

Regina, Saskatchewan
February 8, 2011

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

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| Members Present | Dr. Barbara Young, Chair Mrs. Katherine Gagne, Vice-Chair Mrs. Cindy Anderson Ms. Carla Beck | Mrs. Angela Fraser Mr. Tim Stobbs Mr. Dale West |
| Administration Present | Mr. Don Hoium, Director of Education Ms. Debra Burnett, Deputy Director, Division Services, & Secretary-Treasurer Mr. Mike Walter, 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: *Public Section Branding, New Ministry of Education Policy for Capital Borrowing, and School Community Council Consultations Interim Update.*

Adoption of Agenda Motion by Mr. T. Stobbs:

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 25, 2011.

Motion by Mrs. A. Fraser:

That the minutes of the Board meeting of January 25, 2011, be approved as distributed.

Motion Carried.

High School Math Curriculum Implementation: Math Pathways Information relative to the renewed secondary mathematics program had been distributed. Mr. Mike Walter, Deputy Director, Instruction and School Services, provided background information, noting that the renewal of the Saskatchewan mathematics program was guided by the work of the Western Northern Canadian Protocol (WNCP), and is organized into three pathways: Foundations of Mathematics, Pre-Calculus, and Workplace and Apprenticeship. Ms. Juanita Redekopp-McKeown, Supervisor of Instruction, noted that the WNCP is an interprovincial/territorial agreement signed by the Ministries of Education for BC, AB, SK, MB, NWT, YT, and NT, in an effort to foster collaboration in education through the development of common educational goals, high standards, and the removal of obstacles to accessibility. She provided an overview of the three pathways, highlighting that Foundations of Mathematics and Pre-Calculus share a common 10 level course because of the considerable overlap between the two pathways at that level, with Workplace and Apprenticeship maintaining its own pathway through the 10, 20 and 30 levels.

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She advised that all 10 level courses were implemented in the 2010-11 school year, with students encouraged to take both courses, allowing them to identify the pathway(s) most suitable for them in terms of learning style and what they currently believe will best meet their interests and needs after high school. She did point out that students who require a modified math program will continue with the current Math 11 and 21 courses approved for offering, with the Ministry planning to develop provincially modified courses. She outlined that all three options are designed to provide students with the pre-requisite attitudes, knowledge, skills and understandings required for post-secondary study or direct entry into the work force. She provided more detail on each of the three options and gave an overview of the changes to the curriculum, including the emphasis on conceptual, in-depth understanding, achievement indicators for each outcome, and course configurations. Mr. Walter, Ms. Redekopp-McKeown and Mr. Don Hoium, Director of Education, responded to questions relative to achievement indicators, communication with universities, perceptions of students, information being provided on course selection, communication with parents, teachers' responses to the new curriculum, and staffing implications. Board members expressed appreciation for the presentation.

Equity Working Advisory Group Copies of a second draft of the report, *Respecting Our Diversity*, developed for the SSBA Education Equity Working Advisory Group, had been distributed. Mrs. C. Anderson asked fellow Board members to review the draft report and provide her with any comments or feedback prior to February 21, 2011.

School Transition Activities Update Information relative to introductory informational evenings for Athabasca School and Massey School English Program students and parents had been distributed. Mr. Don Hoium, Director of Education, provided additional information, noting that invitations had been sent to the Athabasca and Massey School Community Councils to participate in School Community Council meetings at the primary receiving schools. He further expressed appreciation for the work undertaken by school administrators and staff in managing the transition process.

Learning Improvement Plans 2010-11 Learning Improvement Plans as prepared by each of the Division's schools had been distributed. Mr. Don Hoium, Director of Education, highlighted that the Plans are critical to addressing essential outcomes.

Motion by Mrs. K. Gagne:

That the Schools' Learning Improvement Plans be received and adopted as presented.

Motion Carried.

Meeting with MLAs A proposed agenda for a February 14, 2011, meeting between the Regina Board of Education and Government MLAs for Regina Constituencies, had been distributed. Mr. Don Hoium, Director of Education, provided additional information, noting that a copy of the recent Treasury Board presentation would be attached to the finalized agenda. Board members suggested that reference to programs offered to academically-talented students be incorporated into the presentation. Mr. Hoium further advised that a briefing note with speaking points would be distributed to Board members prior to the meeting.

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Theme for Annual General Meeting Following previous years' annual meeting formats, information relative to a proposed theme for the Annual General Meeting to be held on May 10, 2011, had been distributed. Mr. Don Hoium, Director of Education, provided additional information, noting the proposed theme of "Partnerships." It was indicated that the formal part of the meeting would commence at 7:00 p.m., and would include a brief overview of the Division's numerous partnerships, followed by table exhibits showcasing projects jointly sponsored with partners to support the City's children and youth. The Board indicated agreement with the proposed arrangements.

University of Regina Proposal A copy of a letter of support from the Office of the Director for the University of Regina's proposal to bring a Chinese language and cultural institute to the campus had been distributed. Mr. Don Hoium, Director of Education, provided additional information, highlighting that the creation of a Confucius Institute would enable learning opportunities for RPS students to experience the Chinese language and culture.

New Ministry of Education Policy for Capital Borrowing A copy of a letter from the Deputy Minister of Education, relative to the new policy for capital borrowing, had been distributed. Mr. T. Stobbs requested clarification regarding the 65%-35% shared responsibility noted therein. Mr. Don Hoium, Director of Education, and Ms. Debra Burnett, Deputy Director, Division Services, provided information relative to school divisions' current borrowing options. It was noted that more information is expected to be released with the 2011-12 provincial budget.

Closed Session Motion by Mr. D. West:
That we go into closed session.

Motion Carried.

Motion by Ms. C. Beck:
That we rise and report.

Motion Carried.

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

Personnel Matter 1) That the tentative agreement between the Board of Education of the Regina School Division No. 4 of Saskatchewan and SUN, effective January 1, 2011, to December 31, 2013, be approved, and that the appropriate officers be authorized to execute the agreement on behalf of the Board.

Meeting Adjournment Time 2) That the February 8, 2011, Board meeting be authorized to continue beyond the 9:30 p.m. presumptive adjournment time.

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Motion by Mrs. C. Anderson:

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

Motion Carried.

Motion by Mr. D. West:

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 *Personnel Matter, Parental Concern Update, Renewal Update, Director Transition, Public Section Branding, and School Community Council Consultations Interim Update*. 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 Mrs. A. Fraser:

That the meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried.

Time of meeting: 7:00 to 9:43 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer