

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
	Mr. Adam Hicks, Vice-Chair	Mr. Jay Kasperski
	Mrs. Cindy Anderson	Ms. Aleana Young
	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	

Dr. J. Ekong acknowledged the location of every Regina Public School and the School Division Office on Treaty 4 land.

The Chairperson called the meeting to order and asked for a motion to adopt the agenda. It was agreed that items 6a<sup>ii</sup>, *Communication and Advocacy Committee*, 8e, *Budget Deliberations*, and 10c, *Adjusted School Day*, be considered in the open session portion of the meeting. It was further requested that a second *Capital Projects* item be added for consideration in closed session.

Adoption of Agenda	<u>Motion by Mrs. T. Foster:</u>
	That, with the amendments requested, the agenda be adopted.
Motion Carried.	

Declaration of Any Conflicts	The Chairperson asked if there were any conflicts of interest to be declared.
	Mr. A. Hicks declared a conflict of interest with respect to the Public Section matter on the agenda and further indicated that he had not opened the attachment related to this item. Ms. A. Young advised that, as CUPE Saskatchewan has elected to formally affiliate with the NDP, and, as she is a NDP candidate in the upcoming provincial election, in future she would be abstaining from any CUPE-related matters that come before the Board, including grievance matters.

Approving of Minutes	The Chairperson then asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on March 5, 2019.
	<u>Motion by Dr. J. Ekong:</u>
	That the minutes of the Board meeting of March 5, 2019, be approved as distributed.
Motion Carried.	

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Sheldon-Williams Collegiate Student Initiatives

Information regarding student initiatives at Sheldon-Williams Collegiate had been distributed. Mr. Ken Meredith, Principal, Sheldon-Williams Collegiate, introduced a number of students in attendance, who made separate presentations on various topics to the Board. Two students presented on the school’s partnership with the Canadian Mental Health Association Regina Branch and the My Mind Campaign that supports Canadian Mental Health initiatives. The students highlighted plans to install an Awareness Bench at the school that showcases mental health support systems available. The students further reported on the annual Wake-a-thon, with this year’s fundraising goal set at \$17,000. The SRC’s President and Treasurer presented on the Wellness Fair to be held May 30th, organized by staff and students. They outlined that, based on the results of this year’s Our School survey, the focus for the Wellness Fair will be on promoting and learning new ways to improve one’s mental health, with sessions on yoga, mindfulness and fitness being offered throughout the day and a keynote speaker to conclude the day’s events. Two students presented on a creative writing class that is bringing awareness to many issues in today’s society, including identity, mental health, and multiculturalism. They highlighted the recent Multicultural Awareness Day that showcased dancing, poetry and songs and music. They also advised that they have received a donation for three years in a row from the Multicultural Council of Saskatchewan to support the work they are doing. Finally, teacher Christine Mishra and two students provided information on the Coding and Robotics Club and its goal to prepare students to be citizens in the digital age. Ms. Mishra advised that the club received a \$2,400 grant from Best Buy, one of only 13 classes across Canada to receive the grant, and indicated that the funds will be used to upgrade equipment and purchase new robot kits. The students engaged in a robot competition presentation. The students responded to questions regarding their presentations. Board members expressed appreciation for the presentations.

Communication and Advocacy Committee

Dr. J. Ekong provided a summary of discussions held at the Communication and Advocacy Committee meeting held on March 12, 2019. She advised that feedback from the AGM/Community Engagement Forum was reviewed and that the SCC/Parent/Community feedback would be circulated to SCC Chairs, together with a summary of same. She further advised that a date and format for next year’s forum would be discussed at the next Committee meeting, and that SCC input on discussion topics would be sought. She noted that Regina Public Schools, Saskatoon Public Schools and Sask Rivers were involved in joint advocacy work and advised that, once the collection of data was completed and reviewed, it would be shared with Board members. Live streaming of Board meetings was also discussed, and Dr. Ekong noted that further details on this matter would be discussed later in the meeting. She noted a review of information relative to Global Philanthropic Events. The topic of past deliverables was discussed, and she advised that the consensus of the Committee was that future deliverables should have timeframes and deadlines attached to them. She reported that the Committee agreed that timeframes need to be set for the planning of advocacy meetings, including when invitations are sent out, and a when advocacy talking points are circulated. The issue of mental health and the need to address stress levels being felt by staff and students was also considered. She next advised that the agenda for the March 14th Joint Board meeting with Regina Catholic Schools was reviewed. She then noted a discussion regarding Education in the future and whether students are being adequately prepared for the workforce of the future. She referenced the possibility of establishing a feedback loop, including boards of education, the Faculty of Education, Ministry, and industry, with said loop allowing industry to advise of the skills that students would need, thus enabling universities to train teachers appropriately. She commented that feedback received at the Engagement Forum included concerns relative to students being prepared for the future. Mr. Greg Enion, Director of Education, reported to the Committee on partnerships already developed between the Division and industry, outlined

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courses currently being offered through Campus Regina Public, and updated the Committee on a potential partnership being formed with Sask Polytechnic. Ms. A. Young also advised the Committee of a session being held at the SSBA Spring Assembly that addresses this topic. Lastly, the Committee discussed concerns that have been brought forward regarding a perceived lack of communication to communities on facility conditions. Dr. Ekong responded to questions relative to video conferencing into Board meetings for Board members, and education of the future.

Live Streaming Statistics and System Costs      Information relative to statistics and system costs associated with live streaming of Board meetings had been distributed. Mr. Terry Lazarou, Supervisor, Communications, provided additional information. He reminded Board members that live streaming of Board meetings began on September 26, 2017. He referenced the memorandum provided to Board members outlining the viewing statistics over time as well as the costs of equipment, archiving services, and staffing. Mr. Lazarou responded to questions relative to viewership comparison with other school divisions, and average number of viewers. Board members expressed appreciation for the report.

Policy and Governance Committee      Mr. J. Kasperski provided a summary of discussions held at the Policy and Governance Committee meeting held on March 14, 2019. He advised that the Committee discussed the four policies that were identified for review at the last meeting and suggested revisions to same for review again at the next Committee meeting. He further advised that Policy 12 *Role of the Director* and Policy 16 *Recruitment and Selection of Administrative Personnel* were also discussed. He noted that a review of Policy 18 *School Community Councils* is being held in abeyance pending receipt of a report from the Saskatchewan School Boards Association. Possible changes to Policy 7 *Board Operations* were discussed, and he advised that the Committee recommended a number of changes. He commented that Mr. Mark Whiting, Supervisor, Policy, Planning and Research, will review legislation and provide information at the next meeting. Mr. Greg Enion, Director of Education, presented the Committee with an update on the Education Sector Strategic Plan, as Cycle 4 planning is currently taking place, and noted that long-term planning and discussions for 2020 are included in this cycle. He advised that Mr. Whiting provided the Committee with an update on subdivision boundaries for the 2020 municipal election, discussing three options for electoral boundary changes, and noting that the Committee is contemplating a status quo scenario, with Mr. Whiting to contact the City to determine any electoral impacts associated with this option. Mr. Kasperski outlined that he had requested that the Division purchase an Educational Organization Management System, which is applicable to any educational organization that uses a curriculum to support the development of competence through teaching, learning or research, and aims to enhance satisfaction of learners, other beneficiaries and staff through effective application of the system. He noted that he could forward the document to any interested Board members. He concluded by reporting that the Committee suggested a new process be explored to assist with Board and Committee meeting agenda setting, perhaps using One-Note to generate a running list of topics that Board members would like to discuss throughout the school year, and confirmed that Mr. Enion will ensure that time is set aside at a future Board meeting to familiarize Board members with the use of One-Note. Mr. Kasperski responded to questions relative to the Education Sector Strategic Plan Cycle 4 update, and subdivision boundaries for Board municipal elections.

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Facilities Information Ms. A. Young presented the motion of which she had given notice at the March 5, 2019 Board meeting.

Motion by Ms. A. Young:

WHEREAS it is a mutually agreed to advocacy priority of this Regina Board of Education; and  
WHEREAS we have spoken collectively as a Board to the critical state of our facilities, deferred maintenance, and management thereof, and the ongoing need for increased funding in preventative maintenance;  
BE IT RESOLVED that Senior Administration be directed to provide a current list of facilities, conditions, maintenance (actual, projections, deferred), risks, time-scaled projections, and decision items to the Board by the April 16 meeting.

Mrs. C. Anderson advised that she appreciated the motion but would like updates when events or situations happen. Dr. J. Ekong inquired if the motion should be referred to the Audit and Risk Management Committee. To this end, Ms. Young advised that, after several requests, she felt the information was needed to inform pre-budget advocacy. She further advised that she was open to amendments, however, she affirmed that she does want the information eventually. Dr. Ekong reflected that Standing Committees have a mandate and that she would be uncomfortable circumventing the duties of the Audit and Risk Management Committee. Mr. A. Hicks advised that he would prefer regular Facilities updates to the Board, but observed that the matter could be referred to the Audit and Risk Management Committee for further consideration. Mrs. K. Gagne advised that she would not oppose such a motion, but thought the information should go to the Standing Committee for recommendations. Mr. J. Kasperski inquired on the staff time commitment to fulfil such a request. Mr. Greg Enion, Director of Education, advised that the dedication of significant resources would be required to assemble all of the requested documentation. Ms. Young offered that she would content to have to the motion directed to the Audit and Risk Management Committee.

Motion by Mrs. C. Anderson:

That the above-noted motion be referred to the Audit and Risk Management Committee for consideration.

Motion Carried.

Twelfth Year Information had been distributed regarding the Twelfth Year Opening Ceremony to be held on Monday, May 6, 2019, at 6:00 p.m., at the Saskatchewan Science Centre IMAX Theatre Lobby. Mr. A. Hicks agreed to attend the event and to extend greetings and congratulations on behalf of Regina Public Schools.

Budget Deliberations Information regarding the 2019-20 Provincial Budget had been distributed. Ms. Debra Burnett, Deputy Director, Division Services, provided additional information, noting that total provincial operational funding for Prekindergarten-Grade 12 education was increased by \$26.2M to \$1.9B, translating into a 1.4% increase in funding over that provided for the 2018-19 school year. She advised that the increase is associated with the following factors: \$14.5M for enrolment increase and inflation; \$10.0M for the Provincial Teachers’ Collective Bargaining Agreement; and \$1.69M for SPTRB registration fees. She further advised that it was worth noting that this will restore overall provincial funding to 2016-17 budget levels (\$1.89B) while, since that time, net provincial student enrolment will have increased by a projected 1,616 FTEs, student needs are

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intensifying, the costs associated with a new provincial teachers’ agreement will take effect, three years of inflationary costs will have accrued, and a carbon tax will be implemented. In terms of the funding formula, she commented that the most notable changes were the incorporation of an updated utilization factor in determining plant operation and maintenance funding and the creation of a language and cultural component (for the conseil des écoles fransaskoises) and francophone factors for Supports for Learning and Transportation. She outlined that school division funding allocations are based on September 2019 projected enrolments and are subject to adjustment in Fall 2019 once actual enrolments are known. She noted that, when adjusted for the Associate Schools flow through and debt repayment amounts, the funding increase for Regina Public Schools was 1.9% compared to the 2018-19 budget and 1.8% compared to the current enrolment adjustment of December 2018. With respect to Regina Public-specific capital-related matters, she outlined that approval was granted to proceed with planning for and designing of a replacement St. Pius X/Argyle joint-use school, that Preventative Maintenance and Renewal funding was increased by 15.3%, and that three new relocatables were approved. She further outlined that the Board’s request for a new school in Harbour Landing is ranked as #8 on the province’s major capital request list. Ms. Burnett and Mr. Greg Enion, Director of Education, responded to questions relative to the carbon tax implementation impacts, the potential closure of Cornwall Alternative School, and relocatables. Board members expressed appreciation for the report.

Adjusted School Day

Information regarding adjusted school days had been distributed. Mr. Darren Boldt, Deputy Director, Student Achievement, advised that seven elementary schools currently have an adjusted school day to better meet the needs of the schools’ learners and communities. He advised that the adjusted day schedules morning recess at the beginning of the day and afternoon recess at the end of the day. He further advised that three schools have adjusted times during the day, but continue to have the 15-minute morning and afternoon recesses at some point. He outlined the process for a school to apply for an adjusted day, and noted that the adjusted days have been well received. Mr. Mike Walter, Deputy Director, School Services, noted that compliance with the legislated instructional time is ensured with adjusted day scenarios. Mr. Boldt and Mr. Walter responded to questions relative to compatibility with the Division’s attendance policy, timing of recesses, and provision for breaks during the day. Board members expressed appreciation for the report.

Notice of Motion

Dr. J. Ekong gave notice of her intention to present a motion at a future Board meeting relative to setting a timeframe for deliverables.

Subdivision Reports

Mrs. K. Gagne extended congratulations to 2019 Provincial Gold basketball champions, Regina Christian School 3A Boys and Harvest City Christian Academy 2A Girls.

Mr. A. Hicks advised that he attended the SupaMan performance at the māmawêyatitân centre, and expressed appreciation for the positive and motivating event that was organized by Ms. Sarah Longman, Supervisor, Indigenous Education. He noted that a joint School Community Council meeting for subdivision 3 was held on March 13th, that included a 30-minute debrief with Mr. Greg Enion, Director of Education. He further thanked Board members, Mr. J. Kasperski and Mrs. T. Foster, for attending. He pointed to the focus on accountability to the SCCs, ensuring that the Board reports back to them on updates and ideas. He concluded by mentioning a Family Yoga event at Ethel Milliken School that led to the physical education teacher offering sessions during the parent-teacher conferences.

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Mrs. C. Anderson extended congratulations to Campbell Collegiate for successfully hosting the 2019 Provincial Wrestling Competition.

Dr. J. Ekong advised that she attended the SupaMan performance at École Wascana Plains School, and expressed appreciation for how the performer spoke about the hardships he faced throughout his life and how dancing helped him rise above those adversities. She applauded the Administration for inviting him to perform and providing such an encouraging message to the students.

Closed Session     Motion by Ms. A. Young:

That we go into closed session in order to consider those matters identified on the meeting agenda for referral to said session.

Motion Carried.

Motion by Mrs. C. Anderson:

That we rise and report.

Motion Carried.

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

- Public Section Update

1) That the Public Section Litigation Assessment of \$2/student be authorized for payment.
- Meeting Adjournment Time

2) That the March 26, 2019 Board meeting be authorized to continue beyond the 8:30 p.m. presumptive adjournment time.
- Capital Projects

3) That, in response to Ministry of Education request for clarification, the following be confirmed as the Board’s major capital projects for 2020-21:

1) New school in Harbour Landing;

2) Rebuild/re-life of Lakeview School;

3) Rebuild/re-life of Balfour Collegiate; and

4) Joint southeast high school.

4) That, in light of enrolment projections for École Connaught Community School, the Administration be authorized to proceed with the acquisition and installation of four relocatable classrooms at École Connaught Community School, with costs beyond those recognized by the Ministry of Education to be charged to unrestricted reserves, if required.

Motion by Ms. A. Young:

That recommendation No. 1 (above) from the Committee of the Whole be approved.

Motion Carried.

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Motion by Dr. J. Ekong:

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

Motion Carried.

Motion by Mr. A. Hicks:

That recommendation No. 3 (above) from the Committee of the Whole be approved.

Motion Carried.

Motion by Mr. A. Hicks:

That recommendation No. 4 (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 *Budget Deliberations, SSBA Spring Assembly Networking Meeting, Language Program Update, Personnel Matter, Transportation Update, Recruitment, and Director and Board Evaluation*. The progress reports were accepted.

[Mr. A. Hicks absented himself from the discussion with respect to Public Section Update.]

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

Motion by Dr. J. Ekong:

That the meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried.

Time of meeting: 5:30 to 9:10 p.m.

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Chairperson

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Secretary-Treasurer