



BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION

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. (Public), MONDAY, FEBRUARY 26, 2018.

PRESENT:

Dr. L. Ross, Chairperson, Ms. S. Bambridge, Vice-Chairperson, Mr. P. Bartlette, Mrs. P. Bowslaugh, Mr. G. Buri, Mr. G. Kruck, Mr. J. Murray, Mr. M. Sefton, Mr. K. Sumner (entered at 6:52 p.m.).

Mr. D. Labossiere, Secretary-Treasurer, Ms. B. Sangster, Recording Secretary, Ms. T. Curtis, Live Streaming Video Operator.

Senior Administration: Dr. M. Casavant, Superintendent/CEO, Mr. M. Gustafson, Assistant Superintendent, Mr. G. Malazdrewicz, Assistant Superintendent.

REGRETS:

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

AGENDA

1.00 AGENDA/MINUTES:

1.01 Approval of Agenda

Senior Administration added five (5) items for In-Camera.

Trustee Ross added two (2) items for In-Camera.

Trustee Sefton added one (1) item for In-Camera.

Trustee Murray added one (1) item for In-Camera.

Mr. Kruck – Mr. Buri

That the agenda be approved as amended.

Carried.

1.02 Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meetings

- a) The Minutes of the Board Meeting held February 12, 2018 were circulated.

Mr. Kruck – Mr. Buri

That the Minutes be approved.

Carried.

- b) The Minutes of the Special Board Meeting held February 20, 2018 were circulated.

Ms. Bambridge – Mr. Bartlette
That the Minutes be approved.
Carried.

- c) The Minutes of the Budget Deliberations held February 20, 2018 were circulated.

Mrs. Bowslaugh – Mr. Sefton
That the Minutes be approved.
Carried.

Mr. Sefton – Mr. Murray
That the Board do now resolve into Committee of the Whole In-Camera. (6:04 p.m.)
Carried.

IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE IN CAMERA

2.00 IN CAMERA DISCUSSION:

2.01 Student Issues

- Reports

- Trustee Inquiries

- a) Trustee Bowslaugh requested information on a student matter.

2.02 Personnel Matters

- Reports

- a) Confidential #1 – Personnel Report was presented.
b) Mr. Denis Labossiere, Secretary-Treasurer, provided information on a Personnel Matter.

- Trustee Inquiries

2.03 Property Matters/Tenders

- Reports

- Trustee Inquiries

2.04 Board Operations

- Reports

- a) Dr. Marc Casavant, Superintendent/CEO provided an update on a Board Operations Matter.
b) The Superintendent requested clarification on a Board Operations Matter. The Board referred the matter to the Personnel and Policy Committee.
c) Mr. Labossiere discussed three (3) Board Operations matters with the Board.
d) Trustee Sefton provided information to the Board.
e) Trustee Murray asked questions for clarification regarding a Board Operations Matter.
f) Trustee Ross provided an update on a Board Operations Matter.
g) Trustee Ross provided information on a Board Operations Matter.

- Trustee Inquiries

Mr. Bartlette – Mrs. Bowslaugh
That the Committee of the Whole In-Camera do now resolve into Board. (6:58 p.m.)
Carried.

The Chairperson called the public portion of the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. with a traditional heritage acknowledgement and welcomed everyone in attendance.

3.00 PRESENTATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:

3.01 Presentations For Information

3.02 Communications For Information

3.03 Communications For Action

4.00 REPORT OF SENIOR ADMINISTRATION

Dr. Marc Casavant, Superintendent/CEO, provided highlights on the following items from the February 26, 2018 Report of Senior Administration:

- Administrative Information
 - Celebrations
 - Prairieaction Foundation (PAF) – 2018 Youth Leadership Award – BSD Youth Revolution “Beyond the Hurt Bullying Prevention Teams” are the first group of young people from Manitoba to receive this award
 - Indigenous Campus Life Event – February 15, 2018
 - Jump Rope for Heart Program – Heart and Stroke Foundation – since the program began in 1982, schools in Brandon School Division have raised \$428,357.91 for the Heart and Stroke Foundation.
- Information Items
 - Manitoba Education and Training Correspondence
 - Proclamations:
 - Teacher/Staff Appreciation Week – February 11-17, 2018
- Suspension Report - Semester One – 2017/2018, 2016/2017, 2015/2016
 - Presentations
 - Continuous Improvement Plan Update – Mr. Mathew Gustafson, Assistant Superintendent and Mr. Greg Malazdrewicz, Assistant Superintendent

Ms. Bambridge – Mr. Sefton

That the February 26, 2018 Report of Senior Administration be received and filed.

Carried.

5.00 GOVERNANCE MATTERS

5.01 Reports of Committees

a) Personnel and Policy Committee Meeting

The written report of the Personnel and Policy Committee meeting held on February 13, 2018 was circulated.

Trustees asked questions for clarification regarding the new Administrative Procedures.

Mr. Murray – Mr. Buri
That the Report be received and filed.
Carried.

5.02 Delegations and Petitions

Public Budget Feedback Presentations

The following individuals made presentations regarding the proposed 2017-2018 Budget:

1) **Brandon Teachers' Association**

Mr. Peter Buehler, President, Brandon Teachers' Association, provided a submission on behalf of the Division's teaching staff. Mr. Buehler noted that the Association noted a number of things to be thankful for in attending this year's budget process meetings. These things include recognition of the hard work it takes to prepare and set a budget. The Association knows that Trustees do not take these decisions lightly because they are aware of the impact they can have. The Association believes firmly that it is here to work collaboratively with Trustees during this challenging process.

Mr. Buehler noted that the BTA is happy to learn that the Board is advocating for seven modular classrooms in the Division, as the Division is predicting the need for 20 – 25 new classrooms in the year 2021.

The Association has concerns that arise from the preparation of the 2018-2019 Budget, including concerns about the budget process. Mr. Buehler acknowledged that the Provincial Funding announcement occurred later this year than in previous years, and added the 26 page budget document that was distributed on February 12, 3 days ahead of the public budget consultation, did not include the level of detail made available in earlier years. He added that at the Public Consultation, additional information was presented, which the Association would have wished to have sooner, in order to reflect and prepare. Mr. Buehler indicated what matters most in this is that late delivery of information upsets the consultation process itself.

Mr. Buehler noted that in the Budget Consultation process this year, some questions were not fully answered, included where the \$230,000 reduced expenditure had been "found" in function 500. Mr. Buehler questioned why the 58 page long document provided at the all-day budget meeting had not been made available to the public ahead of any consultation. Mr. Buehler also suggested the public would have been much more engaged if the consultation night had been conducted in small table groups with a Trustee representative, as at other recent BSD public consultations.

Mr. Buehler noted the BTA understands that this year's funding announcement was late, however felt the Board's responsibility is to provide an effective consultation process and this obligation must be met regardless of how late the funding announcement happens.

Mr. Buehler indicated that the Association membership is concerned about the ability of this budget to meet Division students' needs. The Association reminded Trustees that in the last 5 budget cycles, including this coming budget year, the Division has had an increase of 576 students, and has met that enrolment increase with 24.6 additional teaching positions. This means that over this time, the hiring ratio has been 23.4 new students per new teacher, which is 10.5 students higher than the Division's FRAME ratio.

Mr. Buehler stated that on February 15, when Budget scenarios were available for the first time, two were presented, adding that neither of this year's scenarios met Motion 93's guideline of enrollment growth plus inflation. He added that the province set a guideline to school board's to keep the special requirement at a 2% maximum increase. As both of the Division's scenarios fell well under 2%, the Board was asked whether budgeting up to the full 2% special requirement would be up for discussion on budget day, to which the chair of the meeting noted that the Trustees had "no appetite" to exceed or to meet the 2%.

Mr. Buehler noted that at the February 20 Budget Deliberations, the decision was made to keep the Special Requirement at .88%. Working up to the 2% would have allowed the Division an additional \$546,000 for use in providing equitable, accessible and personalized quality education opportunities. Mr. Buehler emphasized that the Association does not come before the Board each year to ask for more teachers in the Division because it benefits the members individually. They do this because they know how important it is to advocate for students, who cannot readily advocate for themselves.

Mr. Buehler urged Trustees to reflect further on the decision to be made, questioning why Motion 93 was appropriate in the past, but not now? What is the Division doing to support enrollment growth? Why is there no appetite to discuss using the full 2%? BTA members feel firmly that the time to make critical investments in education is now.

2) CUPE Local 737

Mr. Jamie Rose, President, CUPE Local 737, spoke on behalf of the Brandon School Division Support Staff. Mr. Rose opened his remarks by taking the opportunity to thank the Board for holding important consultations on the 2018-2019 Budget. Mr. Rose added that CUPE is pleased to see two (2) term bus routes added to the proposed budget to accommodate the growth of students in the Island Lake Area until a new school is built, and that the addition of five (5) full time Educational Assistants will help to meet the needs of Division students.

Mr. Rose indicated that CUPE recognizes that leaders of any organization have hard decisions to make, with results not always liked. CUPE has watched the Brandon School Division Board of Trustees work hard for the Brandon taxpayers, and it is felt that the Trustees all have the students' best interests in mind.

Mr. Rose noted that CUPE has previously brought forward concerns with the busing of Division students to Home Ec/Industrial Arts. Having been given the answer that this matter will maybe have to wait until a new Board is elected to have an answer is alarming to CUPE members as the safety of the students should be the number one issue with the busing of Division students. The April 2017 review of the Grades 7 and 8 Program Options clearly stated that the Brandon School Division should provide Division transportation to all off-site programming for Grades 7 and 8 students. Mr. Rose asks why the students are not being bused to Home Ec/Industrial Arts? He adds the concern for the safety of the students should be forefront now – not after a tragedy, and is questioning why Brandon School Division would not want to address this in the 2018-2019 Budget.

Mr. Rose thanked Trustees for their time to listen to CUPE Local 737 concerns and for considering the busing of students to Home Ec/Industrial Arts for the 2018-2019 budget.

3) Mr. Robert Smith, Brandon Homeowner

Mr. Robert Smith's opening remarks were on his previous work as a school board Trustee. He noted he struggles with technology as he never learned it in school, nor while at the University of Manitoba, and was recently made by his children to get a cell phone. He

noted the attention spans of people are now so short due to technology, and that this society has immature parents who have children who are addicted to technology.

Mr. Smith noted he was listening to the CBC Radio show IDEAS on Friday February 23, 2018 and quoted from the speaker, Timothy Schneider, Historian at Yale University. *"20 Examples of Tyranny in the 20th Century – If you accept all technology as good, then how do you reconcile the misery caused by so many people by the fake news, harassment, bullying and outright lies on social media? As we all become addicted to smart phones, are we slaves to the few who control our technology?"*

Mr. Smith provided a handout for Trustees to review, which consisted of Brandon Sun *Sound Off* articles that referenced the Brandon School Division. He noted one of the pages was just one day of *Sound Off* articles regarding the Division. He reviewed a few of these articles for the Board and indicated he was supportive of the Province-wide collective bargaining agreement.

Mr. Smith noted that sooner or later, the public, if they get mad enough, will get out and vote, and they usually vote the old people out and some new people in. He added that the public understands what the Province is trying to do and probably will back the Province in saying that it is time for a change. He spoke on personal experiences and the consolidation of rural schools.

Mr. Smith suggested that a proposal be brought to the Minister of Education that the Division will look after maintenance of the schools, transportation of the students, and administration. The Minister would then look after teacher salaries for both regular instruction and special instruction and the aides required for that.

Dr. Ross thanked everyone for their presentations.

5.03 Business Arising

- From Previous Delegation

- From Board Agenda

- MSBA Matters

- a) Ebulletin – February 14, 2018
- b) CSBA Memo re: Congress 2018 Halifax

5.04 Public Inquiries (max. 15 minutes)

5.05 Motions

10/2018 Mr. Buri – Mr. Murray

That the Board Governance Decision Making Matrix under Policy #9 be amended to indicate that the Board is responsible for renaming and naming of schools and facilities and also for any school closure.

Carried.

11/2018 Mr. Murray- Mr. Buri

That the new Administrative Procedures Manual be approved, as presented.

Trustee Sumner indicated he would not be in favour of this motion and suggested a change of wording.

Trustee Bowslaugh moved to postpone this motion until the March 12, 2018 Board meeting.

Mrs. Bowslaugh – Mr. Sumner

That Motion 11/2018 be postponed until the March 12, 2018 Board meeting.

Carried. (6-3)

12/2018 Ms. Bambridge – Mr. Buri

That the amount of \$54,000 from the Operating Fund Accumulated Surplus be allocated to the Electronic Job Evaluation System Capital Reserve Fund for the installation of enCompassing Visions software, subject to PSFB approval.

Carried.

13/2018 Mr. Sefton – Mr. Bartlette

That the Auditor's Engagement Letter regarding the Audit of the December 31, 2017 Public Sector Compensation Disclosure Report between the Brandon School Division and BDO Canada LLP, Chartered Accounts, be approved and that the Chairperson and Secretary-Treasurer be authorized to affix their signatures thereto.

Carried.

5.06 Bylaws

5.07 Giving of Notice

5.08 Trustee Inquiries

6.00 ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a) Workplace Safety and Health Committee Meeting – 1:00 p.m., Tuesday, March 6, 2018, Conference Room.
- b) Parent/Guardian/Division Advisory Committee Meeting – 7:00 p.m., Wednesday, March 7, 2018, Boardroom.
- c) NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING – 7:00 p.m. (Public), Monday, March 12, 2018, Boardroom.
- d) Upcoming Budget Dates:
 - Regular Board Meeting - Final Budget Approval – 7:00 p.m., Monday, March 12, 2018, Boardroom.

7.00 ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Murray – Mr. Buri

That the Board do now adjourn. (8:13 p.m.)

Carried.

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer