

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

Members Present	Mrs. Katherine Gagne, Chair Mr. Dale West, Vice-Chair Mrs. Cindy Anderson Ms. Carla Beck	Dr. Jane Ekong Dr. Kathleen O'Reilly Miss Aleana Young
Administration Present	Ms. Julie MacRae, Director of Education Ms. Debra Burnett, Deputy Director, Division Services, & Secretary-Treasurer Mr. Greg Enion, Deputy Director, Student Achievement Mr. Mike Walter, Deputy Director, School Services	
The Chairperson called the meeting to order and asked for a motion to adopt the agenda.		
Adoption of Agenda	<u>Motion by Miss A. Young:</u>  That the agenda be adopted as prepared.	
Motion Carried.		
Declaration of Any Conflicts	Ms. C. Beck declared a conflict of interest with respect to the matter of the Civic Pension Plan Update.	
Approving of Minutes	The Chairperson then asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on November 4, 2014.  <u>Motion by Mr. D. West:</u>  That the minutes of the Board meeting of November 4, 2014, be approved as distributed.	
Motion Carried.		
Red Cross Partnership Presentation	Information relative to Bully Prevention programming had been distributed. Mr. Greg Enion, Deputy Director, Student Achievement, introduced Ms. Sue Burns, RespectEd Coordinator, and Kenda and Kevina Mullock, Grade 12 students from Winston Knoll Collegiate. Ms. Burns provided background information on the development of the RespectEd program, that has facilitated the training of approximately 70 educators as “Trainers of Youth” in bully prevention and who, in turn, have trained and supported over 230 Youth Facilitators in Regina Public Schools. She further advised that 20 School Resource Officers have received “Prevention Educator” training. She outlined that, through the partnership with the Red Cross, a strategy has been developed to change the culture around bullying by empowering young people and creating	

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an understanding that relationship difficulties require relationship solutions. She highlighted the “Day of Pink” Rally that will be held at the University of Regina on March 31, 2015. Kenda and Kevina provided some personal information regarding their school activities, and noted how they have been involved in the bully prevention program since Grade 9 and, with their Youth Facilitator training, have been able to present at their own high school, and also make presentations at elementary schools. They observed that peer-to-peer encouragement in anti-bullying campaigns results in better outcomes because youth tend to listen to other youth rather than adults. They expressed how the Youth Facilitator training has given them confidence and a passion to make a difference. They shared a Youtube video they had created, located at <http://www.youtube.com/watch?v=KmJ5y1AGbC0>. Ms. Burns concluded by advising that they had pink shirts available for all those interested. Mr. Enion introduced Mr. Norm Jakubowski, from the Red Cross of Saskatchewan, who presented a Partners in Humanity Citation to Regina Public Schools, in recognition of its commitment to improving the lives of vulnerable people within its community by assisting the Canadian Red Cross to effectively mobilize the power of humanity. Board members expressed appreciation for the presentations.

Early Years Update

Information relative the Early Learning initiatives (Pre-K through Grade 3) had been distributed. Ms. Morgan Reed, Superintendent, Student Achievement, outlined two priorities from the Division’s Strategic Plan: increasing readiness to learn, and increasing grade-level achievement in reading. She noted that, in August, schools were asked to develop reading plans to guide their work this year. She further advised that all elementary principals and vice-principals will participate in a book study on reading, writing and leading. Ms. Juanita Redekopp-McKeown, Supervisor of Instruction, outlined initiatives at the Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten levels, highlighting a focus on technology and assessment. She noted an increase in sharing and documenting between educators and parents through many avenues, such as Evernote, blogging and Facebook, which serve to assist with building reading readiness at home. She advised of the focus on balanced literacy and numeracy instruction. She further highlighted the communities of practice that are forming amongst educators. Ms. Kira Fladager, Literacy Coordinator, commented on the priority of increasing grade-level reading. She advised that she had the opportunity to be part of a Provincial Reading Committee, mandated to develop a document highlighting the high impact of teaching and transferring responsibility to students with guidance and providing opportunities for them to consolidate their skills independently. Ms. Fladager and Ms. Redekopp-McKeown responded to questions relative to momentum building and communities of practice. Board members expressed appreciation for the presentation. Ms. Julie MacRae, Director of Education, acknowledged the exceptional work of Ms. Fladager on the Provincial Reading Committee.

Audit and Compliance Committee

Mr. D. West advised that the Audit and Compliance Committee met with Mr. Rod Sieffert, External Auditor, and Ms. Charlene Drotar, Principal, Provincial Auditor, on November 20, 2014, to discuss the draft 2013-2014 Audited Financial Statements. He advised that Mr. Sieffert reviewed the role of the Audit Committee, Ms. Drotar outlined the role of the Office of the Provincial Auditor, and Mr. Bruce Lipinski, Superintendent, Business Affairs, outlined the year’s operating results, and provided additional information relative to the reporting of capital grants and expenditures. Ms. Debra Burnett, Deputy Director, Division Services, noted further recommendations from the Ministry of Education relative to reporting of the proceeds from the sale of Athabasca and Ken Jenkins Schools. Mr. West noted that Ms. Drotar advised that the Office of the Provincial Auditor is currently reviewing the Statements

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and is expected to concur with the opinion of the External Auditor. Mr. West further advised that Mr. Mark Whiting, Supervisor, Policy, Planning and Research, presented the draft Annual Report 2013-2014. Mr. West noted that edits to Page 2 were suggested by Board members.

Motion by Mr. D. West:

That the Audited Financial Statements for the year ending August 31, 2014, including the internally restricted surplus designations, be approved, pending minor changes made after the Ministries of Education and Finance format review and approval.

Motion Carried.

Motion by Mr. D. West:

That the Annual Report 2013-2014 be approved as amended, subject to final approval from the Ministry of Education.

Motion Carried.

Subdivision  
Reports

Dr. K. O'Reilly acknowledged the busy time of year, with report cards being issued, parent-teacher conferences being held, and holiday concerts being planned. She acknowledged the work of School Community Councils and the excitement surrounding the implementation of new programs such as Mathletics, and the presentation of theatrical productions such as Winston Knoll's upcoming musical, *Legally Blonde*.

Ms. C. Beck advised that she attended the unveiling of Angels Corner at Scott Collegiate, a primarily student-driven project to draw attention to the issue of violence against women and children. She noted that people were asked to sign a pledge to not inflict, but also to not stand witness and be silent with respect to violence against women and children. Attention was drawn to the White Ribbon campaign that is working towards ending men's violence against women. She expressed congratulations to everyone involved.

Mrs. K. Gagne expressed appreciation to the teachers, parents and volunteers involved in Regina Public Schools' volleyball program for the countless hours dedicated to the program. She congratulated the Martin Jr. Girls for their City championship.

Closed  
Session

Motion by Miss A. Young:

That we go into closed session.

Motion Carried.

Motion by Mr. D. West:

That we rise and report.

Motion Carried.

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At the conclusion of closed session, the Committee of the Whole reported progress with respect to consideration of *Parent Presentation, Civic Pension Plan Update, Audit and Compliance Committee, SSBA Annual General Meeting and Joint Conference Update, Joint Use Schools Project, Facilities Updates, School Boards/City Council Liaison Committee Meeting Update, and Executive Search Process*. The progress reports were accepted.

[Ms. C. Beck absented herself from the discussion with respect to the Civic Pension Plan Update.]

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

Motion by Mrs. C. Anderson:

That the meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried.

Time of meeting: 7:00 to 9:42 p.m.

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Chairperson

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Secretary-Treasurer