



Education Committee Minutes

Thursday, December 16, 2010, 11:00 a.m.
Board Room, Administration Office

Present: M. Sefton (Chairperson), P. Bartlette, P. Bowslaugh, K. Sumner (Alternate), Dr. D. Michaels, G. Malazdrewicz (entered at 11:30 a.m.)
Guest: D. Karnes

1. CALL TO ORDER:

The Education Committee Meeting was called to order at 11:00 a.m. by the Committee Chairperson, Trustee Sefton.

2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Chairperson noted the addition of three items to the agenda: discussions regarding the possibility of a budget enhancement/pilot project with respect to all-day/every-day Kindergarten; discussions regarding the role of the BSIMA in the Division as it relates to programming; a request from Sexuality Education Resource Centre for a Division representative. The Education Committee agenda was approved as amended.

3. COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE GOAL ITEMS

NIL

4. OTHER COMMITTEE GOVERNANCE MATTERS

A) **Review of Committee Minutes**

The Committee reviewed the Minutes of November 18, 2010.

B) **2011/2012 Budget Sustainability Enhancement Requests**

Superintendent, Dr. Michaels, reviewed the various sustainability requests affecting education in the classroom; currently being prepared by Senior Administration as follows:

- Reading Recovery (approximately 2 FTE);
- Grade 3-4 Transition/Middle Years Literacy Support (approximately 2 FTE);
- HALEP (2 FTE);
- Grade 8-9 Transition/Senior Years Literacy Support (4 FTE);
- EAL Support at the K-8 level (2 FTE)
- EAL Support at the High School level (1.5 FTE)
- Sous Chef for the Culinary Arts program (1 position)
- Increasing Principal and Vice-Principal time.

The Committee requested clarification regarding EAL staffing. Discussions were held regarding the number of EAL positions in the Division versus the number of EAL positions that are covered under government funding. The Committee discussed the possibility of allotting one discretionary staffing position as a "floating" EAL position not necessarily assigned to any school. This flexibility would then allow Senior Administration to determine where the position would be most needed in September, following summer EAL registrations. Trustee Sefton referenced conversations held at the Finance Committee regarding the possibility of bringing

forth a motion to overspend the budget by a certain amount of money to give Senior Administration and School Administrators greater flexibility to staff the schools in a quick and efficient manner while limiting the commitment of funds on a year by year basis.

Trustee Sefton also noted conversations held at the Finance Committee regarding the possibility of an all-day/every-day kindergarten pilot to give the Division more credibility when bringing forth discussions on their proposed MSBA resolution regarding this matter. The Committee discussed the Division's Early Development Instrument (EDI) results; the need for back-up information from other Provinces that currently have all-day/every-day kindergarten; and what schools would be best served by such a pilot project based on EDI results. The Committee agreed to bring the suggestion regarding all-day/every-day kindergarten forward as a budget sustainability request for the four schools with the lowest EDI results.

C) Nominations for Premier Award for School Board Innovation

The Committee reviewed Senior Administration's suggestions regarding possible programs nominated for the Premier Award for School Board Innovation. Discussions were held regarding each program suggested, including the Crocus Plains Regional Secondary High School (CPRSS) Environmental Program; the CPRSS FI Formula Program; various Aboriginal Initiatives throughout the Division; and the Visual Performing Arts program – Sanctuary – "Hope for Darfur". The Committee agreed to recommend the Visual Performing Arts program – Sanctuary – "Hope for Darfur" as it was interdisciplinary and included, drama, art, music, English Language Arts and social justice.

Recommendation:

That the Visual Performing Arts program – Sanctuary – "Hope for Darfur" at École Neelin High School be nominated by the Board of Trustees for the Manitoba School Boards Association 2011 Premier Award for School Board Innovation.

D The Brandon Schools Instrumental Music Association (BSIMA)

The Committee reviewed the discussions held at the Finance Committee with the BSIMA inquiring about their role in the Brandon School Division and the band programming. Discussions focused on the following questions: What is the Division's responsibilities with respect to programming? Why aren't there more creative partnerships like BSIMA in other areas of education? What could Friends of Education do to help in this area? Should the School Division be providing instruments rather than BSIMA? What does the Board acknowledge its role to be in this area, given the current legislation? How would decisions made in the area of band programming affect other programming? It was agreed that a number of discussions would need to take place before the Committee could make any recommendations in this area. The Committee agreed to invite the BSIMA to the January Committee meeting in order to discuss this matter further.

5. BRIEFINGS ON DEVELOPMENTS IN EDUCATION

The Committee received information requested at the November 19, 2010 Committee Meeting regarding EDI and Kindergarten Enrollment as information.

6. OPERATIONS INFORMATION

The Committee discussed the possibility of holding a special committee meeting to review Bill 13 – *Preparing Students for Success Act*. Due to the implications that would result by virtue of implementation of this Bill, the Committee agreed it would be beneficial to ask the Board Chairperson about the possibility of holding a Special Board Meeting to review Bill 13. Senior Administration would discuss the matter with the Board Chairperson.

The Committee discussed the date of the January, 2011 Committee meeting. It was agreed the meeting would be moved to January 19, 2011 from 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and the BSIMA would be invited to attend the Committee meeting from 12:00 p.m. to 1:00 p.m.

7. NEXT REGULAR MEETING: Wednesday, January 19, 2011, 11:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m., Board Room.

The meeting adjourned at 1:00 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,

M. Sefton, Chair

P. Bartlette

P. Bowslaugh

K. Sumner (Alternate)