

At the Annual Meeting of Electors of the Board of Education of the Regina School Division No. 4 of Saskatchewan, held at 1600 4th Avenue.

- Members Present

Mrs. Cindy Anderson
Dr. Jane Ekong
Mrs. Tanya Foster

Mr. Adam Hicks
Mr. Jay Kasperski
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
- Call to Order

Mr. A. Hicks, Vice-Chairperson of the Board of Education of the Regina School Division No. 4 of Saskatchewan, called the meeting to order and welcomed all in attendance.
- Election of Chairperson for the Meeting

Ms. Debra Burnett, Deputy Director, Division Services, and Secretary-Treasurer of the Board of Education of the Regina School Division No. 4 of Saskatchewan, invited nominations for the election of a Chairperson for the Annual Meeting of Electors. Mr. A. Hicks was nominated by Mrs. Laurie Gatzke.

Motion by Mr. Erik Van Dusen:

That nominations cease.

Motion Carried.

Mr. A. Hicks was declared elected by acclamation to serve as Chairperson of the Annual Meeting of Electors.
- Election of Secretary for the Meeting

Mr. A. Hicks, Chairperson of the meeting, then called for nominations for the appointment of a Secretary for the Annual Meeting of Electors. Ms. Debra Burnett was nominated by Mr. Gary Halbert.

Motion by Mrs. Paula Hesselink:

That nominations cease.

Motion Carried.

Ms. Debra Burnett was declared elected by acclamation to serve as Secretary of the Annual Meeting of Electors.

Mr. A. Hicks then welcomed questions or comments from ratepayers and others.

Chair	S/T

Comments
and/or
Questions from
Regina
Ratepayers and
from Others

Mr. Lucian Rosca, a member of the Dr. A. E. Perry School Community Council (SCC), expressed concern regarding the level of support that SCCs are getting from the Board, and inquired as to the Board’s plans in this regard. Mr. A. Hicks advised that Board members are contacted by SCCs but noted that staff reductions have caused some pressures. He confirmed that requests received have not been forgotten. Ms. A. Young advised that boards and school divisions across the province are bound by provincial legislation, and much work has been undertaken at the provincial level by the Saskatchewan School Boards Association (SSBA), to determine the role of and support for SCCs. She advised that Regina Public Schools has been advocating for a review of the legislation. Mr. Greg Enion, Director of Education, outlined that the Board’s annual budget includes funding for each SCC, but also reported that the student population continues to grow by one school a year which results in financial pressures. He pointed to the efforts made to enhance parent engagement with events such as the Parent Forum held in November, and reiterated that the Board takes the role of the SCC seriously and appreciates the work of SCC members. Mr. Rosca asserted that a system needs to be in place to support SCCs. Mr. Hicks affirmed that SCCs are a powerful tool in helping build and support education and students.

Ms. Tara Boutin inquired as to when SCCs’ roles will be defined and if there are resources available to SCCs in the interim. Mr. A. Hicks referenced the legislation and the Division’s SCC Handbook. Ms. Boutin advised that SCCs are not fully understanding the legislation/rules. Mr. Hicks advised that training for SCCs is being discussed. Mrs. C. Anderson acknowledged the frustration of SCCs. She advised that work is being done with the SSBA and boards are advocating for a restructuring of the provincial guidelines. She further commented that the Community Relations Committee of the Board is looking at finding ways to work with SCCs in the interim. Ms. Naomi Shanks suggested an orientation for SCCs at the beginning of each school year, and proposed utilizing members from high functioning SCCs in the orientation process.

Ms. Ida Sadowski spoke of the importance of hydration, and inquired if water filling stations will be installed at all schools, not just the new builds. Mr. A. Hicks advised that water filling stations are expensive. He noted that the SCC at École Massey School, where his son attends, found an inexpensive attachment that could be used on the existing water fountains. He referenced a Facebook group where ideas and input can be shared amongst SCCs. Mr. Lucian Rosca noted that the Dr. A. E. Perry SCC had recently discussed the same matter and was advised that they could fundraise. He inquired if the SCC is to purchase the water filling stations or if the Division has a supplier and installs them. Mr. Dave Bryanton, Superintendent, Educational Facilities, advised that the Division has a number of models it recommends, and the Division would arrange the installation service. He advised that the SCC should contact the Facilities Department to submit a service request and detail would be provided regarding the funds required to be raised.

Ms. Ginelle Hall inquired what the School Division is doing for children at a young age relative to mental health issues. Mr. Greg Enion, Director of Education, advised that such programming is a priority for the Division. He noted that each school belongs to a Student Achievement Team, with a number of professionals that provide support to and assist classroom teachers with strategies and approaches to aid children that may be experiencing anxiety or mental health issues. He further advised that the Division has a partnership with

Chair	S/T

Child and Youth Services, and that mental health consultants are linked with the Student Achievement Teams to also support staff. He identified the need for more targeted programming, and expressed hope that provincial funding support will improve in this area.

Ms. Rhonda Akan inquired as to support systems for Indigenous students. Mr. Greg Enion, Director of Education, advised that every high school and four elementary schools have an Indigenous Advocate Teacher to support Indigenous students, noting that the Board is very interested in growing these supports. He referenced the Elders-in-Residence program, as well as the Indigenous Education Advisory Council that meets with the Board three to four times a year to provide advice. He spoke of the recommendations from the Truth and Reconciliation Commission, and the work being undertaken at schools to develop more awareness of residential schools and colonialism and the impact of same on the Indigenous community. He advised that many employees have also received Blanket Exercise training. He acknowledged that many Indigenous students are underperforming, and recognized that the Division needs to continue to improve the supports for those students. Mr. A. Hicks mentioned the annual Indigenous Student Forum. He further commended the Indigenous Advocate Teachers for the positive work they are doing in the schools. Mr. Jeff Perry, President, Regina Public School Teachers' Association, referenced the Following Our Voices program. Mr. Darren Boldt, Deputy Director, Student Achievement, advised that the program, currently at Scott and Balfour Collegiates (with a hope of expanding to other high schools), seeks the voices of the students and empowers them to have input into their education. Mr. Hicks further advised that the program receives additional funding from the government.

Adjournment Mr. A. Hicks thanked everyone for attending and then called for a motion to adjourn the meeting.

Motion by Mrs. Juanita Redekopp-McKeown:

That the meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried.

Time of meeting: 8:25 to 9:01 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer