide safe support for kids and teens who have someone close to them dealing with a mental illness.

February- Pink Day/ Bullying Awareness & Prevention Activities

YR students presented to classes in their schools, created and presented skits, created interactive bulletin boards
Highlighted kindness activities

King George YR team highlighted in Brandon Sun

Community Volunteering Connections

Brandon Bear Clan
Intergenerational Connections
Christmas Cheer
Samaritan House
Helping Hands Soup Kitchen

Community-School Connections

Coldest Night of the Year

Kindergarten Information Night

Chamber Luncheons- connecting with our business community – BU lunch with KG YR

Brandon University Psychiatric Nursing Practicum- Hot Chocolate Chats

Mental Health & Wellness Events (YR)

World Kindness Day

Headstrong Anti Stigma Summit

Youth Wellness Day

We Day

Presentations

COSL Presentation at SAGE (Winnipeg)

Year End Ceremony/Celebration – May 29th (afternoon)

Youth Revolution: Creating cohesive, spiral support opportunities for students to enhance their protective factors against the use of drugs, alcohol and other risk-related behaviour. <https://www.bsd.ca/schools/youthrevolution>



@YR_in_BrandonMB



@youthrevolution.bsd



BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION

PARENT/GUARDIAN/DIVISION COMMITTEE

Wednesday, February 26, 2020 (7:00 – 9:00 pm)
Division Office Board Room

PRESENT:

Parent Council Reps:

Darlene Pelletier (Alexander), Pam Nowosad-Federowich (Maryland Park/Riverheights), Chris Hees (Green Acres), Leann McCannel (Waverly Park), Angela Hillman (Waverly Park)

Principal Rep: B. Miller (Maryland Park)

Trustees: P. Bartlette, K. Fallis, L. Letain, D. Kejick, L. Ross

Senior Admin: D. Labossiere, E. Jamora

MINUTES

1. Welcome and Agenda Review

The Parent/Guardian/Division Committee Meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm by Board Chair, Trustee Linda Ross. The agenda was approved as previously circulated.

2. School Reports

Waverly Park School: currently in the planning stages of development for an “outdoor classroom”. There are many ideas and discussions around what the space should have: an organic circle space, stone seating, trees, picnic area, walk way etc. Lastly, it was shared that Waverly Park’s lunch program was transferred to the school this year. It was a joint discussion and decision between the Parent Council and the School.

Riverheights School: continue fundraising initiatives to support the diverse learning needs of their students. Teachers will submit their wish lists and the Parent Council will decide which projects they can support. A family fun night was hosted with outdoor evening games, chips/drinks, raffle baskets, student awards and plenty of time to visit (parents/students/ RH staff). The focus of the event was to celebrate the Community at Riverheights.

“Accepting the Challenge”

Maryland Park School: the parent council has been active since January 23, 2020 with approximately 200 members. The current focus is writing their constitution. There are two additional subcommittees around the Lunch Program and the Playground. The lunch program, based on student needs, is estimating that approximately 200 students will need a lunch program. The Playground Committee is planning with a focus on the factors of possible expansion, accessibility, safety and inclusive play.

Alexander School: continues to focus on the final stages of their new playground. As Alexander school is outside the City of Brandon, they are not eligible for the cost sharing available to other schools. The Rural Municipality has stepped up to fill the void and have agreed to supply materials and assist with the installation. Support was also realized through a pair of Jets tickets, generously donated, for a fundraising raffle.

Green Acres School: continues to focus on the goals of their parent council's constitution, fundraising is not a primary focus. When the new gym was opened in 2017, the parent council's focus has been repurposing the old gym. It was shared, the local MLA is taking an interest and requesting information in this regard.

3. Other Items

- Manitoba Association of Parent Councils (MAPC) Conference – Feedback:
 - The information presented was broad and very general in nature
 - It was not useful for an established parent council
 - The financial aspect was not relevant
 - Communication was not organized and effective
 - Very Winnipeg focused
 - Good for conversations with other Parent Councils and resources were available
 - Contacts were made
 - Effective for conflict resolution

The Committee agreed funds could be more effective by funding programs / conferences / speakers specific to Brandon Parent Councils.

- Roles of the Board of Trustees:
 - Policy 4 – Role and Responsibilities of the Board.
 - *“The Brandon School Division Board of Trustees is elected by the people to be an advocate for the public school system by representing the interests, needs and aspirations of the public’s children. As a corporate entity the Board accepts its responsibility and accountability by speaking with one voice to provide:*
 - a) Trusteeship for the organization’s assets;*
 - b) Fiduciary responsibility; and*
 - c) Development of and accountability for policies that support and respect the child’s right to a quality education and assurance that these policies are adhered to by all staff.*

The Board is committed to the principle that education is an investment and to that end acts on its authority to provide quality education for all students."

- Universal Lunch Program – across the Division
 - The Division is obligated to provide lunch for bused students, only.
 - There are large disparities across the Division, in regards to the Lunch Programs.
 - Parent Councils would support and work with the Division to develop and sustain a universal lunch program.
- Universal School Supplies – across the Division
 - The Committee identified and discussed the positive attributes of students starting with the same set of supplies.