

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	Dr. Jane Ekong Dr. Kathleen O'Reilly Ms. Aleana Young
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. It was noted that items 10(c), *Long Service Reception*, and 10(d), *Facility Matter*, would be considered in the open session portion of the meeting.

Adoption of Agenda	<u>Motion by Dr. K. O'Reilly:</u> That, with the amendments noted, the agenda be adopted. Motion Carried.
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Declaration of Any Conflicts	The Chairperson asked if there were any conflicts of interest to be declared. None were reported.
Approving of Minutes	The Chairperson then asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on April 12, 2016. <u>Motion by Mr. D. West:</u> That the minutes of the Board meeting of April 12, 2016, be approved as distributed. Motion Carried.

Blanket Exercise	Information regarding the Blanket Exercise had been distributed. Ms. Sarah Longman, Supervisor of Aboriginal Education, provided additional information, advising that the Blanket Exercise was developed by KAIROS (11 churches and religious organizations) in response to the 1996 Report of the Royal Commission on Aboriginal Peoples, which recommended education on Canadian-Indigenous history. She explained the Blanket Exercise, noting that the formation of the blankets simulates Turtle Island (North America), and that participants take on the roles of Indigenous peoples and learn over 500 years of history between Indigenous and non-Indigenous peoples in Canada. She advised that, after May 4th, all School Administrators, Senior Administration, and Division Office personnel will have had an opportunity to participate in the
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exercise. She also reported that there was a positive turnout to a screening of the documentary, *The Pass System*, by Saskatchewan filmmaker Alex Williams, at Division Office on April 25, 2016. She outlined plans for all elementary school staff to gather as a group and plan for next year’s Learning Improvement Plans to reflect the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Calls to Action. Ms. Longman also highlighted the upcoming RPS TR Talk Twitter event to be held May 5th (#rpstrtalk). Ms. Longman concluded by advising that additional facilitators will be trained to deliver the Blanket Exercise to school staffs in the Fall. Board members expressed appreciation for the work being done on the Truth and Reconciliation Commission’s Calls to Action, and congratulated Ms. Longman on her 2016 YWCA Regina’s Women of Distinction Nomination in the category of Education and Mentorship.

Education
Sector Strategic
Plan

Information regarding updates to the Education Sector Strategic Plan had been distributed. Mr. Greg Enion, Director of Education, provided additional information that was distributed to board chairs on April 14, 2016. He advised that: 1) he participated in a diagnosis, review and strategy development for Cycle 2 in October, 2015; 2) that school divisions and the Ministry of Education then participated in Catchball from November to April; and, 3) that the Plan was finalized on April 13, 2016. He outlined the Priorities (Following Their Voices, Saskatchewan Reads, Improving Graduation Rates, and Unified Student Information System) and the Outcomes (Early Years, Reading, Writing and Math, First Nations and Métis Engagement and Graduation Rates, Graduation Rates, and Operational Spending). He advised that the next steps entail distribution of the final ESSP Matrix and Project Plans, the development of Level 2 (2016-2017) strategic plans by school divisions, and the implementation of the actions in 2016-2017. He advised that a report on the Division’s Strategic Plan would be brought to the Board prior to the end of June. Mr. Enion responded to questions relative to support for early years (0-6 years old), linkages with the Open Door Society, plans for a Unified Student Information System, and the importance of student voice in planning. Board members also recommended that the Administration advise this Division’s high schools students that their feedback is being heard and acted upon. Board members expressed appreciation for the report.

Annual Meeting
of Electors
Statement of
Proceedings

As required under section 97(8) of *The Education Act, 1995*, the Secretary’s statement of proceedings of the Annual Meeting of Electors, held January 26, 2016, had been circulated to Members of the Board. It was noted that the statement of proceedings would be subject to approval at next year’s annual meeting of electors.

Motion by Mr. D. West:

That the Statement of Proceedings of the 2016 Annual Meeting of Electors, held on January 26, 2016, be adopted as prepared and referred to the 2017 Annual Meeting of Electors.

Motion Carried.

Trustee
Resignation

Further to her announcement at the April 12, 2016 Board meeting, Ms. Carla Beck’s formal resignation from the Regina Board of Education had been distributed. Mrs. K. Gagne advised that *The Local Government Elections Act, 2015* includes provisions for by-elections as well as for continuing vacancies in the year of a general election. Given that the next civic election is scheduled to

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be held October 26, 2016, and in consideration of the time and expense associated with the holding of a by-election, it was recommended that the Board determine not to fill the vacancy resulting from Ms. Beck’s departure until the next general election.

Motion by Ms. A. Young:

That, in consideration of all relevant factors, the Board vacancy created by the resignation of Ms. Carla Beck not be filled until the October 26, 2016 general election.

Motion Carried.

Long Service Reception Board members determined which presentation roles they would assume at the Long Service Reception to be held June 20, 2016. Mr. Greg Enion, Director of Education, advised that Ms. Marcia Williams, a teacher at École Wilfrid Walker School, has agreed to respond on behalf of all retirees.

Facility Matter Information relative to relocatable classrooms that had been approved for 2016-2017 school year had been distributed. Mr. Mike Walter, Deputy Director, School Services, provided additional information, noting significant enrolment pressures on the Arcola School facility. He further noted that the facility did not qualify for Ministry-funded relocatables. Efforts to identify alternative solutions had not been successful and, therefore, approval to self-fund two relocatables at a cost of approximately \$700,000 was sought. It was noted that access to reserve funds would likely be required. Ms. Burnett responded to questions relative to the mobility of self-funded relocatables, bulk purchase possibilities, and the prevalence of the self-funding approach.

Motion by Dr. J. Ekong:

That the Administration be authorized to proceed with the acquisition of two Board-funded portable classrooms for installation at Arcola School at the earliest possible opportunity.

Motion Carried.

Subdivision Reports Ms. A. Young advised that she had attended the Shirley Schneider Support Centre’s Spring Wrap-Around Breakfast on April 11, 2016, and expressed appreciation for the many partner organizations that support the Centre and its students. She also noted the upcoming 45th anniversary celebration of the Centre to be held May 13, 2016. Ms. Young further advised that, on April 27, 2016, she attended a welcome banquet at Marion McVeety School for Syrian refugee students and families. She extended gratitude to the School Community Council and school Administration and staff for a splendid evening.

Mrs. C. Anderson extended congratulations to Harvest City Christian Academy student, Isabel Gagne, on receiving the 2016 YWCA Regina’s Women of Distinction Young Woman of Promise Award. She advised that she also attended the welcome banquet at Marion McVeety School for Syrian refugee students and families, and expressed appreciation to the Transportation Department for organizing the use of school buses for the event. She further expressed admiration for those involved in the Student Forum and the School Community Council Parent Forum. She suggested that the Community

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Relations Committee, at a future committee meeting, discuss the possibility of acknowledging long-standing School Community Council members.

Mr. D. West acknowledged the presence of Mr. Jeff Perry, Regina Public School Teachers’ Association President, at the meeting.

Closed
Session

Motion by Mrs. C. Anderson:

That we go into closed session.

Motion Carried.

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:

- School Naming

1) That the matter of School Naming be referred for further consideration at the May 24, 2016 Board meeting.
- Board and
Director
Evaluation

2) That the Board authorize the Director of Education to engage Mr. Ernie Cychmistruk to conduct the Board self-evaluation and the Director evaluation processes.

Motion by Mr. D. West:

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 *2016-2017 Budget*. The progress report was accepted. It was also noted that consideration of item 7a, *Spring Assembly*, was deferred to a future Board meeting.

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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 8:54 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer