

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, SEPTEMBER 14, 2009

PRESENT:

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

Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. G. F. 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 welcomed all visitors to the meeting noting the Board's implementation of a paperless agenda.

AGENDA

1.00 AGENDA/MINUTES:

1.01 Reference to Statement of Board Operations

1.02 Approval of Agenda

Trustee Jolly noted she had two inquiries under "Trustee Inquiries".

Mr. G. Barnes, Secretary-Treasurer, noted the following changes to the Agenda:

- a) The inclusion of the Personnel Committee Minutes under "Report of Committees";
- b) A verbal report on the Facilities and Transportation Committee meeting which took place prior to the regular Board meeting;
- c) The inclusion of motions 155/2009 to 160/2009 resulting from the recently held Inaugural Meeting and the establishment of Committees for the 2009-2010 school year; a motion from the Personnel Committee Minutes and a motion from the Facilities and Transportation Committee meeting;
- d) The inclusion of additional information to Appendix B of the Report of Senior Administration;
- e) Withdrawal of the 2nd and 3rd reading of By-Law 5/2009 which had not yet been received back from the Public Schools Finance Board.

Superintendent, Dr. Michaels noted Mr. Malazdrewicz, Associate Superintendent, would be providing an enrollment update under Report of Senior Administration. She also confirmed she had one In-Camera item for discussion on a Board Operations matter.

Mr. Murray – Mr. Snelling

That the agenda be approved as amended.

Carried.

1.03 Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meetings

- a) The Minutes of the Special Board Meeting held August 24, 2009 were circulated.

Mrs. Jolly – Ms. Coey

That the Minutes be received and filed.

Carried.

- b) The Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held August 24, 2009 were circulated.

Trustee Mayes noted that Motion 150/2009 showed a vote of 7-2 and it should have read 6-2 as Trustee Murray was absent at the last meeting.

Mr. Snelling – Mrs. Jolly

That the Minutes be approved as amended.

Carried.

2.00 GOVERNANCE MATTERS:

- a) Review of Board of Trustees Governance Goals 2007-2010.

The Board reviewed their Governance Goals and proposed changes for the 2009-2010 School Year.

2.01 Presentations For Information

- a) Carolyn Gwyer, Choral Director, Karen Chrest, Parent and Blake Majcher, student, representing the Neelin High School Chamber Choir addressed the Board of Trustees regarding their recent choir trip to England June 29, 2009 to July 13, 2009. Ms. Gwyer spoke about the planning and implementation of the trip. Ms. Chrest provided a parent's perspective of the value of the trip, while Blake Majcher spoke about the trip from a student's point of view. A slide show presentation of the trip was shown to the Board while the presenters were speaking.

Trustees thanked Ms. Gwyer for her presentation noting the amount of work, time and energy she put into making the trip successful. The Board appreciated the amount of fundraising involved to make the trip accessible to all. The Board felt such an endeavour exemplified the Board's emphasis on striving for excellence in education.

Ms. Gwyer requested permission to pursue a full choir trip to Ottawa in May of 2010 and received permission from the Board to pursue this trip subject to completion of all Division requirements regarding off-site travel. Trustees agreed with the request.

2.02 Reports of Committees

a) Division/Chamber Committee Meeting

The written report of the Division/Chamber Committee Meeting was reviewed as circulated.

Clarification was provided to Trustees regarding the proposed efficiency audit noting the Superintendent would be working with the Brandon University and the Chamber of Commerce to review current models available and adapt same to the local level. It was also confirmed that the Board will be meeting with other groups, such as the Brandon & District Labour Council throughout the year.

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

b) Personnel Committee Meeting

The written report of the Personnel Committee Meeting was reviewed as circulated.

Dr. Ross – Ms. Coey
That the Minutes be received and filed.
Carried.

c) Facilities and Transportation Committee Meeting.

Trustee Karnes provided a verbal report regarding the Facilities and Transportation Committee meeting held prior to the Board meeting. He noted a motion from the meeting would be brought forward relating to the Meadows Grooming Room Tender.

d) Other

Trustee Coey spoke about the 18th World Congress on Gifted and Talented Students Conference she attended in British Columbia during the summer. She asked that the matter be referred to the Education Committee for further discussion and follow-up.

2.03 Delegations and Petitions

a) Darren Hardy, President, Brandon Teachers' Association, brought greetings to the Board of Trustees on behalf of the Association, noting he looked forward to working with the Board and building on the relationships that have been made over the past three years.

2.04 Communications for Action

a) Ross Smith and Rob Cullen, Neelin High School, August 26, 2009, requesting permission for the Neelin Spartan Football Program to hold a fundraiser that would consist of selling 4500 tickets at a cost of \$5.00 each for three prizes; a Jacuzzi Hot Tub; \$1,000 in store credit and \$275 in store credit. The Neelin Spartan Football Program will obtain sanction from the Manitoba Lotteries Corporation prior to commencing with the project. This fundraising activity will have a significant positive financial impact which will enhance the program.

Referred Motions.

2.05 BUSINESS ARISING

- From Previous Delegations

- From Board Agenda

- MAST issues (last meeting of the month)

- From Report of Senior Administration

a) School Reports – NIL.

b) Learning Support Services Report

Kevin Tacan, Native Elder, spoke to the Board regarding the Division's work in Aboriginal Education and his involvement. He began his presentation by providing the Board with a history of his position within the School Division. He highlighted his work with the Division staff in various areas of study and connecting it to aboriginal education. Mr. Tacan spoke about the "Star Blanket" award which he had implemented to honour teachers students feel have made a difference and influenced them. He spoke about the work he hopes to accomplish in the future, including developing a system of professional development for staff; focusing on teaching students how to reconnect with their history, community and spirituality; as well as developing a "learning kit" system for staff.

Trustees thanked Mr. Tacan for his presentation and his work within the school community. Discussions were held regarding Mr. Tacan's unique which has allowed the Brandon School Division to be ahead of the curve with respect to aboriginal education. Mr. Tacan answered questions regarding the percentage of aboriginal students in the Division; Aboriginal Awareness; any possible programs he would like to see implemented in the Division; education of non-native students with respect to native culture; the Board's contribution to class size and composition; as well as the logo Mitakuye Owasin, noted in the Strategic Plan logo.

Trustees referred the matter of aboriginal education to the Education Committee with respect to a presentation at the 2010 MSBA Convention.

- c) Items from Senior Administration Report
 - Rescind Motion 125/2009 – Referred Motions.
 - Easement – Referred Motions.

2.06 Motions

152/2009 Dr. Ross – Mr. Karnes

That Motion 125/2009 regarding changing the words “Assistant Superintendent(s)” to now be “Associate Superintendent” throughout all policies is hereby rescinded.

Carried.

153/2009 Mr. Snelling – Mr. Bartlette

That the Chairperson and Secretary-Treasurer be and are hereby authorized to affix their signatures and the seal of the Division to the necessary Grant of Easement Agreement with Manitoba Hydro-Electric Board, MTS Allstream Inc. and Westman Media Co-operative Ltd. for the former Fleming School Site.

Carried.

154/2009 Mr. Murray – Mr. Mayes

That permission be granted to the Neelin Spartan Football Program to hold a fundraiser to sell 4500 tickets at a cost of \$5.00 each for three prizes once sanction has been obtained from the Manitoba Lotteries Corporation.

Carried.

POINT OF PRIVILEGE: Trustee Murray asked that Neelin Spartan Football Program bring tickets to the Division office to allow Board members the opportunity to purchase tickets.

155/2009 Mr. Bartlette – Mr. Snelling

That the following Committees and Board representatives set up during the 2008/2009 school year be and are hereby discharged with thanks:

Education	Facilities/Transportation
Personnel	Divisional Futures & Liaison
Finance	MAST Resolutions
Trustee Professional Development	Policy Review
Ward System Review	
Joint Division-Community Committee for Alexander School	
Joint City Task Force	Workplace Safety & Health
Teacher Liaison	
Support Personnel Labour/Management	Friends of Education
Brandon Community Drug & Alcohol Education Coalition	
School Division/Parent Liaison	

Carried.

156/2009 Mr. Murray – Mrs. Jolly

That Committees of the Board, effective September 14, 2009, be and are hereby approved as follows:

Education: Peter Bartlette, Ramona Coey, Bea Jolly (alternate: George Buri)

Facilities/Transportation: Peter Bartlette, Doug Karnes, Marty Snelling (alternate: Jim Murray)

Personnel: Ramona Coey, Doug Karnes, Jim Murray, Linda Ross. (NOTE: 4 members an exception for 2009/10 due to current status of CUPE and BTA Negotiations).

Divisional Futures & Liaison: Bea Jolly, Brian Mayes, Marty Snelling (alternate: George Buri)

Finance: George Buri, Ramona Coey, Brian Mayes (alternate: Linda Ross)

Policy Review: Peter Bartlette, Doug Karnes, Jim Murray (alternate: Bea Jolly)

Carried.

157/2009 Mr. Bartlette – Mr. Snelling

That Ad-Hoc Committees of the Board, effective September 14, 2009 be and are hereby approved as follows:

MSBA Resolutions: Peter Bartlette, Linda Ross.

Trustee Professional Development: Bea Jolly, Brian Mayes.

Trustee Bartlette asked that the Committee name be corrected to read MSBA Resolutions and not MAST Resolutions in keeping with the new name of the Manitoba School Boards Association.

Carried.

158/2009 Mr. Murray – Ms. Jolly

That the appointment of Trustee Representatives to the following Ad-Hoc Committees be approved for the 2009-2010 term:

Support Personnel Labour/Management – Jim Murray

Teacher Liaison – Peter Bartlette, Brian Mayes, Marty Snelling.

Friends of Education – Doug Karnes.

Joint City Task Force – George Buri, Ramona Coey, Marty Snelling (alternate: Brian Mayes)

Joint Chamber/Division Ad-Hoc: Peter Bartlette, Ramona Coey, Doug Karnes, Jim Murray

Workplace Safety & Health – Doug Karnes.

Brandon Community Drug & Alcohol Education Coalition - Bea Jolly

School Division/Parent Liaison – Bea Jolly (alternate Marty Snelling).

Brandon Healthy Families Team - Ramona Coey.

Food for Thought – Marty Snelling (alternate Bea Jolly).

Brandon Neighbourhood Renewal Corporation – Peter Bartlette

A friendly amendment was requested to include Trustee Jolly as the alternate for Food for Thought.

Carried.

159/2009 Mr. Karnes – Dr. Ross

That consideration of an agreement between the Brandon Teachers' Association and the Division for an Extended Health Benefit Plan be approved in principle, subject to satisfactory arrangements between the parties of a final agreement for Board approval.

Carried.

160/2009 Dr. Ross – Mr. Murray

That the low tender of Horizon Builders in the amount of \$197,962 for the Grooming Room and Lift Renovations at Meadows School be approved; and forwarded to the Public Schools Finance Board for further consideration.

Carried.

2.07 Bylaws

The second and third reading of By-law No. 5/2009 being a bylaw for the purpose of authorizing the borrowing of the sum of \$245,200.00 upon the credit of the Division by the issue and sale of debentures to meet partial costs for construction of Valleyview Centennial School Grooming Room; Earl Oxford School Roof Replacement and Neelin High School Emergency Roof Replacement was withdrawn until the by-law has been returned to the Division by the Public Schools Finance Board.

Withdrawn.

2.08 Giving of Notice

2.09 Inquiries

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

2.09b) Trustee Inquiries

1. Trustee Jolly asked the Board the following:

“ As it is quite possible in the near future that we may have a change in government, but certainly a new leader of the NDP party, there is an immediate need to establish contact with all parties. We should try to gauge, in general terms, the depth and sincerity of their interest in and commitment to public education. We need to be aware and establish contact with each party within the next six months to hear their platform on the following: role of the School Board in local taxation; funding formula for education; views on public education and especially funding for the following – EAL, special needs, high ability learners, aboriginal students; and any other points that you think we should raise. At each meeting we should invite: The Leader of the Party; The Education Minister/Critic; The Finance Minister/Critic and the MLA for Brandon East/West. I would recommend to the Board that this matter be referred to the Futures and Liaison Committee so that a plan of action can be presented to the Board at the regular meeting on September 28, 2009.”

Trustee Jolly's request was discussed and the Board agreed to refer the matter to the Divisional Futures and Liaison Committee for follow-up.

2. Trustee Jolly asked Senior Administration the following:

“Last year I asked for a review of all school and teacher initiated courses. Is this being done?”

Superintendent, Dr. Michaels, noted a report is being prepared for presentation to the Board by the end of October.

3. Trustee Jolly also asked the Board to consider sending a letter of congratulations to Dr. Poff on her appointment as President of Brandon University.

The Board agreed and directed the Secretary-Treasurer to forward a letter of congratulations.

4. Trustee Bartlette asked the Secretary-Treasurer to provide an update on the status of the connectivity project. Mr. Barnes noted a request for proposals had been sent out. The proposals received were discussed at Senior Administration. One proposal group met with Senior Administration last week. A finalized report is being prepared to bring forward to the Finance Committee before bringing to the Board for review.

5. Trustee Bartlette asked the Secretary-Treasurer if he had received a response from the sole bidder on the Fleming School Site. Mr. Bartlette was advised that correspondence had been forwarded to the bidder acknowledging his bid. Mr. Barnes noted he had met with the City for follow-up and the matter would be reported to the Facilities and Transportation Committee in the near future.

6. Trustee Mayes requested a report from Senior Administration on why the schools all have such different start dates for Kindergarten.

7. Trustee Buri inquired about the overcrowding in classrooms at Crocus Plains Regional Secondary High School. Superintendent, Dr. Michaels, noted the matter was currently being addressed by Mr. Malazdrewicz and school administration.

3.00 ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION:

3.01 Report of Senior Administration

Trustees discussed the "Tools for Schools" program; the Focus of the Superintendents' Work Plans for 2009-2010; Off-campus program and student engagement; and the High Ability Learners' Program, asking questions for clarification.

Associate Superintendent, Mr. Malazdrewicz, spoke to the enrollment data as of today's date, noting the Division had shown a growth of 125 students over last year and was currently showing 7073 FTE students enrolled in the Division.

Trustee Mayes requested Senior Administration channel any extra staffing requests through the Finance Committee.

Superintendent, Dr. Michaels noted the 2009-2010 school year had begun remarkably well so far.

Trustee Coey – Trustee Murray
That the report be received and filed.
Carried.

3.02 Communications for Information

- a) Karen Beam, undated, thanking the Board for the lovely crystal loon ornament she received in honour of her retirement.
Ordered Filed.

- b) Lonnie Patterson, Special Assistant to the Minister of Healthy Living, September 1, 2009, acknowledging receipt of the Board's letter to the Honourable Kerri Irvin-Ross, Minister of Healthy Living regarding changes the Addictions Foundation of Manitoba has made with regard to school-based addictions counseling.

Ordered Filed.

- c) Mr. Darryl R. Toews, Manitoba Campaign to Ban Landmines (MBCBL) Coordinator, August 29, 2009, informing the Board that Harrison Middle School participated in the MBCBL 2008-2009 "100 Schools Challenge" fundraising campaign for the One Love Project's orthopedic workshops in Rwanda and Burundi and the Nation Committee for Demining and Rehabilitation in Jordan. The campaign raised \$7,100 for 2008-2009.

Ordered Filed.

- d) Darryl Gervais, Acting Director, Instruction, Curriculum and Assessment Branch and Florence Girouard, Director, Educational Support Services Branch, Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth, September, 2009, enclosing Information Bulletins for Standards Tests (2009/2010) and Policies and Procedures for Standards Tests (2009/2010). These documents are available on the Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth website at www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/assess/publications.html. Information for Grade 12 Français langue première and Français langue seconde – immersion standards tests is available online at www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/assess/inforbulls/index.html.

Ordered Filed.

- e) Darryl Gervais, Acting Director, Instruction, Curriculum and Assessment Branch, Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth noting the document entitled Grade 10 Keyboarding (25S): A Course for Independent Study, Field Validation Version is ready for release. A previous of the course is available on line at www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/dl/iso/previews/index.html.

Ordered Filed.

- f) Darryl Gervais, Acting Director, Instruction, Curriculum and Assessment Branch, Manitoba Education, Citizenship and Youth noting the document entitled Grade 12 Physics (40S): A course for Independent Study, Filed Validation Version is ready for release. A previous of the course is available on line at www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/dl/iso/previews/index.html.

Ordered Filed.

3.03 Announcements

- a) Personnel Committee – CUPE Negotiations, 9:00 a.m., Tuesday, September 15, 2009, McLaren Room.
- b) School Division Parent Liaison Committee Meeting, 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, September 16, 2009, Conference Room.

- c) Finance Committee Meeting, 10:00 a.m., Monday, September 21, 2009, Conference Room.
- d) Education Committee Meeting, 1:30 p.m., Monday, September 21, 2009, Conference Room.
- e) Divisional Futures and Liaison Committee Meeting, Thursday, September 24, 2009, Conference Room.
- f) NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING – 7:00 p.m., Monday, September 28, 2009, Board Room.

4.00 IN CAMERA DISCUSSION:

Dr. Ross – Mr. Snelling

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

Carried.

IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE IN CAMERA

4.01 Student Issues

- Reports

- Trustee Inquiries

4.02 Personnel Matters

- Reports

- a) Confidential #1- Personnel Report, was reviewed.
- b) Trustee Ross reported on the In-Camera items from the September 10, 2009 Personnel Committee meeting.

- Trustee Inquiries

- a) Administration responded to Trustee inquiries regarding teacher staffing.

4.03 Property Matters/Tenders

- Reports

- Trustee Inquiries

4.04 Board Operations

- Reports

- a) A Board operations matter was noted.

- Trustee Inquiries

Mr. Snelling – Ms. Coey

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

Carried.

IN BOARD

5.00 ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Murray – Mr. Snelling

That the meeting do now adjourn (Time 9:20 p.m.)

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer