

Regina, Saskatchewan
March 17, 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 Dr. John Conway Mr. Russ Marchuk	Mrs. Rhonda Parisian Mrs. Barb Saylor Mr. Garry Schenher
Administration Present	Mr. Don Hoium, 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: *W. S. Hawrylak School Mural, Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region Vision and Hearing Screening, Educational Funding, and Personnel Matter.*

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 March 3, 2009.

Motion by Mr. D. West:

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

Motion Carried.

Apprenticeship Scholarship – Introduction of Successful Candidates and Participating Journeymen People Mr. Gord Heidel, Practical and Applied Arts and Career Development Consultant, introduced two of the three Apprenticeship Scholarship recipients, Ms. Krista Brockwell (plumbing) and Ms. Amber Swalm (carpentry). Thomas Strongquill (carpentry) was unable to attend the meeting. Ms. Brockwell and Ms. Swalm briefly outlined some of their recent projects, including the installation of new low-flush toilets at Campbell Collegiate, and new benches at Winston Knoll Collegiate. They thanked the Board for the opportunities being provided through the program. Mr. Heidel also introduced the journeymen people acting as mentors for the students, Mr. Jim Wilcox (plumbing), Mr. Jeff Herbeck, Mr. Tim Hollis and Mr. Rick Muzzin (carpentry). Mr. Cory Ward (plumbing) was unable to attend the meeting. Mr. Wilcox applauded the program, noting, among other things, the opportunity afforded females to enter the trades. Mr. Hollis advised that, in mentoring the students, the journeymen people are, in turn, learning as well. Mr. Herbeck expressed gratitude to the whole RBE department of journeymen people whose support allows for the

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mentors to contribute to the program. Board members congratulated the recipients and expressed appreciation to Mr. Heidel and all of the journeyed people involved in moving the program forward.

2009 Spring
General
Assembly –
Appointment of
Voting
Delegates and
Vote
Distribution

Information regarding the appointment of voting delegates and distribution of votes for the Saskatchewan School Boards Association 2009 Spring General Assembly had been distributed. It was noted that Dr. J. Conway and Mr. R. Marchuk would be unable to attend the Spring General Assembly this year. Mr. G. Schenher advised that he would attend, but may have to leave early and, accordingly, would not participate in voting.

Motion by Mr. D. West:

That Dr. B. Young, Mr. D. West, Mrs. B. Saylor, and Mrs. R. Parisian be appointed as voting delegates to the 2009 Spring General Assembly of the Saskatchewan School Boards Association to be held March 27, 2009, in Regina.

Motion Carried.

Motion by Mr. G. Schenher:

That the 51 vote allocation to be cast on behalf of the Board at the 2009 Spring General Assembly of the Saskatchewan School Boards Association Convention be allocated as follows:

- Dr. B. Young – 13 votes;
- Mr. D. West – 13 votes;
- Mrs. B. Saylor – 13 votes;
- Mrs. R. Parisian – 12 votes;

and that, as a matter of policy, if for some reason the number of Board members attending the assembly is less than the number specified, the total available votes be divided among members in attendance as evenly as possible, as determined by the Chairperson, in order to ensure that the Board’s entire voting allotment can be cast.

Motion Carried.

Youth Salute
2009

Information had been distributed regarding the Youth Salute 2009 Opening Ceremony to be held on Wednesday, April 1, 2009, at 7:30 p.m., at the Northgate Mall. Mrs. B. Saylor agreed to attend this event and to extend greetings and congratulations on behalf of Regina Public Schools.

Facilities

Information regarding the need to replace the wheelchair lift at Douglas Park School had been distributed. Ms. Debra Burnett, Deputy Director, Division Services, provided additional information, noting that, with the exception of the wall rail, components of a new lift could be salvaged for re-use in another school following the closure of the existing Douglas Park School building.

Motion by Mrs. B. Saylor:

That submission of a B-1 application to the Ministry of Education for installation of a replacement wheelchair lift at Douglas Park School be authorized.

Motion Carried.

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2009 Annual
General
Meeting
Agenda

A draft copy of the proposed agenda for the May 5, 2009, Annual Meeting had been distributed. Dr. B. Young outlined a proposed new format designed to attract more people to the annual meeting, with this year’s topic being Structural Innovation in Regina Public Schools. School Community Council Chairpersons would be invited to meet with trustees prior to the meeting. The formal part of the meeting would take place at 7:00 p.m., and would include an informal trade show style discussion, showcasing examples of work in structural innovation from the selected school sites. Principals would also be encouraged to attend the meeting. Board members expressed appreciation for the new format, and suggested a more informal approach to the seating arrangement for trustees.

School Merger
Process

Mr. D. West advised that he had attended an Argyle/Athabasca Merger meeting at Division Office and noted the following concerns raised thereat: site selection issues, Lakeview School’s disinterest in joining the merger, space for daycare facilities, and the working of small learning groups. At a meeting with the Athabasca School Community Council on March 2, 2009, Mr. West noted further concern that Lakeview School was not participating in the merger and that the accuracy of the representation of community interest was questioned. Council members indicated that it would be less expensive to build one school for the three school communities rather than two schools – one merged and one rebuild. Mr. West sought direction from Board members. After discussion, it was determined that, based on the 10-Year Renewal Plan, no further action was to be taken at this time.

W. S. Hawrylak
School Mural

Mr. R. Marchuk advised Board members that he and Dr. B. Young had attended the unveiling of a new school mural at W. S. Hawrylak School on March 10, 2009. Mr. Marchuk noted that the mural, entitled “Story Bridges Worlds,” was a collaborative project involving Grade 8 students, Mr. Ladd Fogarty (teacher at Campbell Collegiate), Ms. Kim Steele (W. S. Hawrylak teacher-librarian), and guest artists, Ovide Bighetty, Holly Martin and Helene Tremblay. Mr. Marchuk shared the following statement on the cultural significance of the mural:

The theme of our mural is “Story Bridges Worlds.” The mural is intended to encourage the sharing of our personal story, or “world view,” in order to begin to communicate and develop meaningful connections with others. The bridges we build through words are important forces for the creation of peace and harmony. Story teaches us how we are different and yet how we are the same. Through story we recognize that differences make us more interesting and stronger. When, through story, we learn to recognize our common humanity, we understand that the principles of justice and equality must apply to all. We hope that when people see our mural they will know that members of our school community respect and value all cultures and races.

Dr. B. Young noted that 22 languages were represented in the mural, depicting the varied heritages of the students attending the school. Mr. Marchuk extended congratulations to Mr. Bill DeRosier, Principal, Ms. Virginia Hendrickson, former Principal, and to the students and all others involved in creating the beautiful mural.

Regina
Qu’Appelle
Health Region
Vision and
Hearing
Screening

A copy of a letter from the Regina Qu’Appelle Health Region relative to the withdrawal of vision screening services and changes to hearing screening services in schools, had been distributed. Mrs. B. Saylor expressed concern about the study noted in the Health Region’s letter relative to the inefficiency of screening, and about the burden being placed on teachers to watch for vision weaknesses in students. Mrs. Saylor further questioned the way in which the

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services were withdrawn and the implications for future withdrawals, and requested clarification as to whether the Regina Board of Education had been consulted with respect to the matter prior to services being withdrawn. Mr. Ross Brown, Deputy Director, Instruction and School Services, advised that Mr. Greg Enion, Superintendent, Instruction and School Services, and Ms. Sarah Maddia, Manager, Workplace Health and Wellness, had attended two meetings with the Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region Committee, and had expressed the Board's concerns at both meetings, noting the impact such action would have on children, particularly those in lower socio-economic areas of the City. Dr. J. Conway reiterated the concerns of Mrs. Saylor and requested that the Administration pursue the matter with the Health Region.

Motion by Mrs. B. Saylor:

That the Regina Board of Education send a letter to the Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region, expressing concern over the withdrawal, effective February 12, 2009, of vision screening services to school children in Regina, and over the limitations placed, effective the same date, on hearing screening; and requesting that the Regina Board of Education be consulted by the Regina Qu'Appelle Health Region before future cessations or limitations of services to school children are contemplated.

Motion Carried.

Elders' Cultural Room

Mr. Dave Hutchinson, Superintendent, Instruction and School Services, provided a brief summary of the official opening of the new Cultural Room at Division Office on March 10, 2009. Mr. Hutchinson noted that the original idea for the room came from now deceased Elder Robert Cappo, whose vision has come to fruition with the support of the Board. He advised that the room would be used for a number of purposes, including ceremonial, student instruction, and staff development events. Mr. Hutchinson highlighted the historic relevance of the development of the Cultural Room in the context of an increasing First Nations and Métis student population.

Following the open session, trustees adjourned to the Cultural Room for a presentation by Mr. Calvin Racette, Aboriginal Education Coordinator, and Mr. George Favel, Cultural Liaison Worker, on the importance of spirituality in the lives of First Nations and Métis people.

Closed Session

Motion by Mrs. R. Parisian:

That we go into closed session.

Motion Carried.

Motion by Mr. G. Schenher:

That we rise and report.

Motion Carried.

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

School
Community
Council Grants

- 1) That, effective with the 2009-2010 school year, School Community Council grants be distributed according to the following formula:
 - \$2,000 for schools with enrolments less than 900 students; and
 - \$3,500 for schools with enrolments greater than 900 students.

Meeting
Adjournment
Time

- 2) That the March 17, 2009, Board meeting be authorized to continue beyond the 9:30 p.m. presumptive adjournment time.

Motion by Mr. R. Marchuk:

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.

At the conclusion of closed session, the Committee of the Whole reported progress with respect to consideration of *North Central Integrated Facility, SSBA Regional Meeting Change of Date, SSBA 2009 Spring General Assembly, Public Boards Caucus, Structural Innovation – High School Demonstration Sites Selection, Educational Funding, and Personnel Matters*. 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 9:35 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer