



"Accepting the Challenge"

Divisional Futures & Community Relations Committee Minutes

Friday, January 14, 2011 – 11:30 a.m.
Board Room, Administration Office

Present: M. Snelling (Chairperson), P. Bowslaugh, G. Kruck, (Alternate) (exited at 12:55p.m.), K. Sumner, Dr. D. Michaels.

1. **CALL TO ORDER:**

The Divisional Futures and Community Relations Committee Meeting was called to order at 11:45 a.m. by the Committee Chairperson, Mr. Snelling.

2. **APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The Divisional Futures and Community Relations Committee Agenda was approved.

3. **COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE GOAL ITEMS**

The Committee reviewed the proposed Board Governance Goals developed at the Board Governance Goal Session held January 7 and 8, 2011. The applicable goals are to be referred to the Divisional Futures and Community Relations Committee for follow-up over the next four years. The two goals to be referred to the Committee focused on "Advocacy" and "Community Involvement" as follows:

1. **Advocacy:** To undertake an organized advocacy strategy approach to strengthen public education in the Brandon School Division.
2. **Community Involvement:** To enhance relations with the community through a rigorous, comprehensive, communications approach.

The Committee discussed the strategic actions to be taken under each goal. The Committee agreed to define advocacy as working with groups who have the ability to influence public education while community involvement would be defined as the Committee working with various stakeholder groups to help them to understand the work of the Board and the Division; receiving their input, ideas and suggestions.

The Committee agreed the strategic actions to be undertaken with respect to advocacy would be as follows:

- Lobbying the municipal, provincial and federal governments through better communication. This would take place on a yearly basis.
- Preparing a public strategy for forthcoming elections. This would include both future Provincial and Federal elections.

The Committee agreed the strategic actions to be undertaken with respect to community involvement would be as follows:

- Continue building relationships with existing and new stakeholders.
- Ensure continuous identification of new stakeholder groups.
- Engage with and develop an understanding of families with students new to the School Division; as well as other community stakeholders.

- Engaging and networking with various community agencies to develop an understanding and commitment to the sustainability of public education in Brandon.

Dr. Michaels was directed to prepare a draft of the proposed strategic actions to be taken and performance indicators as discussed by the Committee and bring a draft back to the February Committee meeting for review.

4. OTHER COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE MATTERS

A) Review of Committee Minutes

The Committee Meeting Minutes of November 19, 2010 were accepted.

B) Ongoing Liaison With Community Groups

The Committee discussed the various stakeholder groups with whom they would be interested in meeting during the remainder of the current school year. It was agreed meeting with student councils, grade 8/9 parents and students, and visiting each school was a priority. The Committee also agreed to meet with school parent councils and various other community agencies. Senior Administration was directed to prepare a schedule of meetings that would include one meeting a month with students in Division Schools; one meeting a month with a parent council group; and one meeting a month with a community group; in addition to the regular once a month Committee meeting.

C) Urban Aboriginal Peoples' Council

The Committee reviewed the request of the City of Brandon for a representative of the Brandon School Division Board of Trustees to sit on the City's newly formed Urban Aboriginal Peoples' Council. It was agreed Trustee Snelling would represent the Board of Trustees.

Recommendation:

That Trustee Marty Snelling represent the Divisional Futures and Community Relations Committee on the City of Brandon Urban Aboriginal Peoples' Council for the 2010-2011 term.

5. OPERATIONS INFORMATION

NIL

The meeting adjourned at 1:20 p.m.

6. NEXT REGULAR COMMITTEE MEETING: 11:30 a.m., Friday, February 11, 2011, Board Room.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Snelling, Chair

P. Bowslaugh

K. Sumner

G. Kruck (Alternate)