

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: *Notice of Cultural Room Opening Ceremony, Rosemont School Poetry and Pizza Event, Saskatchewan K-12 Educational Forum, and Meeting with Local MLAs.*

Adoption of Agenda
Motion by Mrs. R. Parisian:

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 February 3, 2009.

Motion by Mr. G. Schenher:

That the minutes of the Board meeting of February 3, 2009, be approved as distributed.

Motion Carried.

Dr. Young noted, with appreciation, that the minutes have been rich with reports of the presentations, giving a good sense of what is being discussed at the Board meetings.

Public Education Advocacy Committee
Mrs. B. Saylor provided a brief summary of discussions held at the Public Education Advocacy Community meeting held on February 6, 2009. She reported that committee members received an update with respect to the request made jointly by the Boards of Regina Public Schools and Regina Catholic Schools to meet with local Saskatchewan Party MLAs to discuss the Foundation Operating Grant and 2009 Reassessment. She asked that Board members attend the scheduled meeting if available. It was suggested that a similar meeting be scheduled with the local Opposition MLAs.

Motion by Mrs. B. Saylor:

That the Board extend a joint invitation to Opposition MLAs from Regina to meet with the two Regina Boards of Education in March, 2009, to discuss 2009 Reassessment and the potential impact on the Foundation Operating Grant.

Motion Carried.

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Mrs. Saylor noted that Mr. Terry Lazarou, Supervisor of Communications, provided an update on the Shared Values Recognition Program, highlighting that program materials had been posted on the RBE website and published in the INFO newsletter. She advised that Mr. Don Hoium, Director of Education, would be investigating budgetary matters and that Mr. Lazarou would present a proposal to the committee at its next meeting relative to the hosting of a dinner event. Mrs. Saylor reported that the committee recommended that an on-going plaque be hung at the Division Office to recognize award recipients. Mrs. Saylor reported that the committee discussed exposure of the Board Quarterly Newsletter, and that Mr. Lazarou would be preparing cost information for publication in the Sunday Sun, with samples and ideas to be brought to the next committee meeting. The newsletter would continue as it has been developed.

Motion by Mrs. B. Saylor:

That the Board Advocacy Communication Plan Proposal, dated September 29, 2008, be adopted as presented.

Motion Carried.

Mrs. Saylor concluded by noting the discussion held regarding the current RBE website and lack of contact information for administration. Mr. Hoium advised that the website is in transition and would contain Division and governance information in the future.

Learning Alliance Update

A copy of the itinerary for the Learning Alliance meeting held February 10-11, 2009, with administration from Regina Public Schools and Saskatoon Public Schools, had been distributed. Mr. Don Hoium, Director of Education, provided an update on the inaugural visitation that took place in Saskatoon, highlighting the informal reception and dinner held on February 10th and the nine round table discussions hosted at Tommy Douglas Collegiate on the morning of February 11th. The afternoon of February 11th included 30 Saskatoon public school visitation sites. At Dr. B. Young's request, Mr. Hoium briefly outlined Saskatoon Public Schools' move to a high school academy model.

Public Accounts

Copies of the Board's 2007-08 Statement of Public Accounts had been distributed. Ms. Debra Burnett, Deputy Director, Division Services, and Secretary-Treasurer, provided additional information.

Motion by Mr. D. West:

That the 2007-08 Statement of Public Accounts of the Board of Education of the Regina School Division No. 4 of Saskatchewan be approved as presented.

Motion Carried.

School Re-design Community Consultations

Information regarding school re-design community consultation meetings had been distributed. Mr. Ron Christie, General Manager, Educational Facilities, Mr. Mike Walter, Superintendent, Instruction and School Services, and Mr. Darren Boldt, Superintendent, Instruction and School Services, provided a brief overview of the consultations recently held at Arcola and Douglas Park Schools. Mr. Christie provided a brief overview of the Internal Stakeholder Team, the School-Based Design Team and the Implementation Team, noting

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members, responsibilities, project relevance and participation schedules. Mr. Walter highlighted the clear focus on literacy and numeracy filtering down at the school level. Board members expressed appreciation for the process, and emphasized the importance of communicating with the public with respect to the re-designs. It was suggested that the Quarterly Newsletter could be a productive tool in this regard.

Provincial Capital Announcement Information relative to the Ministry of Education’s announcement of \$142 million in new and accelerated funding for school capital had been distributed. Ms. Debra Burnett, Deputy Director, Division Services, and Mr. Ron Christie, General Manager, Educational Facilities, provided additional information, highlighting the four Regina Public approved major projects, including the School Collegiate Learning Across the Community Project, the re-designs of Arcola and Douglas Park Schools, and structural repairs to Campbell Collegiate. Ms. Burnett further outlined approved accessibility projects at Grant Road, Massey and Centennial Schools and Sheldon-Williams Collegiate, Developmental Centre renovations at Winston Knoll Collegiate, relocatable classroom projects at Thom and Winston Knoll Collegiates, and roof replacement projects at Judge Bryant, Dr. L. M. Hanna, Dr. A. E. Perry and McLurg Schools and Balfour Collegiate. It was noted that formal E2 documentation specifying actual dollar amounts is yet to be received. Ms. Burnett reminded Board members that the costs of these approved projects are shared between the Ministry and the Board and will have budget implications. Mr. Christie responded to questions relative to increased construction costs.

U of S Regional Advisory Committee Report Mr. D. West advised that the U of S Regional Advisory Committee held its first meeting on February 11, 2009, at the Division Office. Representatives from Regina Public Schools, Regina Catholic Schools, SIAST, Viterra, and the University of Saskatchewan, as well as Chancellor Dr. Vera Pezer, were in attendance. Mr. West outlined the Committee’s three themes: 1) to improve student experience; 2) to enhance the University’s profile; and 3) to work together effectively. Mr. West noted concerns raised at the meeting relative to the University of Saskatchewan not being the second choice of many Regina students. He reported that the committee had been advised that Regina Public high schools would welcome university presentations. At the request of Mrs. B. Saylor, Mr. Don Hoium, Director of Education, agreed to look into a provincial post secondary education review recently undertaken.

Notice of Cultural Room Opening Ceremony With the Cultural Room nearing completion, Mr. Don Hoium, Director of Education, advised that planning was underway for a grand opening event to be held on March 10, 2009, with Board members, Elders and other distinguished guests. He further advised that an agenda would be finalized and provided to Board members, together to a protocol outline, within the next week.

Rosemont School Poetry and Pizza Event Mrs. B. Saylor advised that she had attended a Poetry and Pizza Event at Rosemont Community School on February 11, 2009, where students and staff presented readings of all types and forms of poetry. She expressed appreciation for the enjoyable evening, and commended the students for their bravery in presenting in front of the audience.

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Closed
Session

Motion by Mrs. B. Saylor:

That we go into closed session.

Motion Carried.

Motion by Mrs. R. Parisian:

That we rise and report.

Motion Carried.

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

Request for
Presentation

- 1) That the repeated 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.

Motion by Mr. G. Schenher:

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 *Public Boards Caucus, Saskatchewan K-12 Educational Forum*, and *Meeting with Local MLAs*. 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. G. Schenher:

That the meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried.

Time of meeting: 7:00 to 8:51 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer