

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	Mrs. Tanya Foster
	Ms. Aleana Young, Vice-Chair	Mr. Adam Hicks
	Mrs. Cindy Anderson	Mr. Jay Kasperski
	Dr. Jane Ekong	
Administration Present	Mr. Greg Enion, Director of Education	
	Ms. Debra Burnett, Deputy Director, Division Services, & Secretary-Treasurer	
	Mr. Darren Boldt, Deputy Director, Student Achievement	

The Chairperson called the meeting to order and asked for a motion to adopt the agenda. It was requested that the following items be added: *Trustee Discussions, Communications Policy, and Cold Day Bussing Policy.*

Adoption of Agenda	<u>Motion by Mr. A. Hicks:</u>
	That, with the additions requested, the agenda be adopted.
	Motion Defeated.
	<u>Motion by Dr. J. Ekong:</u>
	That the agenda be adopted as prepared.
	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 December 13, 2016.
	<u>Motion by Mr. J. Kasperski:</u>
	That the minutes of the Board meeting of December 13, 2016, be approved as distributed.
	Motion Carried.

Former Trustee Presentations	Mrs. K. Gagne made presentations to former trustees, Ms. C. Beck and Mr. D. West, for their years of distinguished and dedicated service to Regina Public Schools. Current trustees highlighted the accomplishments of the previous board and expressed appreciation to the former trustees for their hard work and dedication to public education. Both Ms. Beck and Mr. West expressed appreciation for the Shared Values plaque and extended good wishes to the current Board.
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Chair	S/T

Truth and Reconciliation Initiatives

Ms. Sarah Longman, Supervisor, Aboriginal Education, highlighted a number of the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada’s Calls to Action and the initiatives undertaken by Regina Public Schools in response thereto. In response to Call to Action 57 “to provide education to public servants on the history of Aboriginal peoples, including the history and legacy of residential schools,” she outlined that the Blanket Exercise has been offered to all Division Office personnel, all in-school administrators, and other groups, including learning resource teachers, social workers, and school resource officers. She noted that the Blanket Exercise is now being offered to all school staffs, with approximately 50% completed to date, and is also being offered to School Community Councils and Trustees. She further advised that some school educators have also been trained to be facilitators. She also commented that requests have come from outside organizations for facilitation of the Blanket Exercise. In response to Call to Action 63 “building student capacity for intercultural understanding, empathy, and mutual respect,” Ms. Longman pointed to the very successful Orange Shirt Day that involved a number of special guests, including File Hills Qu’Appelle Tribal Chief Edmund Bellegarde and Elder Noel Starblanket. She commented that nurturing these human connections has helped in dismantling some existing stereotypes held by students. She further outlined a poetry session led by Ms. Nickita Longman that engaged high school students in using poetry to discuss sensitive topics such as missing and murdered Indigenous women. With regard to Call to Action 4 “respecting Indigenous peoples’ right to self-determination in spiritual matters, including the right to practice, develop, and teach their own spiritual and religious traditions, customs, and ceremonies,” she noted that this initiative is a work in progress, and that, under the guidance of the Elders Advisory Council and the Elders-in-Residence, changes to practice and procedure to be inclusive of Indigenous beliefs and practices are being reviewed. With respect to Call to Action 14 “the preservation, revitalization, and strengthening of Aboriginal languages,” Ms. Longman reported that a group of educators has taken the Buffalo Books series (first published in English and then in French) and translated them into Cree. She further noted that there will be classroom resources and DVD companions for each of the books, allowing for the school-based Cree language programs to access identical resources. This initiative has also provided a professional development opportunity for the Cree language teachers. Ms. Longman responded to questions relative to Blanket Exercise facilitation, the current number of Elders-in-Residence, further resources for the Cree language books, impact on graduation and retention rates, and qualitative and quantitative data. Board members expressed appreciation for the work being done in this very important area and Regina Public Schools’ leadership in these Truth and Reconciliation initiatives.

Public Education Advocacy Committee

Mr. A. Hicks advised that the Public Education Advocacy Committee met on December 19, 2016, at which time the Advocacy Plan was reviewed, with updates to the Plan to be brought back to the Committee for approval prior to being presented to the Board for adoption. He advised that, in support of the Saskatchewan School Boards Association initiative, a letter was sent to the Minister of Education and the Regina-area MLAs requesting a meeting with the Board, and that a similar request would eventually be forwarded to the Regina-area Opposition MLAs. He noted a discussion relative to partnerships and a request for an update to Administrative Procedure 235 to be presented at the next Committee meeting, as well as a list of current school partnerships. He noted that the Committee also reviewed the format of previous meetings with MLAs. Mr. Hicks further advised that the agenda item relative to communication with School Community Councils would be forwarded to the Community Relations Committee.

Chair	S/T

Policy and Planning Committee

Mrs. T. Foster advised that the Policy and Planning Committee met on January 17, 2017, and was provided with an overview of the Provincial Education Sector Strategic Plan. She further advised that the Committee reviewed the process for Board policy reviews, and that Policy 19 “Election Contributions and Expenses” would be the next policy reviewed by the Committee. It was recommended that all Trustees review the Board’s policies and advise the Committee of those they believe should be reviewed this year. Lastly, Mrs. Foster noted that Mr. Mark Whiting, Supervisor, Policy, Planning and Research, presented the Committee with the draft Board Work Plan and Calendar for 2016-17 that forms part of Policy 2 “Role of the Board.” After requesting an amendment to the calendar, she advised that the Committee recommended Board approval of same.

Motion by Mrs. T. Foster:

That the proposed changes to Policy 2 “Role of the Board” be approved as presented.

Motion Carried.

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 Board allow videotaping to occur during the open portion of Board meetings, by amending Board Policy 7, clause 11, to read, “Anyone wanting to use an audio and/or video recording device at a public Board meeting shall be allowed to do so but must advise the Chair prior to the meeting before any audio and/or video recording commences.”

Subdivision Reports

Mrs. T. Foster advised that she and Mr. A. Hicks attended the Saskatchewan School Boards Association’s School for New Trustees in Saskatoon on February 11-13, 2017. She provided a brief summary of the workshop, noting discussions on many topics, including policy, governance, communication, risk management, and human resources. She noted that the workshop concluded with a panel of Education partners, including the Assistant Deputy Minister of Education, and representatives from the STF, LEADS and SASBO, and commented that many questions for the panel focused on the issue of transformational change.

Mr. A. Hicks echoed Mrs. Foster’s comments regarding the SSBA workshop, and further noted that they were able to meet with many other trustees from across the province, gleaned a lot of information on their practices. Mr. Hicks also advised that he recently attended a Movie Night at Dr. A. E. Perry School, hosted by the School Community Council (which believes it was the first to host such an event), and expressed appreciation for the SCC’s focus on community. He commented on the recent musical “Bring It On,” performed by students from Sheldon-Williams Collegiate, and conveyed great admiration for the impressive performance. Mr. Hicks further noted that he has attended a number of School Community Council meetings recently, and acknowledged the attendance of Superintendent Luc Lerminiaux at one of the meetings.

Mrs. C. Anderson advised that she was made aware by many School Community Council members of an aversion to filling out the recent online governance panel questionnaire because names and school division identification were required. Ms. A. Young concurred with Mrs. Anderson’s concerns, noting that the same message has been heard throughout the province.

Chair	S/T

As Vice-Chair of the SSBA, Ms. Young advised that the Association learned today that names were not going to be published, but also noted that the deadline for submissions was January 23, 2017. Dr. J. Ekong commented that ratepayers in her subdivision were willing to discuss their concerns with her but not willing to make a formal submission. Mrs. K. Gagne advised that this concern would be voiced by the Board at its meeting with the Governance Panel on Thursday.

Mrs. T. Foster further advised that she had attended a School Community Council meeting at Scott Collegiate prior to the Board meeting, and remarked on the enthusiasm of the SCC, and expressed a feeling of pride to be part of a Board that continues to invest in the North Central community and its students.

Closed
Session

Motion by Dr. J. Ekong:

That we go into closed session.

Motion Carried.

Motion by Dr. J. Ekong:

That we rise and report.

Motion Carried.

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

CUPE 3766
Grievance
#2016-02

1) That Grievance #2016-02, submitted by CUPE 3766, be declined.

CUPE 3766
Grievance
#2016-03

2) That Grievance #2016-03, submitted by CUPE 3766, be declined.

Meeting
Adjournment
Time

3) That the January 24, 2017 Board meeting be authorized to continue beyond the 10:00 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. J. Kasperski:

That recommendation No. 2 (above) from the Committee of the Whole be approved.

Motion Carried.

Chair	S/T

Motion by Ms. A. Young:

That recommendation No. 3 (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 *Information Sharing* and *Response to Perrins’ Report*. 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. C. Anderson:

That the meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried.

Time of meeting: 7:00 to 10:46 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer