

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	Dr. Jane Ekong
	Mr. Dale West, Vice-Chair	Dr. Kathleen O'Reilly
	Mrs. Cindy Anderson	Miss Aleana Young
	Ms. Carla Beck	
Administration Present	Mr. Greg Enion, Director of Education	
	Ms. Debra Burnett, Deputy Director, Division Services, & Secretary-Treasurer	
	Mr. Darren Boldt, 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 Dr. K. O'Reilly:</u>
	That the agenda be adopted as prepared.

Motion Carried.

Approving of Minutes	The Chairperson then asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on February 9, 2016.
	<u>Motion by Dr. J. Ekong:</u>
	That the minutes of the Board meeting of February 9, 2016, be approved as distributed.

Motion Carried.

Martin Academy Presentation	Information relative to the Martin Academy had been distributed. Principal Lisa Allen provided additional background information on the rationale for the formation of the Academy. Program Coordinator Rob Cherepuschak provided information on the baseball stream and the premier performance stream, which includes students active in 15 different sporting pursuits. He outlined how the program has served to improve the life balance of the students. Program Coordinator Kim Perepeluk, provided information on the hockey stream, a sport which is in season during the school year. He advised that, being a co-ed program, the on-ice component deals with skill development, not competition. He also mentioned the growing interest in ringette. He further noted that level coach/referee training is being incorporated into the curriculum for next year. Mr. Perepeluk also provided information on the softball stream and its focus on skill development. Vice-Principal Lance Elder outlined the academic aspect of Martin Academy and the focus on ensuring that all curriculum requirements are met. He noted a 94% academic credit attainment level in Semester I, and that student attendance metrics are positive. He summarized that Premier

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Performance is a one credit per semester stream (1 hour/day), while Baseball, Softball and Hockey are two credits per semester streams (2 hours/day). Mr. Cherepuschak provided examples of engagement in the classroom and spoke of the collaborative pride in the school. Mr. Perepeluk expressed appreciation for the program’s community supporters such as Evraz Place, the City of Regina, and SaskMilk. Videos produced by students were also shown. Ms. Allen and Messrs. Elder, Cherepuschak and Perepeluk responded to questions relative to spin off effects in the school, monitoring of grades, and the response to sports recruiters. Board members expressed appreciation for the presentation.

[Ms. A. Young joined the meeting at 7:25 PM.]

Public
Education
Advocacy
Committee

Dr. J. Ekong provided a brief summary of the Public Education Advocacy Committee meeting held February 9, 2016, highlighting the development of the Public Education Advocacy Plan for 2015-2016. She further advised that advocacy for adequate funding was discussed, and that the Chair and Director would be contacting the Saskatoon Public School Board Chair and Director and the Saskatchewan School Boards Association President and Executive Director to discuss collaborative advocacy efforts. She also noted that letters would be sent from the Chair to The Honourable Ralph Goodale, Member of Parliament, and to The Honourable Don Morgan, Minister of Education, inviting them to an informal meeting with the Board and senior administration to discuss issues facing Regina Public Schools as a result of the Syrian refugee resettlement program and the lack of funding support for the provision of educational services to refugee children. Dr. Ekong further advised that, once the new City Manager has commenced his duties, Mr. Enion would contact him to schedule a meeting, together with the Regina Catholic School Board, to discuss transportation issues associated with the new joint schools.

Motion by Dr. J. Ekong:

That the proposed Public Education Advocacy Plan 2015-2016 be approved as recommended.

Motion Carried.

Submission of
Resolutions for
the 2016 Spring
Assembly

A proposed resolution for presentation at the 2016 Saskatchewan School Boards Association Spring Assembly AGM had been identified.

Motion by Miss A. Young:

That the following resolution be approved for submission to the Saskatchewan School Boards Association for presentation at the 2016 Spring Assembly:
BE IT RESOLVED that the Saskatchewan School Boards Association strongly advocate at the federal and provincial government levels for interim funding support for school divisions providing educational services for new students received pursuant to the Syrian Refugee Resettlement Program.

Rationale:

Pursuant to the Syrian Resettlement Program, Regina Public has, over the course of January-March, 2016, enrolled in excess of 170 Syrian refugee children in its schools. Other school divisions have also received an influx of new students as a direct result of the Federal Government

Chair	S/T

program. No interim funding recognition has been provided by either level of government for these students who require intensive English as an Additional Language and other supports in order to be successful. The provision of quality education services to these children is critical to the success of the Federal program and government support must be provided to those providing the front line services. Funding support for the interim period from registration until these students are fully incorporated into the annual grant calculations is critical.

Motion Carried.

Mrs. C. Anderson inquired if the resolution relative to the reporting of salaries and expenses of Saskatchewan School Boards Association executive members and senior administration, submitted to the 2015 Fall Convention, needed to be re-submitted. Mrs. K. Gagne advised that the Saskatchewan School Boards Association was to provide the information at the upcoming Spring Assembly so evaluation following that event would be in order.

Enrolment
Projections

Information relative to enrolment projections for the 2016-17 school year had been distributed. Mr. Mike Walter, Deputy Director, School Services, provided additional information, highlighting that the Division is projecting a 561-student increase in 2016-17, its largest enrolment increase in the last six years. He noted that this number includes the recent influx of Syrian refugee students. He provided a detailed breakdown of the projections, showing reductions in PreKindergarten, Kindergarten and Grades 9-12, and a large increase in Grades 1-8 enrolment. Mr. Walter advised that these projections will be used to support facility planning and initial staffing allocations, and that the Ministry of Education is also provided with the information for their planning purposes and budget preparations. He responded to questions relative to enrolment of new Canadians at the Adult Campus, and changing demographics. Mr. D. West noted that Regina Public Schools would be receiving the vast majority of the Syrian students in the City. Mrs. K. Gagne highlighted the importance of the Board’s advocacy efforts to make sure Regina Public Schools is adequately funded for current enrolment levels. Board members expressed appreciation for the report.

Twelfth Year

Information had been distributed regarding the Twelfth Year Grand Opening Reception to be held on Monday, April 11, 2016, at 6:00 p.m., at the Saskatchewan Science Centre IMAX Theatre Lobby. Dr. J. Ekong agreed to attend the event and to extend greetings and congratulations on behalf of Regina Public Schools.

Subdivision
Reports

Ms. C. Beck noted the substantial construction progress taking place on the Mâdawêyatitân Centre site. She further noted the successful sod turning event at the École Connaught School site held on February 29, 2016, and extended appreciation to everyone who took part in the celebration.

Closed
Session

Motion by Mr. D. West:

That we go into closed session.

Motion Carried.

Chair	S/T

Motion by Mr. D. West:

That we rise and report.

Motion Carried.

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

Joint Use
Schools Project
– Legal Matter

- 1) That the February 25, 2016 draft of the Accountability Agreement between the Board of Education of the Regina School Division No. 4 of Saskatchewan and Her Majesty the Queen in Right of the Province of Saskatchewan (as represented by the Minister of Education) be approved substantially in the form presented and that the Board signing authorities be authorized to execute same.

Motion by Miss A. Young:

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

Motion Carried.

Adjournment

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

Motion by Dr. K. O'Reilly:

That the meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried.

Time of meeting: 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer