

Regina, Saskatchewan
May 25, 2021

At a meeting of the Board of Education of the Regina School Division No. 4 of Saskatchewan, held at 1600 4th Avenue.

Members Present
Mr. Adam Hicks, Chair
Ms. Tara Molson, Vice-Chair
Mrs. Cindy Anderson
Mr. Ted Jaleta
Mrs. Elizabeth Strom
Mrs. Sarah Cummings Truszkowski
Ms. Lacey Weekes

Administration Present
Mr. Greg Enion, Director of Education
Ms. Naomi Mellor, Deputy Director, Division Services/CFO
Mr. Darren Boldt, Deputy Director, Student Achievement/School Services

Mrs. Elizabeth Strom acknowledged the location of every Regina Public School and the School Division Office on Treaty 4 land.

The Chairperson called the meeting to order and asked for a motion to adopt the agenda. It was requested that the following items be added: *Pride Parade* and *Capital Discussion*.

Adoption of Agenda
Motion by Mr. Ted Jaleta:

That, with the additions requested, the agenda be adopted.

Motion Carried.

Declaration of Any Conflicts
The Chairperson asked if there were any conflicts of interest to be declared. None were reported.

Approving of Minutes
The Chairperson then asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on May 4, 2021.

Motion by Mrs. Elizabeth Strom:

That the minutes of the Board meeting of May 4, 2021, be approved as distributed.

Motion Carried.

Diversity Steering Committee Update
An update on the Diversity Steering Committee had been distributed. Mr. Jason Coleman, Superintendent, Student Achievement/School Services, provided additional information, including how the Committee has created broad areas of work supporting areas of diversity across the Division, research and surveys that will suggest and design professional development opportunities, and recommendations on procedures and delivery concerning the areas of work and arising topics with diversity. The terms of reference for the Steering Committee, as well as for the Sexual Diversity Advisory Committee and Anti-Racism/Anti-Oppression Advisory Committee, were outlined, and one-time spending for the 2021/22 school year was explained. Regina Public School employees, Ms. Krystal McPherson, Ms. Keilyn Howie, and Ms. Danette Exner, outlined

Chair	CFO

their reasons for wanting to join the Steering Committee, each sharing personal and professional experiences with racism, sexism, discrimination, intolerance, and inequity. Mr. Coleman and the Committee members responded to questions relative to further Board supports, committee membership diversity, survey rollout, range of representation, and required training. In view of time, it was agreed that further questions would be emailed to Mr. Coleman for response. Board members expressed appreciation for the poignant words and essential work being done by the Committee, and thanked the Committee members for sharing their truths, observations and wisdom.

COVID-19 Update

Mr. Greg Enion, Director of Education, provided a COVID-19 update, highlighting that, based on information received earlier in the day, the Medical Health Officers are feeling more positive with the Province’s numbers trending downward. He further advised that the Division continues to work with the Regina Exhibition Association in hopes of holding outdoor grade 12 graduation ceremonies at Mosaic Stadium.

Mr. Darren Boldt, Deputy Director, Student Achievement/School Services, advised that vaccinations in high schools will begin on May 31st, with availability in the evenings for community members and families with elementary students. He noted that the Division will be hosting a virtual “Ask the Expert” on May 27th for any school that wants to participate.

Mr. Enion and Mr. Boldt responded to questions relative to student vaccination consent, student privacy, scheduling, rapid antigen test kits, and recording of the “Ask the Expert” event. Mr. Boldt advised that he would forward key messages to the Board members relative to the student vaccination process.

Organizational Culture and Diversity Committee

Ms. Lacey Weekes provided a brief summary of the Organizational Culture and Diversity Committee meeting, held virtually on May 11, 2021. She advised that the Committee received updates on the Mental Health and Wellness Working Group, the Gender and Sexual Diversity and the Anti-Racist/Anti-Oppression Advisory Committees, and the 2021/22 training rollout. She advised that she would be presenting a motion later in the meeting to accept and support the work of the Steering Committee and for Pride Month. She commented that, during the Summer, the Committee would begin initial work on suggested guidelines and process of the review of the School Resource Officer program. She advised of further updates provided, including the work completed on recycling and waste management since the 2018 presentation to the Board, and the focus on French Immersion teacher recruitment. Relative to the Board self-evaluation and the Director’s annual evaluation, she noted that surveys for both would be sent out prior to the end of June. Ms. Weekes further advised of a discussion relative to the selection of Shared Values Recognition Program recipients, and a COVID-19 update provided by Mr. Greg Enion, Director of Education.

Preventative Maintenance and Renewal Plan

Information regarding the Ministry of Education’s Preventative Maintenance and Renewal Program had been distributed. Mr. Jared Kleisinger, Superintendent, Educational Facilities, highlighted amendments to the 2020/21 and 2021/22 plans and outlined plans between 2023 and 2025, including the focus on preserving the assets and protecting the investments within the Division’s portfolio of facilities into the future, a new focus on energy conservation initiatives, a continued focus on building security, and ensuring the facilities are safe and accessible and meet the current standards of the day. He and Ms. Naomi Mellor, Deputy Director, Division Services/CFO, responded to

Chair	CFO

questions relative to air filtration systems, sidewalks, the Martin Collegiate 10-year plan, and risks other than pricing variances.

Motion by Mrs. Elizabeth Strom:

That the amended 2020-2021 and 2021-2022 PMR plans and the three-year 2023 to 2025 PMR plan be approved for submission to the Ministry of Education.

Motion Carried.
(Unanimously)

Trustee
Remuneration

Ms. Tara Molson presented the motion of which she had given notice at the May 4, 2021 Board meeting.

Motion by Ms. Tara Molson:

WHEREAS Regina Public Schools’ mission is to instill the value of knowledge, the dignity of effort, and the worth of the individual;

AND WHEREAS we, as a Board, understand and reflect on the unprecedented times we are currently facing and will continue to face in the months to come;

AND WHEREAS the Provincial Government and the Division have identified additional resources are required to address the impacts on learning due to the COVID-19 pandemic;

BE IT RESOLVED that Regina Public School Trustees forgo the annual 2% remuneration payment increase with an expiry date of June 30th, 2022.

Motion Carried.

[Mrs. Cindy Anderson, Ms. Tara Molson, Mrs. Elizabeth Strom, Mrs. Sarah Cummings Truszkowski, and Ms. Lacey Weekes supported the motion; Mr. Adam Hicks and Mr. Ted Jaleta opposed the motion.]

In support of her motion, Ms. Molson advised that Regina Public Schools is currently facing unprecedented times and stated that these funds could be reinvested into programming for students to lessen the academic impacts of the COVID-19 pandemic.

Ms. Tara Molson assumed the chair.

Mr. Adam Hicks advised that the Board is managing the 2021/22 budget, in contrast to 2017 where positions and resources had to be cut. He noted that the \$4,000 of trustee remuneration amounts to 0.001% of the Division’s budget. He further stated that the Board’s role is that of governance and expressed his view that Board members should be focusing their time and energy on advocacy and other activities.

Mr. Hicks resumed the chair.

Ms. Molson replied that funds should be going towards students and administration, not elected trustees.

Mr. Ted Jaleta conveyed his assessment of the motion, noting that school divisions are publicly funded and commented that the Board should, instead, be advocating for more funding. He further noted that the \$4,000 in trustee remuneration is minimal in comparison to the Division’s overall budget.

Chair	CFO

Support for the School Division Special Committee on Diversity

Ms. Lacey Weekes presented a motion of which she had given notice to the Board members on May 18, 2021.

Motion by Ms. Lacey Weekes:

WHEREAS Regina Public School’s mission is to instill the value of knowledge, the dignity of effort, and the worth of the individual; and

WHEREAS our shared value statements unite us: I belong, I want to know, I am responsible, and I respect;

BE IT RESOLVED that the Regina Public School Board supports the School Division Special Committee on Diversity and its Advisory Committees; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Regina Public School Board supports professional development for all staff around topics related to gender and sexual diversity.

Motion Carried.
(Unanimously)

In support of her motion, Ms. Weekes advised that clause 1.5.1. of Board Policy 8, *Committees of the Board*, states that the Organizational Culture and Diversity Committee is to “receive regular reports and be appraised of...required training and adequate support for all staff,” and is to “review, monitor, and report outcomes of...the Diversity Committee.” She also noted that the Regina Board of Education recognizes that every student, staff and community member has equal value as prescribed under the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Saskatchewan Human Rights Code, and that diversity makes us stronger. Board members expressed support for the motion.

Ms. Weekes responded to questions relative to anti-racism and anti-oppression professional development, which was covered in the motion made by Mr. Ted Jaleta in February 2021, and professional development recommended by the Diversity Committee. Mr. Greg Enion, Director of Education, responded to a question relative to any existing gender and sexual diversity professional development.

Capital Projects Update

An update on current and future capital projects had been distributed.

Ms. Delaine Clyne, Supervisor, Policy, Planning and Research, and Mr. Jared Kleisinger, Superintendent, Educational Facilities, provided information on the joint-use school projects for Argyle/St. Pius X, Harbour Landing West, and Imperial/McDermid/St. Peter/St. Michael, the South East joint-use facility, Balfour Collegiate underpinning, and relocatables for Gladys McDonald, Dr. A. E. Perry, and École Wascana Plains Schools. Ms. Clyne, Mr. Kleisinger, and Mr. Dan Van Buekenhout, Manager, Capital Projects, responded to questions relative to the Harbour Landing West timeframe, potential partnership opportunities for the Imperial/McDermid/St. Peter/St. Michael project, Balfour Collegiate engineering reports and monitoring, the South East joint-use facility Memorandum of Understanding, and the total relocatable allotment for École Wascana Plains. Mr. Greg Enion, Director of Education, responded to a question relative to the potential future use of the former Dieppe School facility. Board members expressed appreciation for the update.

Facility Joint-Use Agreement with City of Regina

Information regarding a revised Facility Joint-Use Agreement with the City of Regina had been distributed. Mr. Darren Boldt, Deputy Director, Student Achievement/School Services, provided additional information, noting that the original terms of the 1983 agreement have become problematic due to many factors, including, but not limited to, privacy legislation, budget pressures, new facilities, and staff turnover, which, in turn, have a negative impact on access to facilities over time. He advised that discussions have been ongoing with representatives from the City of Regina and the Regina Catholic School

Chair	CFO

Division to establish mutually agreeable terms to a new joint-use agreement. He noted that the revised terms will be presented to City Council on May 26th. Mr. Boldt responded to questions relative to an annual review of the agreement, simplified booking procedures, the identification of suitable activities that will be allowed, cleaning arrangements, and priority usage. Board members expressed appreciation for the revised agreement.

Mental Health Symposium Update

Ms. Lacey Weekes advised that she has contacted the Province’s Strategic Policy and Planning Branch to request the recording of the Mental Health and Well-being Symposium, held on May 14, 2021, and that, once received, she would forward same to the Board members.

Canadian French Immersion Staffing Update

Mrs. Elizabeth Strom advised that she watched a virtual roundtable discussion on the shortage of French teachers in Canada, hosted collaboratively by the Canadian School Boards Association, the National Federation of Francophone School Boards, the Canadian Association of School System Administrators, and Canadian Heritage. She advised of the establishment of a national database for school boards to use in helping address the shortage of French language teachers in English school divisions and Francophone teachers in French school divisions. Mr. Darren Boldt, Deputy Director, Student Achievement/School Services, noted that the Division’s French Immersion staffing for the 2021/22 school year saw more qualified teachers than anticipated. Mr. Adam Hicks requested that Mrs. Strom forward information regarding the database to Mr. Boldt so that he could provide same to the Supervisor of Human Resources.

Pride Parade

Mrs. Sarah Cummings Truszkowski noted that June is Pride Month and inquired if the Board members wanted to participate in the virtual Pride Parade on June 12th by submitting a video. Mr. Adam Hicks proposed that he and Mr. Greg Enion, Director of Education, would develop a plan.

Planned Agenda Items

For Board member information, Mr. Adam Hicks noted the planned agenda items currently set for the June 15, 2021 Board meeting, including Recognition of Aleana Young, former Trustee, Harbour Landing West School Update, COVID-19 Update, Policy, Governance and Sustainability Planning Committee, Strategic Engagement and Advocacy Committee, 2021/22 Budget Submission, Third Quarter Financial Report, Third Quarter Transportation Report, Semi-Annual Human Resources Report, Semi-Annual Report on Administrative Procedure Updates (information only), and Shared Values Recognition Program Recipients (information only).

Information – Subdivision Reports

Mrs. Sarah Cummings Truszkowski advised that, since her last report, she has met online with both the Walker and École Connaught School Community Councils. She noted that Walker School is fundraising for an outdoor covered learning space. She also commented that, with in-class learning back in place, École Connaught Community School has been proceeding with several fire and lockdown drills, is organizing many fun activities for Pride Month, and has planted their community garden, with students having the chance to take part in seed bombing.

Ms. Lacey Weekes advised that she met with the École Elsie Mironuck School Community Council, and outlined their Values Program where, each month, a different value or tipi teaching is highlighted and, if a student demonstrates the value, they are entered into a draw for a prize. She noted that, thanks to the School Community Council, the prizes for this month are electric scooters. She

Chair	CFO

further advised that the school is using virtual assemblies to engage students in literacy, with one student from each class filmed reading one page of a story, and then combined for the school to watch. She noted that the plan is to continue the practice even after the pandemic restrictions are lifted.

Mrs. Elizabeth Strom extended congratulations to Campbell Collegiate student, Aarsh Shah, on receiving a \$100,000 Schulich Leader Scholarship to study engineering at the University of Calgary in the Fall. She also advised of Grant Road School’s fundraiser, selling gift cards to Cedar Creek Gardens.

Mr. Adam Hicks was pleased to report that the School Division received notification that three Grade 12 students were awarded a Queen’s Diamond Jubilee Scholarship, and two Grade 11 students were awarded a Prince of Wales & Duchess of Cornwall Scholarship.

On behalf of the Board of Education, Mrs. Elizabeth Strom acknowledged that every student, staff and community member has equal value as prescribed under the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Saskatchewan Human Rights Code, noting that diversity makes us stronger.

Closed Session Motion by Mrs. Cindy Anderson:

That we go into closed session in order to consider those matters identified on the meeting agenda for referral to said session.

Motion Carried.

Motion by Ms. Lacey Weekes:

That we rise and report.

Motion Carried.

At the conclusion of closed session, the Committee of the Whole recommended to the Board:

Meeting
Adjournment
Time

- 1) That the May 25, 2021 Board meeting be authorized to continue beyond the 8:30 p.m. presumptive adjournment time.

Motion by Mrs. Cindy Anderson:

That recommendation No. 1 (above) from the Committee of the Whole be approved.

Motion Carried.

At the conclusion of closed session, the Committee of the Whole reported progress with respect to consideration of *2021/22 Budget Development Update* and *Capital Discussion*. The progress reports were accepted.

Chair	CFO

Adjournment The Chairperson advised that this concluded the business of the meeting and called for a motion to adjourn.

Motion by Mr. Ted Jaleta:

That the meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried.

Time of meeting: 5:30 to 9:28 p.m.

Chairperson

Chief Financial Officer