

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
	Ms. Aleana Young, Vice-Chair	Mrs. Tanya Foster
	Mrs. Cindy Anderson	Mr. Adam Hicks
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 requested that the following item be added: *Question Period*.

Adoption of Agenda	<u>Motion by Mrs. C. Anderson:</u>	
	That, with the addition requested, the agenda be adopted.	
	Motion Carried.	

Declaration of Any Conflicts	The Chairperson asked if there were any conflicts of interest to be declared. None were reported.
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Approving of Minutes	The Chairperson then asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on November 8, 2016.  <u>Motion by Dr. J. Ekong:</u>  That the minutes of the Board meeting of November 8, 2016, be approved as distributed.  Motion Carried.
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Summer Success Reading Camps	Information regarding the United Way Summer Success Reading Camps had been distributed. Ms. Lois Herridge, Superintendent, Student Achievement, provided additional information, noting that, in Summer 2016, five camps were held at four schools, with the main goals being to increase literacy skills, attendance and parent engagement, and to provide a positive volunteer experience. She introduced three teachers from Albert, Kitchener and Thomson Community Schools. Ms. Lauren McKim reported that a student, who had previously attended the camp, had a little brother attending, and she wanted to attend this year as a helper. She referenced the motto “Readers Today, Readers Tomorrow,” and reflected on how this student exhibited leadership in action. Ms. Anna Edoo outlined the connections made with the families during the camps, which positively impacts on attendance and ultimately creates a sense of belonging. Ms. Jamie Armstrong specifically noted the volunteers and field trip
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opportunities that provided new and exciting experiences for the students. Ms. Herridge then shared a video presentation highlighting the camp held at Seven Stones Community School. Ms. Laurie Gatzke, Supervisor of Assessment, summarized quantitative and qualitative data associated with the project, noting 88% of the students in the program achieved 70% or better attendance, and 98% of the students maintained or improved upon their June reading benchmark levels. Ms. Herridge also pointed to data collected on the number of: 1) campers and families involved; 2) books, backpacks and good food boxes distributed; and 3) family and daily attendance incentives provided. The presenters responded to questions relative to teacher involvement, the opportunity for involving future student helpers, data collection, and short and long-range impacts on communities. Board members expressed appreciation for the presentation and the program.

Audit and  
Compliance  
Committee

Ms. A. Young advised that the Audit and Compliance Committee met with Mr. Rod Sieffert, External Auditor, and Mr. Kelly Deis, Deputy Provincial Auditor, on November 21, 2016, to discuss the draft Audited Financial Statements for the period ending August 31, 2016. She advised that Mr. Sieffert reviewed the role of the Audit Committee and Mr. Deis outlined the role of the Provincial Auditor. Mr. Bruce Lipinski, Superintendent, Business Affairs, provided a summary of the year’s assets/liabilities and revenues/expenditures. It was noted that the Financial Statements reference a partnership with the City of Regina and the Regina Public Library with regard to the Mâdawêyatîtan Centre, and that Regina Public Schools now accounts for only its share of the said facility. The Committee was also provided with information relative to employee future benefits. Ms. Young advised that, in the opinion of the External Auditor, the Financial Statements present the financial position of the Board fairly in all material respects and are in full compliance with GAAP and PSAB requirements, and that the Office of the Provincial Auditor concurred with the External Auditor’s findings.

Motion by Ms. A. Young:

That the Audited Financial Statements for the year ending August 31, 2016, 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.

Ms. Young further advised that Mr. Mark Whiting, Supervisor, Policy, Planning and Research, presented the draft Annual Report 2015-2016 to the Committee. Mr. Whiting provided an overview of the report, noting that the Ministry of Education prescribes the format and content of same.

Motion by Ms. A. Young:

That the Annual Report 2015-2016 be approved, subject to final approval from the Ministry of Education.

Motion Carried.

Ms. Young advised that suggested amendments to the Schedule of Remuneration, Allowances, and Expenses had been brought forward, following the Board’s approval of changes to Policy 7 in March, 2016, and conclusion of the 2016-17 budget deliberations. During discussion, she noted that concerns were raised relative to the current climate of fiscal restraint and advised that the Committee requested the development of guidelines for professional

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development spending for further consideration, deferring the matter to the next Audit and Compliance Committee meeting.

Appointment of Standing Committees

Based on member preferences expressed and in accordance with Policy 8 “Committees of the Board,” Mrs. K. Gagne asked for a motion to appoint members to serve on the five standing committees until the next Organizational Meeting.

Motion by Mr. A. Hicks:

- That:
- a) Mr. J. Kasperski (Chair), Dr. J. Ekong and Ms. A. Young be appointed to serve on the Audit and Compliance Committee;
  - b) Mrs. C. Anderson (Chair), Dr. J. Ekong and Mr. A. Hicks be appointed to serve on the Community Relations Committee;
  - c) Mrs. T. Foster (Chair), Mr. J. Kasperski and Ms. A. Young be appointed to serve on the Policy and Planning Committee;
  - d) Mr. A. Hicks (Chair), Mrs. C. Anderson and Mrs. T. Foster be appointed to serve on the Public Education Advocacy Committee; and
  - e) All Board members be appointed to serve on the Aboriginal Education Advisory Council;
- until the next Organizational Meeting of the Board.

Motion Carried.

Appointment of Board Representatives

In accordance with Policy 9 “Board Representatives,” Mrs. K. Gagne asked for a motion to appoint members to represent the Board on certain external committees.

Motion by Mrs. T. Foster:

- That:
- a) Mr. A. Hicks be appointed to serve as Board Representative on the Public Section of the Saskatchewan School Boards Association;
  - b) Mrs. K. Gagne and Ms. A. Young be appointed to serve as Board Representatives on the School Boards/City Council Liaison Committee;
  - c) Dr. J. Ekong be appointed to serve as Board Representative on the Community Leaders Advisory Committee; and
  - d) Ms. A. Young be appointed to serve as Board Representative for the Saskatchewan Assessment Management Agency;
- until the next Organizational Meeting of the Board.

Motion Carried.

SSBA: 2016 Fall General Assembly Update

Mrs. K. Gagne advised that the Saskatchewan School Boards Association Fall General Assembly was held November 13-15, 2016, in Saskatoon. Mrs. C. Anderson congratulated Ms. A. Young on being elected as the Vice-President of the SSBA, noting that she is the first Regina Public representative on the Executive in a decade. Dr. J. Ekong noted an eagerness for change within the Association. Ms. A. Young thanked Mrs. Anderson for nominating her and thanked her fellow trustees for their support at the meeting as well as in moving forward.

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Annual Meeting of Electors      The proposed agenda for the Annual Meeting of Electors had been distributed. Mr. Greg Enion, Director of Education, responded to questions regarding transportation for School Community Council Chairpersons and location choice. Mr. A. Hicks also appealed to his fellow Trustees to personally encourage School Community Council members to attend the meeting.

Motion by Mrs. C. Anderson:

That the draft agenda for the Annual Meeting of Electors of the Board of Education of the Regina School Division No. 4 of Saskatchewan, to be held at 7:00 p.m. on January 31, 2017, at the Regina Public School Board Office, Ron Mitchell In-Service Centre, 1600 4th Avenue, Regina, be circulated to the School Community Council Chairs.

Motion Carried.

Enrolment Report      Information relative to 2016-2017 student enrolment had been distributed. Mr. Mike Walter, Deputy Director, School Services, provided additional information, including actual enrolment comparisons from 2015-2016. He noted that enrolment continues to grow, with the vast majority of growth seen at the elementary school level. He advised that, as of September 30, 2016, system enrolment was 23,199 students, an increase of 790 students from 2015-2016, and 379 students above 2016-2017 projections (including PreKindergarten and Home-Based students). He also provided historical data on general, First Nations/Métis/Inuit, English as an Additional Language, and French Immersion enrolment growth trends. Mr. Walter responded to questions relative to funding for PreKindergarten, Home-Based Education, Campus Regina Public enrolments, the Newcomer Welcome Centre, staffing implications, the impact of the Neighbourhood Schools model, boundaries, impact on facilities, data on students with special needs, and continued communication with the Ministry of Education on enrolment projections. Board members expressed appreciation for the report.

Notice of Motion      Mr. A. Hicks gave notice of his intention to present the following motion at a future Board meeting:

BE IT RESOLVED that the matter of allowing videotaping of the open portion of Board meetings be referred to the next Policy and Planning Committee meeting, with a recommendation to be forwarded to the Board for consideration.

Mr. A. Hicks suggested that Boards must be transparent during times of potential change, and videotaping would be another means to facilitate this.

Subdivision Reports      Mr. A. Hicks advised that Argyle School held a fundraiser in October for a Grade 3 student, diagnosed with leukemia, and his family. He was pleased to report that over \$5,000 was raised. He noted a celebration of the Connaught Brick and Stone Reclamation project was held on November 19th, this being the second community project to use recycled brick from the previous École Connaught School on 13th Avenue. Mr. Hicks drew attention to the information sessions being held regarding three of the new schools to open in the Fall of 2017. He further noted that principals for the schools have been named. He concluded by expressing appreciation for the many School Division employees who are supporting “Movember” to raise awareness of men’s health issues.

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Dr. J. Ekong advised that she attended the Regina Public Schools/United Way Comedy Night fundraiser on November 19th at Jack MacKenzie School. She commended all of those involved in organizing a very enthusiastic and enjoyable evening of comedy and various performances.

Closed  
Session

Motion by Dr. J. Ekong:

That we go into closed session.

Motion Carried.

Motion by Ms. A. Young:

That we rise and report.

Motion Carried.

At the conclusion of closed session, the Committee of the Whole reported progress with respect to consideration of *Audit and Compliance Committee*, *Board Chairs Meeting*, *Enrolment Report*, *Letter from Minister of Education*, *Question Period*, and *Public Section 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. T. Foster:

That the meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried.

Time of meeting: 7:00 to 9:25 p.m.

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Chairperson

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Secretary-Treasurer