

Regina, Saskatchewan
February 3, 2009

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

Members Present	Dr. Barbara Young, Chair Mr. Dale West, Vice-Chair Mr. Russ Marchuk	Mrs. Rhonda Parisian Mrs. Barb Saylor Mr. Garry Schenher
Administration Present	Mr. Don Hoiium, Director of Education Ms. Debra Burnett, Deputy Director, Division Services, & Secretary-Treasurer Mr. Ross Brown, Deputy Director, Instruction and School Services	

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: *Letter to Regina MLAs, Discovery Pre-school, and Leader-Post Article.*

Adoption of Agenda Motion by Mr. G. Schenher:

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

Motion Carried.

Approving of Minutes The Chairperson then asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on January 20, 2009.

Motion by Mrs. B. Saylor:

That the minutes of the Board meeting of January 20, 2009, be approved as distributed.

Motion Carried.

School Attendance Boundary Consultations Update A copy of the School Boundary Review Draft Report and Recommendations, dated January 2009, prepared by Mr. Craig Melvin, Consultant, had been distributed. Mr. Melvin provided a brief summary of the report, noting the value in meeting and discussing options with the School Community Councils of the schools potentially impacted by the review. In addition to the community consultations, he highlighted further essential components of the review, including consideration and analysis of community growth and development, student enrolment forecasts, and student transportation and safety. Mr. Melvin made recommendations for adjustments of the Henry Janzen and George Lee attendance areas that seek to stabilize enrolments in both schools over the long term and that, he advised, were the options favoured by both School Community Councils. He further outlined recommendations for the Jack MacKenzie and W. F. Ready attendance area boundaries that seek to balance School Community Councils' differing views on parent expectations while stabilizing enrolments at both schools within the program delivery model guidelines. He noted that this portion of the review was much more complex. He highlighted that some students in the new W. F. Ready attendance area would be within the designated

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maximum walking distance of Jack MacKenzie, and recommended that they be permitted to attend Jack MacKenzie if they so requested, but that transportation not be provided. As well, the potential for a new school in The Greens on Gardiner area would impact the enrolments of both schools. Mr. Melvin further recommended that the Division consider requesting that the City of Regina install east-west crosswalk signals at the intersection of Woodland Grove Drive and Woodhams Drive. Mr. Melvin responded to questions from Board members relative to busing concerns in the southeast. Board members expressed appreciation for the thorough report and for the School Community Councils' involvement in the process. It was noted that any changes to the attendance areas should be relayed to developers and realtors so that new homebuyers in the areas affected are well informed.

Albert
Community
School One-to-
One Computer
Project

Information regarding the Albert One-to-One Computing Project had been distributed. Mr. Luc Lerminiaux, Principal, Albert Community School, provided additional information, noting the commitment of the school's corporate sponsor, Information Services Corporation (ISC), to creating one of the most technologically advanced elementary schools in the Division and in the province. He advised that many students at Albert Community School have limited access to technology outside of school and this lack affects student achievement in necessary technical skills. ISC has donated funds for the implementation of a "one-to-one" laptop initiative for all students in Grades 5 to 8, focusing on the Continuous Improvement Plan priorities of improving student literacy and numeracy as well as providing equitable opportunities for students. He highlighted similar projects across the country that exhibited increases in reading scores and writing standards and decreases in discipline referrals and absenteeism. Mr. Lerminiaux presented a segment from a video prepared by the Grade 7/8 class at Albert Community School entitled "Through Our Eyes," noting how such a project speaks to the power of technology. Board members expressed appreciation for the project and for ISC's continued support of Albert Community School.

Leadership
Enhancement
and
Development
Program Update

Information regarding the Leadership Enhancement and Development Program had been distributed. Mr. Dave Hutchinson, Superintendent, Instruction and School Services, provided additional information, focusing on the four main components of the program: Instructional Leadership, Adaptive Leadership, First Nations and Métis Education Leadership, and Operational Leadership. He highlighted the development of a leadership diagnostic assessment tool that will assist in module and program delivery. It was noted that the modules would be delivered in a cyclical manner, beginning with the 2009-10 school year. Mr. Hutchinson advised that the program parallels the Teacher Induction model. Board members expressed appreciation for the presentation.

High School
Class Size

Information regarding high school class sizes had been distributed. Mr. Ross Brown, Deputy Director, Instruction and School Services, provided additional information, noting a decline in the average class sizes for Grades 9 through 12 core courses, supporting the enhanced focus on literacy and numeracy. He noted a significant improvement in the historical difference in class size between core and elective courses. Mr. Brown advised that the five-year average was very consistent, with between 24.2 and 24.9 students per class. Board members expressed appreciation for the hard work of in-school administrators for creating positive conditions in support of enhanced achievement outcomes.

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Community Relations Committee

In Mrs. R. Parisian's absence, Mr. R. Marchuk provided a brief summary of discussions held at the Community Relations Committee meeting held on January 16, 2009. He reported that, with respect to funds allotted to each school in support of development of Learning Improvement Plans, the Administration would be developing two options for fund distribution and would present same at a future date. He further advised that the Saskatchewan School Boards Association would be formally contacted to discuss the possibility of co-planning a governance conference for School Community Council members. Mr. Marchuk noted that a Parent Involvement Sub-Committee meeting would be scheduled in the next two weeks, and that the meetings to date had been well attended. He expressed appreciation for the implementation of the Shared Values Recognition Program. He further reported that some abuse by the public towards staff in charge of Safety Patrol had come to light and that Administration would be communicating with the Chair of the Pedestrian Safety Committee to ensure staff are aware of protocol when such incidents occur. Mrs. B. Saylor requested that Board members be provided with the contact list of School Community Council Chairpersons.

Mayor's Task Force on Regina's Future

Mr. D. West provided a brief summary of discussions held at the Mayor's Task Force meeting on January 29, 2009. He advised that the committee received a presentation on the "Shaping Regina" project, a mandated initiative to develop an official community plan based on four pillars of sustainability—enhancing and protecting the environment, promoting cultural awareness and vibrancy, promoting social cohesion and inclusion, and strengthening economic prosperity and participation. He further advised that the project calls for community input and sharing of strategic plans, and that the Shaping Regina coordinator would be contacting Mr. Don Hoium, Director of Education, to arrange a meeting with the Regina Board of Education. With the work of the Task Force coming to a conclusion, Mr. West advised that the committee would now be known as the Community Leaders Advisory Committee, and that bi-monthly meetings would be held. Events and/or programs highlighted by various other members of the committee included the merger of Tourism Regina and RREDA, the 2010 World Junior Hockey Tournament in Saskatoon and Regina, and the 2010 Winter Olympics in Vancouver. Mr. West highlighted the Board's Continuous Improvement Plan, the Renewal Consultation meetings, the Apprenticeship Scholarship, and the TASCAP program at the January 29th meeting.

Leader-Post Article

Mrs. B. Saylor drew attention to an advertisement in the January 31, 2009, issue of the *Leader-Post*, from the Ministry of Advanced Education, Employment and Labour, in which it seeks public input on the topic of young people working, including minimum age restrictions, and health and safety matters. As the Board had presented a resolution at the Saskatchewan School Boards Association General Meeting requesting that the provincial government consult widely with educators, including school boards and the professional organizations of teachers, before changing legislation, Mrs. Saylor inquired if an invitation for input had been received from the government. Mr. Don Hoium, Director of Education, advised that the Board had not received any formal invitation to discuss same and that he expected that the SSBA would be following up on behalf of school boards. Mrs. Saylor noted the deadline for feedback, as outlined in the advertisement, was May 1, 2009.

[Mrs. R. Parisian joined the meeting prior to closed session.]

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Closed Session

Motion by Mrs. B. Saylor:

That we go into closed session.

Motion Carried.

Motion by Mr. G. Schenher:

That we rise and report.

Motion Carried.

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

Negotiations

1) That the tentative agreement between the Board of Education of the Regina School Division No. 4 of Saskatchewan and the teachers of the Regina School Division No. 4, effective, July 1, 2008, to June 30, 2011, be approved, and that the appropriate officers be authorized to execute the agreement on behalf of the Board.

Request for Presentation

2) That the request of Mr. Ron Holloway, President, Regina Public School Teachers' Association, to make a presentation to the Board on behalf of an Association member, be declined.

Personnel Matter

- 3) That the salary and benefits associated with the position of Director of Education be adjusted as recommended.
- 4) That the Director of Education be authorized to finalize salary adjustments for the position of Deputy Director within the guidelines recommended.
- 5) That, effective February 1, 2009, the benefit package for all Administration Council LEADS members be amended to provide Board support for attendance at three LEADS professional development sessions annually.

Motion by Mr. D. West:

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

Motion Carried.

Motion by Mrs. B. Saylor:

That recommendation No. 2 (above) from the Committee of the Whole be approved.

Motion Carried.

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Motion by Mr. R. Marchuk:

That recommendation No. 3 (above) from the Committee of the Whole be approved.

Motion Carried.

Motion by Mrs. B. Saylor:

That recommendation No. 4 (above) from the Committee of the Whole be approved.

Motion Carried.

Motion by Mrs. R. Parisian:

That recommendation No. 5 (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 *Working Advisory Groups – Nominations, Public Boards Caucus, Board and Director Evaluation, Trustee Communication, Letter to Regina MLAs, Discovery Pre-school, and Personnel Matter*. The progress reports were accepted.

Adjournment

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

Motion by Mr. R. Marchuk:

That the meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried.

Time of meeting: 7:00 to 9:29 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer