

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	
	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 Mr. A. Hicks:</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.
	Ms. A. Young, as an employee of the City of Regina, declared a conflict of interest with respect to the matter of <i>Concept Plan and Zoning Bylaw Amendment Applications</i> .

Approving of Minutes	The Chairperson then asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on January 24, 2017.

Motion by Dr. J. Ekong:

That the minutes of the Board meeting of January 24, 2017, be approved as distributed.

Motion Carried.

“Deaf Crows” Presentation	Information regarding the “Deaf Crows” physical theatre play, written and performed by Deaf and Hard of Hearing (DHH) students and other members of the Deaf Community, had been distributed. Mr. Rick Steciuk, Superintendent, Student Achievement, introduced Ms. Joanne Weber, DHH Teacher at Thom Collegiate. Ms. Weber provided additional information, noting that part of her PhD studies was to create a culturally responsive pedagogy relative to increasing student achievement using home and school languages and culture, increasing the cultural and social wellbeing of deaf students, and enabling students to perform a cultural critique of the world around them using new understandings of American Sign Language (ASL) and deaf culture. Ms. Chrystene Ells, who

Chair	S/T

has a Master of Fine Arts Degree in Interdisciplinary Studies, and is currently enrolled in a Post-Master's program in Art Therapy, outlined the shared art spaces activity that allowed the students to express their feelings through art. She advised that "Deaf Crows" was born out of art work from a student representing his growth through art. She outlined the premise of the play, the crow symbolizing the personal experiences of the students in the hearing world. Ms. Weber noted that they have performed before two sold out audiences and will be attending the Sound Off Deaf Theatre Festival in Edmonton, Alberta. Mr. Berny Hi, who has a Bachelor of Fine Arts in Film and is a filmmaker and performer, advised that the Prairie Puppet Underground looks to engage the community through the art of puppetry, and outlined their work with a student to tell his story through ASL poetry, body movement, facial expressions, and shadow puppets. Ms. Weber highlighted the Deaf Crows website, outlining upcoming events and additional information. Ms. Weber responded to a question relative to DHH English as an Additional Language students. Board members expressed appreciation for the presentation and the continued work in the area of DHH education.

Allowing
Videotaping
During the
Open Portion of
Board Meetings

Mr. A. Hicks presented the motion of which he had given notice at the January 24, 2017 Board meeting. In support of the motion, Mr. Hicks pointed to the need for transparency during times of change, and improved and two-way communication. He further outlined that: 1) the Board is open to the public and allowing videotaping would demonstrate good will on the part of the Board that it would, to the best of its ability, be accommodating all communication; 2) the Board meeting minutes do not reflect the conversations and do not capture the reasoning behind decisions or discussions, whereas video can bring life and understanding to the public and, therefore, could ensure that tone is seen and help in ensuring a positive connection with the community; and 3) videotaping aligns with many of the current Board Policies already in existence. Finally, he noted that the motion does not recommend that the Division set-up videotaping but rather that the Board accepts the concept and will allow it. He further mentioned that if the motion is adopted, he may include videos with future Board meeting summaries posted on his Facebook page.

Ms. A. Young spoke against the motion, stating that, if a member of the public was to be allowed to videotape Board meetings, it would also be incumbent on the Division to videotape the proceedings for a matter of record. She observed that emails can be "cherry-picked" and distributed widely, and the same can be done with video recordings. In reference to another school division's practice of livestreaming, she advised that viewership of same is very low. She acknowledged Mr. Hicks' encouragement of two-way communication with the community, but noted that videotaping is not two-way dialogue.

Mrs. C. Anderson spoke against the motion, noting that she would much rather see people sitting in the gallery. She advised that she had researched the legal aspect of the matter, and determined that videotaping someone equates to a collection of personal data, even if it is in public. She further noted that the Board sees many presentations, and that some presenters can feel anxious presenting in open session, and videotaping could serve to increase that anxiety. She questioned who the legal data holder(s) would be and the potential for legal issues to arise in the future due to possible misrepresentations associated with said videos.

Dr. J. Ekong expressed concern about the policing of said video recording, noting that the Board would not know how and where the video recordings would be used. She noted that the Board's activities are already transparent, the open session of Board meetings are open to the public to attend, and the Board meeting minutes are posted on the Division's website. She advised that she

Chair	S/T

would want boundaries in place to limit how and where the video recordings could be used and the legalities involved.

Mrs. K. Gagne turned the Chair over to Ms. A. Young. Mrs. Gagne echoed Dr. Ekong’s comments regarding boundaries, and further noted that the established process for considering policy changes is through reference to the appropriate Standing Committee and that this motion circumvents that process. She noted that, to her, this was not a debate on the merits of videotaping, but rather regarding process. Ms. Young then returned the Chair to Mrs. Gagne.

Mr. J. Kasperski sought clarification as to which Standing Committee would be responsible for policy review. Mrs. Gagne noted that it would be the Policy and Planning Committee. Mr. Kasperski suggested that the matter be placed on the next Policy and Planning Committee meeting agenda.

Mr. A. Hicks closed debate by noting that what he was currently proposing would be at no cost to the Board. He further acknowledged that presenters can often feel anxious but that Board meetings are open to the public. He further commented that, as an elected official, he recognized that his words could be used without vetting. He encouraged engagement with the community. Mr. Hicks requested a recorded vote on the motion.

Motion by Mr. A. Hicks:

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.”

Motion Defeated.

[Mr. A. Hicks supported the motion; Mrs. C. Anderson, Mrs. K. Gagne, Mr. J. Kasperski, and Ms. A. Young opposed the motion; Dr. J. Ekong and Mrs. T. Foster abstained from voting.]

Concept Plan
and Zoning
Bylaw
Amendment
Applications –
Capital
Crossing

Information relative to a Concept Plan Amendment application for the Hawkstone subdivision had been distributed. Mr. Mark Whiting, Supervisor, Policy, Planning and Research, noted that the proposed change may continue to increase student population for the area. He outlined that, although open space linkages are identified, the Division is concerned that safe student pedestrian access from the development to the Dr. A. E. Hanna School site in Argyle Park be provided, and that planned roadway connections with sidewalks that were proposed for the area should proceed expeditiously in order to support this safe access. He further advised that, without roadway connections between Argyle Park and the Hawkstone subdivision, additional school bus trips and bus traffic will compound vehicle congestion in and out of the subdivision and increase student ride times. It was noted that this concern was raised previously with the City of Regina with respect to the Hawkstone subdivision.

Motion by Mrs. T. Foster:

That the City of Regina be advised of the School Division’s continuing concerns with respect to the proposed Hawkstone subdivision Concept Plan Amendment.

Motion Carried.

[Ms. A. Young abstained from discussion and voting on the above motion.]

Chair	S/T

Major Capital
Projects
Applications

Information regarding the Ministry of Education’s Major Capital Projects Funding Program had been distributed. Mr. Mark Whiting, Supervisor, Policy, Planning and Research, provided additional information, noting that school divisions have been requested to identify their top three capital project priorities for the 2018-2019 budget year for Ministry consideration. He advised that the previous year’s submission continues to align with Division capital planning commitments and future initiatives. He further advised that, as proposed joint school projects receive enhanced consideration in the Ministry’s review of project requests, the Administration, in discussion with the Regina Catholic School Division, had identified two additional potential joint school projects within the Board’s top three priorities, together with the joint-use High School facility in Southeast Regina originally submitted to the Ministry of Education in 2015. Mr. Whiting and Mr. Dave Bryanton, Superintendent, Educational Facilities, responded to questions relative to the Preventative Maintenance Renewal Plan, Current Replacement Value calculations, facility appraisal processes, in-house and contracted services, and the prioritization process.

Motion by Mrs. C. Anderson:

That the proposed Imperial/McDermid Schools merger and rebuild, the Athabasca/Argyle School merger rebuild, and the Haultain/Glen Elm School merger rebuild be re-submitted to the Ministry of Education as the Board’s continuing capital project priorities.

Motion Carried.

Motion by Mrs. C. Anderson:

That the Memorandum of Agreement between the Regina Roman Catholic Separate School Division No. 81 of Saskatchewan and the Board of Education of the Regina School Division No. 4 of Saskatchewan be approved and submitted to the Ministry of Education in support of both Boards’ capital project priorities.

Motion Carried.

Motion by Dr. J. Ekong:

That the major capital project funding application for a proposed joint-use High School facility originally submitted to the Ministry of Education in 2015 and 2016 be included with the 2017 submission.

Motion Carried.

2017-2018
School Year
Calendars

Mr. Mike Walter, Deputy Director, School Services, presented proposed elementary and high school calendars for the 2017-2018 school year. Mr. Walter advised that consultations continued with representatives from the Regina Catholic and Prairie Valley school divisions to align calendars as much as possible. He further noted that consultation had again been conducted with representatives from the Regina Public School Teachers’ Association and local union presidents. Mr. Walter highlighted that the Ministry of Education provided direction to school divisions that, for the 2017-18 school year, the first day of school for students is to be September 5, 2017. He further advised that the Winter break will commence December 22nd. He also pointed to changes from the documentation provided, outlining that there will be 178.5 instructional days and 16.5 non-instructional days for high schools. Mr. Walter responded to a note of feedback raised by Mr. A. Hicks relative to end-of-year staff time for elementary school classroom clean-up.

Chair	S/T

Motion by Mr. J. Kasperski:

That the 2017-2018 school year calendars be approved as presented, subject to review by the Ministry of Education.

Motion Carried.

Subdivision
Reports

Mrs. C. Anderson expressed appreciation to Campus Regina Public for giving her and Mr. A. Hicks a recent tour of the facility.

Mr. A. Hicks recognized the École Connaught and École Harbour Landing School Community Councils (SCC) in their playground equipment fundraising efforts. He noted that Administration will soon be bringing forward a proposal to the Aboriginal Education Advisory Council and the Davin SCC regarding the name of the school. He advised that the Argyle SCC, in an effort to reduce the speed of vehicles in the area, is looking at a community awareness campaign by posting traffic control signs in front of the school. He noted that Ethel Milliken School will be piloting a “Home Room Mom” program in the Fall. He advised that the Argyle SCC will be hosting a free screening of “Screenagers” at Sheldon-Williams Collegiate on March 13, 2017, a film exploring family life and the struggles over social media, video games, academics and internet addiction. He outlined the “MLA for a Day” initiative which was presented to the Dr. A. E. Perry and Ethel Milliken SCCs for consideration. He expressed appreciation to Mr. Greg Enion, Director of Education, for raising a concern at the Elementary School Principals’ meeting relative to accommodating students who usually walk home at noon to be allowed to stay during the lunch hour on extremely cold days. Mr. Hicks concluded by advising that he attended the SaskForward Policy Summit on January 28, 2017, and noted the “community hub” concept.

Closed
Session

Motion by Ms. A. Young:

That we go into closed session.

Motion Carried.

Motion by Mrs. T. Foster:

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 *Information Sharing and Public Section Update*. The progress reports were accepted.

Chair	S/T

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

Motion by Ms. A. Young:

That the meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried.

Time of meeting: 7:00 to 9:50 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer