



BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION

Education and Community Relations Committee Minutes

Monday, May 9, 2022 – 6:00 p.m.
Boardroom, Administration Office

Present: S. Bambridge C. Ekenna
K. Fallis (by phone) B. Foley
J. Gobeil D. Kejick (by phone)
L. Letain L. Ross

Also Present: D. Labossiere M. Gustafson
S. Gilleshammer J. Zilkey

Regrets: J. Murray

1. COMMITTEE ITEMS

A. Removal of COVID Restrictions

Mr. Mathew Gustafson, Superintendent/CEO, spoke to this item, advising that Senior Administration plans to remove restrictions in the following areas based on removal of Public Health Orders and guidance from Manitoba Education and Early Childhood Learning:

- Field trips
- Assemblies
- Open house / school community events (ex. Grade 8 celebration, etc.)
- Access to water fountains

Senior Administration also recommends removal of the restriction for out-of-province student travel. With regard to COVID rapid tests, Senior Administrator plans to continue with their distribution and the reporting of absentee rates and COVID case prevalence until the end of June.

Discussion took place regarding out-of-province travel for students. Trustees asked questions for clarification. The Committee requested that Senior Administration bring a motion regarding out-of-province travel to the May 24, 2022, Board meeting.

B. Jordan's Principle – Proposal from Southern Chiefs' Organization (SCO)

Ms. Susan Gilleshammer and Mr. Jon Zilkey, Assistant Superintendents, made a presentation to the Committee regarding this potential partnership.

Jordan's Principle is named in memory of Jordan River Anderson, a young boy from Norway House Cree Nation. Jordan's Principle is a child first initiative intended to ensure that First Nation children do not experience denials, delays, or disruptions of public services ordinarily available to other children due to jurisdictional disputes. Southern Chiefs' Organization (SCO) is building a network of Jordan's Principle Coordinators to support improved educational, health and social outcomes for First Nation children and currently has Jordan's Principle Coordinators at the Specialized Services for Children and Youth (SSCY) Centre and the Children's Hospital (January 2022).

Utilizing a strength-based approach to build confidence, focus on solutions, and engage the family, the SCO Jordan's Principle Coordinator will work with educators and families to support First Nation children at the Brandon School Division.

If approved, the SCO Jordan's Principle Coordinator would start work in September. Only status First Nation students and families can receive service from Jordan's Principal. SCO has almost all First Nations in Manitoba but does not include Sioux Valley.

Trustees asked questions for clarification.

C. Our Journey Event: Indigenous Student Graduation

Mr. Jon Zilkey, Assistant Superintendent, provided the following information regarding this event:

- Our Journey is an Indigenous student graduation celebration that will take place on May 25, 2022 (5:00 p.m. to 9:00 p.m.) at the Riverbank Discovery Centre grounds.
- Indigenous graduates from Brandon University, Assiniboine Community College, and Brandon School Division will be honoured.
- Members of the Brandon School Division Board of Trustees and Senior Administration are invited to attend.
- The RSVP deadline is May 12.

D. Sub-Committee Reports

- Friends of Education Fund Committee – April 20, 2022 – Reviewed by Trustee Foley

Respectfully submitted,

C. Ekenna