



BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION

PARENT GUARDIAN DIVISION ADVISORY COMMITTEE

Wednesday, November 20, 2013, 7:00 pm – 9:00 pm

Division Office – McLaren Room

Present: Dr. Donna Michaels, Superintendent/CEO

Trustees:	M. Sefton	K. Sumner	M. Snelling
	G. Kruck	P. Bartlette	P. Bowslaugh

School Principal Representative: Barb Miller, King George

Parent Representatives:	Wanda Brine (EO)	Jo-Ann Pasklivich-Holder (St.A)	
	Karen Freeman (LL)	Amy Grift (ME)	Lori Nickel (GF)
	Tracy Gamache (EH)	Shelly Mushumanski (RH)	

MINUTES

1. Review of Agenda and Opening Remarks

Trustee M. Snelling opened the meeting and welcomed members in Trustee P. Bowslaugh's absence.

2. Review of Minutes of October 16, 2013

Minute accepted as circulated.

3. Finance Committee Stakeholder Feedback (2014-2015 Budget Deliberations)

Trustee Sumner, Chairperson of the Finance Committee, spoke to the School Division Parent Guardian Advisory Committee regarding Motion 119/2013 and 120/2013 approved by the Board of Trustees as direction to Senior Administration with respect to preparation of the 2014-2015 budget. Trustees noted they viewed this budget as a pause year. They spoke to the impact of funding on the budget and noted the Funding Announcement does not occur until the fourth week in January. Parents were asked to provide their feedback regarding the motions and whether or not they had any suggestions with respect to efficiencies or items they did not want to see reduced in the budget.

Parents asked that Speech Language Programs, Reading Recovery and other early years programs which help students with speech and reading do not get cut. They spoke to personal experiences as to how valuable these programs can be to students. Discussions were held regarding student fees and the impact of waving those fees, especially with respect to the BSIMA. Parents noted it was hard to think of something they could do without when enrolment was growing and there were so many needs in the Division.

"Accepting the Challenge"

Trustee Sumner noted the schools' purchasing power would be reduced as the Board of Trustees has directed a 0% increase in many areas of the budget. The Division's contingency fund was explained, including: what it has been used for; what it should be used for; how much should be maintained; and what is currently sitting in the fund.

Trustee Bowslaugh circulated copies of the Student Achievement Results summary. Discussions were held regarding the information contained and how to distribute that information to the public. It was noted both the Student Achievement Results and the Audited Financial Statements are available on the Division website. Parents requested clarification regarding student fees; the crossing sharing of information between Divisions; and questions they would take back to their parent councils.

The Finance Committee portion of the School Division Parent Guardian Advisory Committee was concluded with parents speaking to the positive impacts of the teachers and programming throughout the Division."

4. School Reports

Harrison	Sunset Gourmet fundraising initiative; cookbook; vista cards; Parent Night in Spring
Riverheights	Very happy to finish playground; raised \$60,000 plus BSD/City; preliminary Parent Council discussion RE: Sustainable annual fundraising for playground; Terry Fox event; Family Fun Night (end of January)
George Fitton	Very excited about new school sigh; new gym and 3 new classrooms; October 2013 – Family Fun Night; new Parent Council members
Meadows	New members on Parent Council; Halloween Parade dance; Remembrance Day; Y-Revolution event; movie night (made \$720.00); portable to be made useable shortly. Plans for elevator underway
Linden Lanes	Smart board score-board being installed; major initiative; vista cards; celebration of learning; holiday magic initiative; February 2014 – Family Fun Night; planning to continue RE: Fundraising HALEP support important
St. Augustine	Playground fund doing well; Applebee's Breakfast initiative; monthly food days; allocation of funds to each teacher for discretionary use; Holiday Magic; chosen for workshop for Royal Winnipeg Ballet (one of two rural schools)
Earl Oxford	Allocation of funds per teacher; Ladies Night (made \$1800.00); school staff putting on Christmas dinner (meat donated by Parent Council); portable being readied – students excited; shopping bag recycling initiative "Kudos for those in City who organized event".
JR Reid	Next PC meeting is next Wed (27 th); will finalize our (first) constitution at that meeting; still having very low involvement from families (approximately 20% participating in fundraising efforts); will need to replace our lunch room coordinators for next year and this will be a challenge with so few parents taking the time to be involved; have two additional fundraisers planned for the new year and have completed two to this point

5. Others

- a) Lunchroom discussion to take place at next meeting (February 19, 2014);
- b) Further budget input can be sent to S. Bailey;
- c) Reminder Re; February 5, 2014 Public Budget Session

6. Date of Next Meeting Wednesday, February 19, 2014

Meeting Adjourned