

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 Mrs. Katherine Gagne, Vice-Chair Mrs. Cindy Anderson Ms. Carla Beck	Mrs. Angela Fraser Mr. Tim Stobbs Mr. Dale West
Administration Present	Mr. Don Hoiium, 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 item be added: *Travel by Students to and from School.*

Adoption of Agenda      Motion by Mrs. C. Anderson:  
That, with the addition 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 8, 2011.

Motion by Ms. C. Beck:

That the minutes of the Board meeting of March 8, 2011, be approved as distributed.

Motion Carried.

Demographic Profiles      Mr. Don Hoiium, Director of Education, introduced Dr. J. Douglas Willms, Professor and Director of the Canadian Research Institute for Social Policy at the University of New Brunswick. Dr. Willms presented “Demographic Characteristics in Regina Public Schools.” He advised that school maps were developed using a de facto approach based on a full sampling of Kindergarten to Grade 12 students, a data set constructed of postal codes and school identifications, and 2006 Canadian Census-based variables, with data aggregated to the school level. Dr. Willms highlighted the strengths of the approach, including that it provides information on de facto school catchments, is accurate at the school level, is anonymous and unobtrusive, and is relatively inexpensive. He summarized potential uses for the school profiles, including allocating resources, monitoring inclusion, analyzing special education funding models, and assessing added value. Dr. Willms responded to questions relative to student transiency, interventions, and self-declaration of First Nations and Métis students. Board members expressed appreciation for the presentation.

Chair	S/T

2011-12 Budget Proposals

Copies of the 2011-12 Budget Proposals Report, organized according to the Continuous Improvement Plan priorities, had been distributed. Mr. Don Hoium, Director of Education, Mr. Mike Walter, Deputy Director, Instruction and School Services, and Ms. Debra Burnett, Deputy Director, Division Services, highlighted various aspects of the report. Mr. Hoium outlined priority strategies under Higher Literacy and Achievement, including: maintaining appropriate class sizes, grading structures, support systems, and school-based instructional practices; expansion of Structural Innovation into all schools; increasing the teacher full-time equivalents in the Reading Effects Program by two; continuing support of the New Teacher Induction Program; and introducing the parent portal of the PowerSchool Student Information System. Mr. Walter outlined priority strategies under Equitable Opportunities and Outcomes for All and Smooth Transitions Into and Through the System, including: maintaining support for the English as an Additional Language Program; supporting the demonstration sites incorporating Aboriginal content into literacy/numeracy instruction; supporting the Aboriginal Entrepreneurship Program at Scott Collegiate; continuing with the Apprenticeship Scholarship Program; continuing support of high school programming at the Regina Trades and Skills Centre; reallocating resources to support Year 1 of the Middle Years Practical and Applied Arts Program; and supporting enhanced transitional linkages with post-secondary institutions and development of dual credit courses. Ms. Burnett outlined strategies under the Governance, Facilities and Accountability priority, including: continued reinvestment of savings associated with attendance area mergers to enhance the learning conditions at current facilities; maintaining investment in facilities maintenance; supporting the educational leadership modules, case studies and audit materials in the Leadership Enhancement and Development Program; continued grants to School Community Councils to support Learning Improvement Plans; providing bridge funding for Associate Schools pending implementation of the future provincial funding model; and reallocating resources for the addition of a full-time equivalent Staffing Officer position to support the increasing demands on the Human Resources and Workplace Diversity Department. Members of the administration responded to questions from Board members. The Board expressed appreciation for the report.

Community Relations Committee

Mrs. A. Fraser provided a summary of the Community Relations Committee meeting held March 16, 2011, highlighting the tentative agenda for the upcoming Trustees-High School Leaders Engagement Session, as well as the Parental Involvement Subcommittee School Community Council event to be held on April 18, 2011, at Thom Collegiate. It was agreed that Board members would be polled regarding their availability for the High School Engagement Session. She noted the positive feedback from the School Community Council consultations. She further advised that discussion of the possibility of hosting a Community Relations barbecue was tabled for a future committee meeting.

AIMS Report

Information relative to the Frontier Centre for Public Policy’s Report Card on Western Canadian High Schools (Saskatchewan) had been distributed. Mr. Mike Walter, Deputy Director, Instruction and School Services, noted that the Division takes the information contained in the report seriously and for the past five years has been using it and many more measures in its Continuous Planning and Reporting processes. It was particularly noted that measures employed by Regina Public Schools in its Continuous Improvement Report were not utilized. Mr. Greg Miller, Supervisor of Assessment, further emphasized that socio-economic status analysis was of limited use to the Division as a significant number of students in all of Regina’s public schools attend non-neighbourhood schools. Mr. Walter, Mr. Miller and Mr. Don Hoium, Director of Education, responded to questions relative to the impact of the report on the teaching staff, and socio-economic status rankings.

Chair	S/T

2012-2013  
School Year  
Calendar

On behalf of the School Year Calendar Joint Committee, Mr. Mike Walter, Deputy Director, Instruction and School Services, presented the proposed calendar for the 2012-13 school year. Mr. Walter and Mr. Don Hoium, Director of Education, responded to questions relative to the date for commencement of the school year.

Motion by Mr. D. West:

That the 2012-2013 school year calendar for Regina Public Schools be approved as presented, subject to the declaration of the Minister of Education of the number of school days in the 2012-2013 school year.

Motion Carried.

Youth Salute  
2011

Information had been distributed regarding the Youth Salute 2011 Opening Ceremony to be held on Wednesday, April 13, 2011, at 7:30 p.m., at the Northgate Mall Centre Court. Mrs. K. Gagne agreed to attend this event and to extend greetings and congratulations on behalf of Regina Public Schools.

Travel by  
Students to and  
from School

Information relative to travel by students to and from school, including a legal opinion provided by the Saskatchewan School Boards Association relative to liability associated with "Walking School Buses," had been distributed. Ms. C. Beck requested further clarification and requested that the Division look at ways to encourage modes of active transportation and to work with City of Regina planners to promote safety. Mr. Don Hoium, Director of Education, advised that the In-Motion initiative at Ruth M. Buck and McLurg Schools will result in recommendations regarding the encouragement of more active student travel to and from school. Dr. B. Young also suggested that the topic could be placed on a future City Council/School Boards Liaison Committee meeting.

Closed  
Session

Motion by Mrs. A. Fraser:

That we go into closed session.

Motion Carried.

Motion by Mrs. K. Gagne:

That we rise and report.

Motion Carried.

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

Legal Matter

1) That the request of Ms. C. Grasdal to present to the Board regarding the matter of transportation to single-track French Immersion programs be declined pending resolution of the legal action C. Grasdal v. Board of Education of the Regina School Division No. 4 of Saskatchewan.

Chair	S/T

Meeting  
Adjournment  
Time

2) That the March 22, 2011, Board meeting be authorized to continue beyond the 9:30 p.m. presumptive adjournment time.

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 *Demographic Profiles, Bargaining Update, Transitional Funding, Joint Boards' Meeting Follow-Up, 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. T. Stobbs:

That the meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried.

Time of meeting: 7:00 to 9:39 p.m.

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Chairperson

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Secretary-Treasurer