



BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION

May 19, 2023

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

TO BE HELD TUESDAY, May 23, 2023
7:00 P.M. (Public)

VINCENT MASSEY HIGH SCHOOL

715 MCDIARMID DRIVE, BRANDON, MANITOBA

D. Labossiere
Secretary-Treasurer

AGENDA

1.00 AGENDA/MINUTES:

1.01 Approval of Agenda

1.02 Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meetings

- a) Board Meeting, May 8, 2023.
Adopt.

2.00 IN CAMERA DISCUSSION

2.01 Student Issues

- Reports
- Trustee Inquiries

2.02 Personnel Matters

- Reports
- a) Staffing Activity Report

- Trustee Inquiries

2.03 Property Matters/Tenders

- Reports
- Trustee Inquiries

2.04 Board Operations

- Reports
- Trustee Inquiries

3.00 PRESENTATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

3.01 Presentations for Information

3.02 Communications for Information

3.03 Communications for Action

- a) Correspondence was received from Danae Heaman, Recording Secretary, CUPE Local 737, May 7, 2023, addressed to Mr. Denis Labossiere, Secretary-Treasurer, requesting permission for Jamie Rose, School Bus Driver/Utility Worker, Maintenance and Transportation, to be absent from his workplace three days per week from September 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024. CUPE Local 737 will reimburse the Brandon School Division for loss of wages, benefits, etc.
Refer Motions.
- b) Correspondence received in response to the delegation on May 8, 2023, by Ms. Lorraine Hackenschmidt requesting a committee to be established to review books in the Brandon School Division libraries.

As of Friday, May 19, 2023, at 12:00 p.m., 289 emails/letters were received at the Division Office. Of the 289 emails/letters received, there were six (6) responses in support of forming a committee to review books in the Brandon School Division libraries. Below is a summary of the responses received supporting and opposing the information provided by the delegation.

These numbers underestimate the total number of letters/emails received, both those supporting and opposing the delegation. This is due to the fact that emails were sent inconsistently; that is some were sent only to the Division Office, some were sent to the Division Office and Trustees, some were sent to all Trustees, some were sent to one Trustee, some were sent to multiple Trustees, but not all, etc. Nevertheless, by far the preponderance of communications were in opposition to the delegation.

Supporting the Delegation

- I am reaching out in full support, standing firm in solidarity with the kind courageous woman who presented to the board regarding banning books from the schools' libraries.
- Please take the time to go through the books, many are absolutely vulgar and have no place in education. Boundaries must be put in place!!!!
- I fully support banning books! And I thank those trustees who will vote in favour of doing so as well!!
- Hoping and praying long and often! Please stand for what is right and ban the books
- I truly believe that there's a concerning number of books that should NOT be available for small kids.
- I do support the idea of creating a committee to review those books.
- As a parent we expect our children to be educated in school, meaning: math, science, ELA, and history. The school has no right in pushing sexual education on children especially without any parental consent.

- The lady who gave the delegation at the BSD on the May 8th meeting has it 100% correct. You as a trustee need to consider the criminal code regarding child pornography laws, section 163.1 of Canada's Criminal Code.
- As a Brandon resident taxpayer, I give my support for Lorraine's request for a committee to be formed to review, in detail, the books she cited. Based on the little she read during her presentation, a decision to keep these books in the schools' libraries may not be made in good moral conscience, let alone in consideration of child pornography laws contained in section 163.1 of Canada's Criminal Code.
- We need to ensure the resources in our schools' libraries adhere to what our kids should be learning at school -- age-appropriate reading, writing, math, spelling, and life skills. The availability of anything that at all sexualizes children of any age is troubling and has no place in the libraries/classrooms.

Opposing the Delegation

➤ **Banning books:**

- As the educational authority of our city, it is your duty to make sure our kids are represented and supported and removing books from libraries is not the way to do so. That shows them that they are disposable, that we don't value them and that we will not protect them. That is not the message any school board should want to send to children of an already marginalized group.
- Banning books that help children learn about their physical, mental, and emotional health is the wrong move. BSD should not be encouraging bigots, but instead encouraging children to learn and cultivate reason.
- Libraries enhance accessibility of so many fundamental human freedoms.
- Banning books goes against the fundamental principles of education and free speech. Students should be exposed to diverse ideas and perspectives, even if those ideas challenge our beliefs or values.
- By banning books, you will be agreeing that Librarians, library staff and educators in your own school division are "groomers", "pedophiles" and "indoctrinators" for merely giving students access to information, to books, and to lessons that will help them grow, develop, and think for themselves.
- As the guidelines of the Canadian Federation of Library Associations' Intellectual Freedom Committee state: It is the responsibility of libraries to guarantee and facilitate access to all expressions of knowledge and intellectual activity, including those which some elements of the society may consider to be unconventional, unpopular or unacceptable.
- Look at the societies and regimes in history that have banned books and decide if you want to be lumped in with those terrible and oppressive establishments or stand as a beacon of love and community for all people. Banning books is the first step in a dark path. Please choose the light.
- Books support kids, keep them safe, and let them feel like they aren't alone, so they do not kill themselves. Books can empower, books can enlighten, books cannot change your gender or your sex. Our children are growing up in the world, it is a lazy parent who tries to mould the world instead of moulding the child.

➤ **Censorship is not education:**

- Banning the books that Hackenschmidt mentioned is censorship, plain and simple.
- Representation matters, & that censorship of important content is dangerous and belongs in a totalitarian dictatorship.
- Removing content relating to the LGBTQ+ community brews uncertainty and apprehension in our children and does not aptly prepare them for the world which they will be joining.

- Students need to feel that they are included and safe in the school environment.
 - I am asking the Board of Trustees to do the right thing and ensure that all students can access reading materials that will be a comfort, inspiration, and positive challenge to them as they journey through the Brandon School Division. To deny students this right would be tantamount to, at its best, censorship and, at its worst, a hate crime.
 - Censoring books would counter the Division's legal and ethical responsibility to provide a safe learning environment. We would also ask that disinformation and discrimination are rejected, not applauded.
 - If a parent or guardian has an issue with a book a child is reading, it is their responsibility to address that with their own child in their own home.
 - Stand up for what is right and truly put children and youth first.
 - Promote and enhance a safe and inclusive learning environment, as outlined in Bill 18 The Public Schools Amendment Act (Safe and Inclusive Schools)
 - The selection of books should be the responsibility of the library and that questions that children may have regarding the books should be fielded by their parents and caregivers.
- **LGBTQ+ content:**
- Every child matters, and all children should be able to identify themselves (or family members) in books in classrooms and that means including grade level appropriate books (picture books are an amazing resource) with LGBTQ+ content.
 - Erasing LGBTQ+ people from books is saying that they are lesser people. Representation matters and inclusion saves lives and improves mental health.
 - Reading diversely and seeing different types of people and perspectives is essential for kids and teenagers to become non-hateful adults.
 - School divisions in Manitoba have an ethical responsibility to provide safe spaces for students. This is well-established in both legislation and policy; the Human Rights Code prohibits discrimination based on sexual orientation and gender identity. As well, the Safe and Caring Schools: Respect for Human Diversity Policies emphasizes that schools are responsible for protecting the rights of 2SLGBTQ+ students and families in the services they provide.
 - If books about queerness were successful in making kids queer, then I should be heterosexual given all of the heteronormative content I was exposed to as a child.
 - The points raised by this person are categorically false and represent a grave threat to the health and well-being of 2SLGBTQ+ students and Allie's within the Brandon School Division.
 - These authors who wrote these books are human beings who spilled their love and thought into every page. They are trying to make it accessible for youth to understand themselves and relate to others, as we grow up in a world that is still filled with far too many adults who waste time modelling judgement over prioritizing acceptance and belonging.
- **Follow BSD policies. Policy 1: BSD vision, values, mission, and policies:**
- Respects, honours and protects the rights of each child without discrimination of any kind, irrespective of the child's or his or her parent's or legal guardian's race, national or ethnic origin, religion, language, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, socio- economic status, physical/social/emotional/intellectual ability and beliefs.
 - "The Board of Trustees believes that every child is entitled to a quality education, free from discrimination irrespective of race, national or ethnic origin, religion, language, sex, gender identity, sexual orientation, socio-economic status, physical/social/emotional/intellectual ability and beliefs."

➤ **Trustee Conduct:**

- I am deeply concerned that a Trustee praised the “courage” of Hackenschmidt and her delegation, thereby validating a platform that is grounded in misinformation, discrimination, and censorship.
- Courage is reserved, in my book, for children who struggle with their identity in the face of bullying from classmates and even grandmothers, like Hackenschmidt herself.
- As stated by Chairperson Ross, Trustees are NOT supposed to respond to delegations.
- There was a clear violation of the stated process of board meetings.
- The response of two trustees is even more concerning when one considers Brandon School Division’s own policy concerning human diversity, which states that “All individuals have the right to be treated in all matters solely on the basis of their personal merits,” and that “...our Division is an inclusive community in which staff, students and visitors feel welcomed, accepted, valued and empowered to engage, learn and contribute fully and thus will share their unique viewpoints and life experiences for the benefit of all.” Are these trustees oblivious to the policies held by the very school division that they represent?
- I would like to point out the sheer inappropriateness of a trustee to comment at the end of the presentation. The trustee’s personal opinion on the matter was made completely clear. Individuals that feel this way towards ANY marginalized group in our community should have no place on a committee that makes decisions about our children’s educations and futures.
- Can anyone show up at a meeting and target a community-- one that is protected from discrimination under our human rights code-- in this way? Could someone speak for 15 minutes and use that time to attack any other marginalized group? I find it hard to imagine that you would all sit silently and allow this.
- Contrary to what one member of the Board was quoted in the media as calling “courageous,” the position taken by this delegation is its opposite. Standing up to those who seek to limit knowledge, politicize sexual education and demonize members of the 2SLGTBQIA+ population is the truly courageous move and it’s one I implore the other members of the BSD Board to take. Real courage battles fear – it’s not motivated by it and it doesn’t foment it.

➤ **Inaccurate Information in the Presentation**

- This committee should read that presentation critically, by which I mean using faculties of critical evaluation, as we teach children to do in school.
- *“I speak on behalf of parents and grandparents”*
 - I suspect that you will have seen letters to the editor in the local newspaper that dispute this.
- *“22 countries united to stop Joe Biden imposing LGBT education on children”*
 - This is reported “according to a report by the Center for Family and Human Rights” <https://c-fam.org/> , an organization which advocates a number of conservative-religious values and advocates against a number of evidenced public health policies.
- *“Remove materials that warp innocent minds before their brains mature”*
 - We’ve been down the path of banning books with “vulgar language” when [Catcher in the Rye](#) was considered controversial.

- “Innocent minds” are exposed to murder and suicide in [Romeo and Juliet](#), but there is no evidence that people become murderers or die by suicide because of exposure to William Shakespeare.
- Hackenschmidt identified passages from [Morrison’s novel](#), but omitted Sophocles’ rather famous play about incest: [Oedipus Rex; Oedipus The King](#).
- *“80% of children outgrow trans identification”*
 - This is a largely discredited claim. In practice, this signals that most children who explicitly discuss gender identities – e.g. “I wish I were a boy” will not pursue trans identification. On a similar note, 100% of children who read about Harry Potter outgrow the belief that an owl will deliver news that they are a wizard.
- *“Isn’t this confusing for a child?”*
 - Just as it is difficult to explain the complexities of physics to very young children, so too is it difficult to explain biological truths, such as this scientific fact: The majority of people will have XX or XY chromosomes and from that we identify female and male children; however, a small number of people will have XXX, XXY, X-... and the fact that their bodies exist cannot be denied. For an excellent overview of scientific observation of more than 2 biological sexes, please read any number of resources from biologist Anne Fausto-Sterling. <https://www.annefaustosterling.com/>
- *“False conflation of diversity-affirming “ideologies” with grooming, trafficking, and paedophilia”*
 - There are, however, significant reports of child abuse from Catholic priests and recent reporting of sexual abuse in Canadian hockey clubs. If the proposed line of development is pursued in the name of protecting children, is the next proposal for the BSD that religious demonstration should be banned or school sports eliminated?
 - <https://www.theglobeandmail.com/world/article-widespread-child-abuse-by-catholic-church-members-in-portugal-is-tip/>
 - <https://www.bbc.co.uk/news/world-us-canada-63162248>
- *“Reading is a protective factor for all children, not a risk factor”*
 - We use books to read metaphors and parables and understand different perspectives and imagine what life might be like. We use books to learn to see the possibilities of the world, the light and the shade, the opportunities and the consequences.
 - We use books to escape fear, escape bullies, escape stress, escape poverty, escape loneliness, escape boredom. To find hope, resilience, comfort, wealth, connection, and joy.
 - In parts of the world, girls are not allowed books. Is that where this is headed? Education in Brandon is only for some? Exclude the Others? Haven’t we already learned lessons in Canada about a centralised, dogmatic, racist morality imposed on education? Aren’t we still digging up truths that make us ashamed and heartbroken for dead children who weren’t allowed to be themselves?
<https://www.todayparent.com/family/books/books-to-teach-kids-about-residential-schools/>
 - Hackenschmidt’s proposal may represent the views of certain residents but should be read critically and noted for cherry picking, conspiracy theories, and logical fallacies.

There is overwhelming evidence available from peer-reviewed sources with rigorous methodologies demonstrating the benefits of representing diversity in health, sex, and relationship education for school aged children. Lessons learned in Manitoba, Canada, and internationally about diversity in society, education, and citizenship come at a greater cost to Brandon and community when they are ignored.

Canadian Center for Child Protection

- Having reviewed the public video of the remarks made by Lorraine Hackenschmidt, we want to advise the trustees that the information shared was a gross misuse of C3P's resources.
- Our child rights framework, How we are Failing Children: Changing the Paradigm, specifically addresses the removal of images and videos posted online of children being sexually harmed and abused.
- The information regarding exposure to sexually explicit material was also taken out of context – this information, as noted on our site protectkidsonline.ca, is specific to children coming across adult pornography online.
- C3P does not support or condone the ways in which our resources were misrepresented, and we were deeply troubled to see them used in this way.

South Central Regional Library

- Has been dealing with these same types of delegations this past year, accusing us of promoting pornography and child sexual grooming. If you feel you would like a little more context on this, please feel free to contact me. These people are relentless and you must stand by your policies and give them no ground.
- Please accept this letter as my support for the South Central Regional Library. In the words of the American author Judy Blume: "I believe that censorship grows out of fear, and because fear is contagious, some parents are easily swayed. Book banning satisfies their need to feel in control of their children's lives. This fear is often disguised as moral outrage. They want to believe that if their children don't read about it, their children won't know about it. And if they don't know about it, it won't happen."

The Women's Resource Centre

- The presenter cited numerous sources that are openly anti-LGBT and anti-trans in nature, as well as misrepresented studies on child sexual abuse images and child exploitation online. In doing so, the presenter caused direct harm to the 2SLGBTQ+ community and perpetuated the reach of misinformation and falsehoods around gender and sexuality. We are and remain concerned about the potential implications of this presentation, as well as regarding the seeming support it received from at least one board member.
- Having free and equal access to information is a critical part of learning, and that includes access to all types of books in school libraries. Further, education and access to information are fundamental human rights. Attempting to silence discussion on 2SLGBTQ+ subject matter by removing books from school libraries does not stop children from being curious on those topics, nor will it stop those discussions from happening.

Brandon University Faculty Association

- All for a taskforce to challenge and ban books from the Brandon School Division that include gender, sexuality, and queer content
- We at BUFA denounce all misinformation and patently false rationales for such a task force presented by Hackenschmidt during the Trustee meeting as well as the Trustees who applauded and supported this presentation.

- Central to our constitution and mandate are our commitments to promote, represent, and protect diversity in higher education, which includes the right of social institutions such as schools and libraries to serve all members of the public.
- Our membership supports the rights for young people to read books that represent diverse identities, and we support the freedoms of librarians to build representation in their collections. We stand together with the 2SLGBTQIA+ community in promoting acceptance, inclusion and dignity for all members of our community. We stand in solidarity with our colleagues, the librarians and teachers in our public school system, who work to create a safe and nurturing learning environment for all of our children.

Brandon University – Gender & Women’s Studies Program

- We invite trustees and any others who were swayed by the delegation at the May 8 meeting to review this material and build their understandings from facts, accurate information, and critical, reasoned analysis. To help defend against and minimize such devastating outcomes as those discussed in these reports, 2SLGBTQIA+ representation offered in books can help at-risk students find the understanding, acceptance, and inclusion necessary to thrive as successful students and empowered individuals.
- Burczycka, Marta. “Students’ experiences of discrimination based on gender, gender identity or sexual orientation at postsecondary schools in the Canadian provinces.” Released September 15, 2020. Catalogue no. 85-005-X ISSN 1925-3427. <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/pub/85-005-x/2020001/article/00001-eng.htm>
- Casey, Bill. “The Health of LGBTQIA2 Communities in Canada. Report of the Standing Committee on Health.” Released June 2019. House of Commons. <https://www.ourcommons.ca/Content/Committee/421/HESA/Reports/RP10574595/hesarp28/hesarp28-e.pdf>
- Jaffray, Brianna. “Experiences of violent victimization and unwanted sexual behaviours among gay, lesbian, bisexual and other sexual minority people, and the transgender population, in Canada, 2018.” Released September 9, 2020. Catalogue no. 85-002-X, ISSN 1209-6393. <https://www150.statcan.gc.ca/n1/en/catalogue/85-002-X202000100009>

The Manitoba Teachers Society

- The Manitoba Teachers’ Society (MTS), representing 16,600 public school educators across the province, stands in firm opposition to the banning of reading material from schools and libraries.
- We acknowledge that parents have every right to make determinations about their own child’s reading material, however they do not have the right to determine that for others.
- A ban as such as the one proposed by the presenter and their supports has fundamental safety implications for public school teachers.
- Students count on schools to be safe places, especially in the case of 2SLGBTQ+ students who are especially vulnerable. Books that reflect all students and all families are essential to students’ personal growth, citizenship and allyship. Removing library books that reflect a child’s identity is like erasing that child, which has devastating implications.

Refer Business Arising.

4.00 REPORT OF SENIOR ADMINISTRATION

- From Report of Senior Administration

- a) Review Report of Senior Administration – May 23, 2023.

5.00 GOVERNANCE MATTERS**5.01 Reports of Committees****5.02 Delegations and Petitions (Max. 15 minutes)**

- 1) **Jason Foster**, Brandon resident, "Speaking as a regular student of the Brandon School Division and my experiences as a transgender, and how media/books have shaped that."
- 2) **Melanie Sucha**, President, Manitoba Library Association, " We wish to speak in response to the request to remove and the future censorship of books with content focused on gender identity, sexual health, and sexual orientation from Brandon School Division school libraries."
- 3) **Penni Jones**, Brandon resident, "Why there should not be a committee formed to look at banning certain books in the school libraries".
- 4) **Allyson Wronowski**, Brandon resident, "The integral role libraries have on my life as an ELA teacher and as a mother of two middle years students".
- 5) **Dr. David Docherty**, President and Vice-Chancellor, Brandon University, "The call for censorship of children's literature".
- 6) **Deborah Caplan**, Brandon resident, "I would like to speak against the plan to ban books on sexuality. I would like to give my opinion as a family physician".
- 7) **Robin Stewart**, Brandon resident, "The importance of students having access to books, regardless of the content".
- 8) **Laura Crookshanks**, Brandon Pride and Brandon & Area PFLAG, "Suggestions for how to move on from here to start the healing process and provide services to all Brandon School Division students, their families and allies, as per the Brandon School Division Mission Statement".
- 9) **Jayvis Eisener**, Brandon resident, "The contemporary and historical reasoning behind the concerns to ban books".
- 10) **Teresa Shurb**, Brandon resident, "The proposed banning of some books from the Brandon School Division".
- 11) **Dr. Alysha Farrell**, Associate Professor, Faculty of Education, Brandon University, "The role of the public school is to give all children an equitable chance to live a good life and to build communities that value the wellbeing of all members".
- 12) **Frank Jones**, Brandon resident, "My personal opposition to the potential book banning in our school division".
- 13) **Erin Hildebrand**, Brandon resident, "Banning books takes away representation for lgbtq+ people, and how it can be detrimental for kids not to have characters and role models that they can identify with".

- 14) **Tammy Tutkaluk**, President, Brandon Teachers' Association, "Banning of Books in Brandon School Division".
- 15) **Don Cuggy**, Brandon resident, "How books are chosen for school libraries and why inclusion is so vital for students of all ages".
- 16) **John Roozendaal**, Brandon resident, "Thoughts on the May 8th delegation presentation regarding materials in our School Division libraries and the need to find common ground on matters concerning our children".
- 17) **Dr. Gautam Srivastava**, Brandon University Faculty Association (BUFA), "Against the proposal for a review committee for library content in Brandon School Division".
- 18) **Marge Trollope**, Brandon resident, "Response to book banning".
- 19) **Karli Jones**, Brandon resident, "Opposition to the presentation "transgender books in our school libraries" and give the perspective of an LGBTQ+ individual/ parent of a child who will be attending Brandon School Division".
- 20) **Paul Refvik**, Brandon resident, "The importance of 2SLGBTQ+ rights and accessibility to 2SLGBTQ+ literature in schools".
- 21) **Kerri Judd & Marshall Morriseau**, The Sexuality Education Resource Centre, "SERC Response to Calls to Ban 2SLGBTQ+ and Sexual Education Books".
- 22) **Hudson Schoonbaert & Sierra McTavish, Brandon residents**, "We will be discussing our position as queer individuals on the harm that book banning causes and will cause if it is allowed".
- 23) **Jazmin Davie**, Brandon resident, "The importance of having LGBTQ2SIA + literature in school libraries, and explain that these texts do not expose children to predation and sexual abuse".
- 24) **Lisa Robson**, Gender & Women's Studies Program, Brandon University, "The recent proposal to implement a process of book banning in Brandon School Division".
- 25) **Eren Oleson**, Brandon resident, "the importance of maintaining free and open information in the school system, and my own experiences having gone to school through the BSD".
- 26) **Tara Leach**, Brandon resident, "The delegation that came forward with a proposal to set up a committee to review and potentially remove books that address gender and sexuality".
- 27) **Mike Theriault**, Brandon resident, "I think it is a good idea to start a committee to remove these inappropriate books and to discuss the accountability and how those books got into our libraries in the first place, and any other LGBT policy that parents may also be unaware of".
- 28) **Shayna Dubnick**, Brandon resident, "The call for the removal of books with 2SLGBTQIA+ content and why I disagree that this should happen".

- 29) **Mandy Swidersky**, Brandon resident, "The suggested LGBTQ+ book review and sharing how these books are beneficial to people of all ages".
- 30) **Joan Lawrence**, Brandon resident, "Response to Book Banning".
- 31) **Loni Powell**, Brandon resident, "Response to 'Transgender books in our school libraries' presentation and the breach of the Brandon School division code of conduct".

5.03 Business Arising

- From Previous Delegation

- a) Ms. Lorraine Hackenschmidt, Brandon constituent, "transgender books in our school libraries" – setting up a committee of parents and trustees to examine the LGBTQ books in our school libraries and remove those with vulgar language, description of sexual acts, and those that are pornographic.

- From Board Agenda

- MSBA Issues

- a) e-bulletin – May 17, 2023 (Appendix A)

5.04 Public Inquiries (Max. 15 Mins)

5.05 Motions

37/2023 That the request of CUPE Local 737, that the President of the Association, Mr. Jamie Rose, be seconded from the Division in the 2023-2024 school year for three (3) days per week from September 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 for union purposes as per Article 18.04 (a) of the Collective Agreement be approved, subject to the Division being reimbursed by the Association for all salary and benefit costs for the period of the secondment.

38/2023 That the Promissory Note LTPS0579 for the purpose of borrowing the sum of One Million Seven Hundred Six Thousand Three Hundred Dollars (\$1,706,300) to meet partial costs of the following:

<u>School</u>	<u>Project</u>
Green Acres School	Grooming Room
JR Reid School	Grooming Room
JR Reid School	Steam Boiler Replacement

be approved.

5.06 Bylaws

By-Law 1/2023

3rd Reading

That By-law 1/2023 being a by-law providing for the borrowing of monies upon the credit of the said School Division to meet current expenses for the fiscal year, July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 be now read for the third time and taken as ready, is hereby approved.

5.07 Giving of Notice

5.08 Trustee Inquiries

6.00 ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a) NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING/COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – 7:30 p.m. (public), Monday, June 12, 2023, Boardroom.

Additional Information:

- Members of the public wishing to make a presentation, a delegation or a petition are asked to contact the office of the Secretary-Treasurer, at info@bsd.ca, or (204) 729-3114, no later than 12:00 p.m. on the Tuesday prior to the Board meeting.
- We invite everyone to watch live streaming of the Board meetings on our website: <https://www.bsd.ca/page/8192/board-meeting-dates-live-streaming>

7.00 ADJOURNMENT



BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING/COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, THE BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION, HELD IN THE J. L. MILNE BOARDROOM, ADMINISTRATION OFFICE, 1031 - 6TH STREET, BRANDON, MANITOBA, AT 6:00 P.M., MONDAY, May 8, 2023.

TRUSTEES PRESENT: L. Ross, Chairperson
J. Murray, Vice-Chairperson (by phone)
C. Ekenna
K. Fallis
B. Foley
D. Ross
B. Sieklicki

ALSO PRESENT: D. Labossiere, Secretary-Treasurer
M. Gustafson, Superintendent/CEO
S. Gilleshammer, Assistant Superintendent
J. Zilkey, Assistant Superintendent
M. Smoke-Budach, Recording Secretary
T. Curtis, Live Streaming Video Operator

REGRETS: J. Gobeil

The Chairperson called the In-Camera portion of the meeting to order at 6:01 p.m.

AGENDA

1.00 AGENDA/MINUTES:

1.01 Approval of Agenda

Senior Administration added three (3) items for In-Camera.

Mr. Ekenna – Mr. Foley
That the agenda be approved as amended.
Carried.

1.02 Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meetings

a) The Minutes of the Board Meeting held April 24, 2023 were circulated.

Ms. Sieklicki – Mr. Ross
That the Minutes be approved as circulated.
Carried.

2.00 IN CAMERA DISCUSSION (COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE):**2.01 Student Issues**

- Reports
- Trustee Inquiries

2.02 Personnel Matters

- Reports
 - a) Staffing Activity Report was presented.
 - b) Mr. Mathew Gustafson, Superintendent/CEO, provided information on a Personnel Matter.

- Trustee Inquiries

2.03 Property Matters/Tenders

- Reports
- Trustee Inquiries

2.04 Board Operations

- Reports
 - a) Mr. Denis Labossiere, Secretary-Treasurer, provided information on two (2) Board Matters and received feedback from the Board.

- Trustee Inquiries

Mr. Ekenna – Mr. Ross

That the Committee of the Whole In-Camera do now resolve into Board. (7:19 p.m.)

Carried.

The Chairperson called the Public portion of the meeting to order at 7:36 p.m. with a traditional heritage acknowledgement.

3.00 PRESENTATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS:**3.01 Presentations For Information****3.02 Communications For Information****3.03 Communications For Action**

- a) Correspondence was received from Trustee Caroline Cramer advising the Board of Trustees that she will be resigning from her position effective May 1, 2023.
Refer Motions.
- b) Correspondence was received from Sue Mcnamee, Executive Assistant, Brandon Teachers' Association, April 28, 2023, addressed to Mr. Mathew Gustafson, Superintendent/CEO, advising that Ms. Tammy Tutkaluk has been acclaimed as the President of the Brandon Teachers' Association (BTA) for the term beginning July 1, 2023, to June 30, 2024. The BTA formally requests that Ms. Tutkaluk be seconded full-time, with salary and benefits to be paid by the Association. (Appendix A)
Refer Motions.

4.00 REPORT OF SENIOR ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Mathew Gustafson, Superintendent/CEO, provided highlights on the following items from the May 8, 2023 Report of Senior Administration:

A) Administrative Information

- Celebrations:
 - 2023 Skills Manitoba Competition – Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School – Medal Recipients
 - Outstanding New Teacher Award – Jessica Canning – Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School
- Information Items:
 - Correspondence from Manitoba Education and Early Childhood Learning
 - Music Month in Manitoba
- Presentations:
 - Cyber Security – A. Kean
 - Brandon School Division Continuous Improvement Video Series – M. Gustafson

Mr. Murray – Ms. Fallis

That the May 8, 2023 Report of Senior Administration be received and filed.

Carried.

5.00 GOVERNANCE MATTERS

5.01 Reports of Committees

- a) Education and Community Relations Committee Meeting
The written report of the Education and Community Relations Committee meeting held on April 24, 2023 was circulated.

Mr. Ekenna – Mr. Foley

That the Report be received and filed.

Carried.

- b) Finance and Facilities Committee Meeting
The written report of the Finance and Facilities Committee meeting held on April 24, 2023 was circulated.

Ms. Fallis – Mr. Ross

That the Report be received and filed.

Carried.

- c) Personnel and Policy Committee Meeting
The written report of the Personnel and Policy Committee meeting held on April 24, 2023 was circulated.

Mr. Sieklicki – Ms. Fallis

That the Report be received and filed.

Carried.

5.02 Delegations and Petitions

- a) Ms. Lorraine Hackenschmidt, Brandon constituent, “transgender books in our school libraries” – setting up a committee of parents and trustees to examine the LGBTQ books in our school libraries and remove those with vulgar language, description of sexual acts, and those that are pornographic.

5.03 Business Arising

- From Previous Delegation

- From Board Agenda

- MSBA Matters

- a) e-bulletin – May 3, 2023

5.04 Public Inquiries (max. 15 minutes)

5.05 Motions

31/2023 Ms. Fallis – Ms. Sieklicki
 That the following tuition fees be approved for the 2023-2024 year:

Transfer Fee	\$ 1,300
Residual Fee	\$ 5,837
Non-Resident (First Nations)	\$13,400
International Student Fees	\$13,400

Carried.

32/2023 Mr. Ross – Mr. Murray
 That the Board of Trustees accept the resignation of Caroline Cramer, Trustee, Ward Two, effective May 1, 2023.

Carried.

33/2023 Ms. Sieklicki – Ms. Fallis
 That the request of the Brandon Teachers’ Association, that the President of the Association, Ms. Tammy Tutkaluk, be seconded from the Division from July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 on a full-time basis be approved, subject to the Division being reimbursed by the Association for all salary and benefit costs for the period of the secondment and that the terms and conditions of this leave of absence are in accordance with Article 17.02 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Carried.

Late Motions:

34/2023 Mr. Murray – Mr. Ross
 That the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) between the Brandon School Division and Assiniboine Community College (ACC) to facilitate the delivery of ACC’s Comprehensive Health Care Aide (CHCA) program at Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School (CPRSS) for the 2023-2024 Academic/School year be approved; and that the Chairperson and Secretary-Treasurer be and are hereby authorized to affix their signatures and the seal of the Division thereto.

Carried.

35/2023 Mr. Foley – Mr. Ekenna
That the low tender from CW2 Construction in the amount of \$291,885.78 (excluding GST) for the Green Acres School - Grooming Room project be accepted.

Carried.

36/2023 Mr. Ekenna – Mr. Foley
That the low tender from MNK Mechanical Services Ltd. in the amount of \$2,498,005.71 (excluding GST) for the JR Reid School - Steam Boiler System Replacement project be accepted.

Carried.

5.06 Bylaws

Bylaw 1/2023

2nd Reading:

Mr. Ross

That By-law 1/2023 being a by-law providing for the borrowing of monies upon the credit of the said School Division to meet current expenses for the fiscal year, July 1, 2023 to June 30, 2024 be now read for the second time, having been first read on April 24, 2023.

5.07 Giving of Notice

5.08 Trustee Inquiries

Trustee Sieklicki inquired if there is an ability to participate in Board meetings via video conferencing instead of teleconferencing when trustees are unable to attend in person. The Board referred the matter to Senior Administration to investigate. Senior Administration will advise the Board at a future meeting on the time required to adequately research the feasibility of this request.

6.00 ANNOUNCEMENTS

a) NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING/COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE – 7:30 p.m. (public),
Tuesday, May 23, 2023, Boardroom.

7.00 ADJOURNMENT

Ms. Fallis – Ms. Sieklicki

That the Board do now adjourn (8:52 p.m.)

Carried.

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer



BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION

Report of Senior Administration to the Board of Trustees

May 23, 2023

A. Administrative Information

I. CELEBRATIONS

II. SUSPENSIONS

<u>GRADE LEVEL</u>	<u>NUMBER OF STUDENTS SUSPENDED</u>	<u>CATEGORY: INAPPROPRIATE BEHAVIOUR</u>	<u>CATEGORY: ASSAULTIVE BEHAVIOUR</u>	<u>CATEGORY: DRUGS AND ALCOHOL</u>
K-8	14	3	5	6
9-12	17	14	3	1
		possession of weapons - 2 vaping - 2	use of weapons - 2	

Note: A suspension may involve more than one category.

III. COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS AND SCHOOL VISITS

The following community connections and school visits were made by Senior Administration:

- May 3, 2023 – Riverview School staff meeting – Mathew Gustafson
- May 4, 2023 – Facilities Office staff meeting – Mathew Gustafson
- May 4, 2023 – Gail Cullen, Executive Director, Brandon Friendship Centre – Mathew Gustafson
- May 4, 2023 – Joint Meeting – Brandon School Division and City of Brandon – Mathew Gustafson, Denis Labossiere, Jon Zilkey, Susan Gilleshammer
- May 5, 2023 – Canadian School Mental Health Leadership Network Steering Committee meeting – Susan Gilleshammer

“Accepting the Challenge”

- May 8, 2023 – Meeting with Prairie Mountain Health – Susan Gilleshammer
- May 8, 2023 – Meeting with St. Amant – Susan Gilleshammer
- May 9, 2023 – Anne Saftich and Leta Potter, IBM – Mathew Gustafson
- May 9, 2023 – The Royal Canadian Artillery Museum (RCA) Board Meeting – Mathew Gustafson
- May 9, 2023 – Manitoba Association of School Business Officials (MASBO) Secretary Treasurer meeting – Denis Labossiere
- May 9, 2023 – Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School – Jon Zilkey
- May 11, 2023 – St. Augustine School – Jon Zilkey
- May 11, 2023 – École New Era School – Jon Zilkey
- May 12, 2023 – Tammy Tutkaluk, President, Brandon Teacher’s Association – Mathew Gustafson
- May 12, 2023 – Jamie Rose, President, CUPE Local 737 – Mathew Gustafson
- May 16, 2023 – Principal Learning Network Co-Lead Meeting with Dr. Steven Katz – Mathew Gustafson
- May 16, 2023 – Honouring the Good Road Gala – Mathew Gustafson, Jon Zilkey, Susan Gilleshammer

IV. INFORMATION ITEMS

V. PRESENTATIONS

B. Business Arising for Board Action

I. INFORMATION FOR DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

1. STAFFING ACTIVITY REPORT

For InformationJ. Zilkey

Included in the agenda package for the Board of Trustees is the Staffing Activity Report, a listing of resignations and employment approved by the Superintendent/Chief Executive Officer and Secretary-Treasurer since the last meeting.

Senior Administration respectfully submits this report for your consideration, action, and information.

**Mathew Gustafson
Superintendent/Chief Executive Officer**



e-bulletin

May 17, 2023

APPENDIX A

191 Provencher Blvd. Winnipeg, MB R2H 0G4
Phone: 204-233-1595 Toll Free: 1-800-262-8836

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SKILLS CANADA COMPETITION

The countdown is on for the 2023 Skills Canada National Competition (SCNC), happening on May 25 and 26 at the RBC Convention Centre in Winnipeg.



The SCNC is an ideal event for discovering new and exciting careers for tomorrow's workforce. It is the country's only national, multi-trade and technology competition for students and apprentices. Each year, more than 550 competitors from all regions of Canada come to SCNC to participate in over 40 skilled trade and technology competitions.

At SCNC, thousands of students visit the competition floor and discover the exciting and rewarding careers available in the skilled trades and technologies through interactive Try-A-Trade® and Technology activities by visiting exhibitor booths and engaging with industry professionals. For more information and to register a school to attend, visit the SCNC [website](#).

SPEAKING OF TRADES

In Manitoba, the High School Apprenticeship Program (HSAP) is a pathway for students in grades ten to twelve to explore an apprenticeable trade while completing their academic graduation requirements. It provides students with practical training and real-world experience while employers fill key roles and gain access to impactful support programs.



This program is an extension and enhancement of regular apprenticeship training while being an integration of school and the workplace. This means it provides students with high school credits that can be used towards continued apprenticeship training after high school graduation. Learn more [online](#).

MSBA NEEDS YOU!

MSBA is looking for a volunteer to fill one vacancy on the resolutions and policy committee. This committee is responsible for the association's policy development process and seeks to enhance the association's advocacy work on behalf of member school boards. If you are interested in volunteering for this committee or would like more information, please [email](#) MSBA Executive Assistant, Andrea Kehler.



SUMMER RISKS

Summer's almost here, and while the warmer days are welcome, their sometimes-companions—severe weather and increased school vandalism—are not. Check out the Risk Management Best Practices [Bulletin](#) on tornadoes, for some advice on preparing for and keeping safe during summer storms.



As well, our school vandalism prevention program is back again this summer. Residents living near schools in the Winnipeg area are encouraged



to keep an eye open for suspicious activity including graffiti, arson, on-site use of drugs or alcohol, and signs of break and enter. In July and August, incidents can be reported to a dedicated tip-line at **204-231-4556**. The Corps of Commissionaires security company will respond to calls, and a mobile security unit will visit the scene as quickly as possible.

UPDATES TO FRENCH IMMERSION POLICY

The Manitoba government recently shared the contents of the Department of Education's new French immersion [policy](#). The document outlines best practices and expectations for schools that provide bilingual programming to learners whose first language is not French.



Adjustments to the policy include changes to the allowable entry points into the program. Historically, elementary schools have only accepted new pupils into the French Immersion Program at one of three entry points: kindergarten/grade one (early), grade four (middle), or grades six/seven (late). The changes to the program will now allow students to enter French immersion at any grade level, with consideration to their personal motivation, family support, and bilingual abilities. To learn more about the new French immersion policy, visit the government [website](#).

CANADA DENTAL BENEFIT

Do you know any families with children under the age of twelve? They may be eligible to receive the Government of Canada's new interim Canada Dental Benefit to help lower dental costs. Learn more [online](#).



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