

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	

Mrs. C. Anderson acknowledged the location of every Regina Public School and the School Division Office on Treaty 4 land.

Prior to calling the meeting to order, Mrs. K. Gagne made the following comments:

- I would like to take a moment, before we proceed any further.
- I would like to apologize on behalf of myself, the Board of Education, and my fellow Trustees for hurt that has resulted following the October 15th vote. For that, I apologize. We did not handle this situation the way that we should have.
- We, as a Board should not have placed the motion on the agenda until such time as some Trustees had had an opportunity to know, discuss and seek clarification.
- The Board faced a situation we had never previously navigated, whereby Trustees were unaware the motion was coming to that agenda until it had been made public. For that, the Board needs to apologize.
- I want to make clear, the information circulating about me personally giving direction and/or instructing a letter writing campaign is not true. Having said that, I apologize, personally, for how this motion was handled. I am sorry. I will, as will the Board, strive to do better for all of you.
- I know, the misunderstandings that arose out of this vote and the misinformation that has circulated has caused pain and anxiety for our communities and uncertainty for our students and staff.
- I do wish to make one thing clear. At no time did the Board give any direction for the School Division or our schools to stop or change our current practices.
- Your voice is important and we have heard from so many of you. As your Board of Education, we will work to create more clarity for all school activities and will strive to build a safe and inclusive environment for all students and staff.
- I thank you for your understanding and your patience and, again, my very sincere apologies.

Mrs. Gagne then read the following statement on behalf of the Board:

Chair	S/T

Following the October 15, 2019 meeting of the Board of Education, many people offered different perspectives and accounts of how Regina Public Schools should participate in Pride events. We heard you.

As has been previously communicated, there has been no change in direction at any Regina Public school as a result of this meeting. The Board of Education Trustees have determined to establish a committee with community stakeholders.

The composition of this special committee will be comprised of community stakeholders, including representation from the 2SLGBTQ+ communities. The terms of reference and more details will be shared as soon as they are available and before the end of this school year.

The Board supports Gay-Straight Alliances and other activities that promote inclusion and we want to ensure that staff and students have opportunities to celebrate Pride. The Board wants to reaffirm the Division’s commitment to provide a safe and inclusive environment for all students and staff, including those who identify as 2SLGBTQ+.

The hope by both the School Division and the Board of Education is that all of the Shared Values, but especially those of I Respect and I Belong continue to be meaningful throughout all schools and offices and that all students and staff feel safe and welcome every day.

The Chairperson then called the meeting to order and asked for a motion to adopt the agenda. It was requested that the following item be added: *SCC Joint Forum with Regina Catholic Schools*.

Adoption of  
Agenda

Motion by Mr. J. Kasperski:

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.

Approving of  
Minutes

The Chairperson then asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on October 15, 2019.

Motion by Dr. J. Ekong:

That the minutes of the Board meeting of October 15, 2019, be approved as distributed.

Motion Carried.

Queen City For  
All

The Board received a presentation from Queen City For All. Mr. Eric Bell advised that, following the defeat of the Pride recognition motion at the October 15th Board meeting, he has heard from many parents and students who are upset and embarrassed by the Board’s decision—a decision, he said, that has damaged the reputation of Regina Public schools as welcoming, safe, inclusive spaces for all, and it is not reflective of what many people think of our schools. He

Chair	S/T

advised that the elected trustees, and especially the Board Chair, should promote and celebrate the lives of queer students. He outlined that the rates of homelessness and suicide are disproportionately higher for those in the LBGTQ+ community and the message sent by defeating the motion was devastating. He presented the Chairperson with a petition, signed by over 5,000 people, asking for Mrs. K. Gagne’s resignation as Chairperson. He asked that the Board members reflect on the petition and what it means. He expressed appreciation for Mrs. Gagne’s apology at the start of the meeting but also said that more needs to be done, stating that the best thing to do would be to bring back the motion and pass it. On behalf the Board, Mrs. Gagne thanked Mr. Bell for the presentation and received the petition.

Summer  
Success Report

Information regarding the United Way Summer Success Reading Camps had been distributed. Ms. Lois Herridge, Superintendent, Student Achievement, introduced individuals in the gallery who were part of the 2019 Reading Camps. She noted that the camps started in 2015 with four locations, and then expanded to seven camps and the implementation of an advisory committee. With additional partnerships this year, she advised that there were 11 camps in eight locations, with a new Grades 3-4-5 camp held at the māmawêyatitân centre. Mr. Erik Van Dusen, Supervisor of Assessment, provided data regarding the camps, noting that 89% of the students achieved 80% or better attendance, and 77% of the students maintained or improved upon their June reading benchmark levels. For the Prekindergarten and Kindergarten students, Mr. Van Dusen advised that observation assessments were taken and 100% of those students improved upon or maintained early literacy behaviours, 83% improved early literacy behaviours by at least 1 point, and the average growth among the PreK and K students was 3 points. He also provided attendance data on family engagement activities, noting that research shows students are more successful in their education when their caregivers are involved. Staff members from the Arcola and the māmawêyatitân centre camps offered highlights from their camp experiences. The presenters responded to questions relative to program expansion, older student participation, involvement of former student participants, community engagement, participant selection, potential for program expansion, high school transition engagement possibilities, costs per camp, and engagement with the Seniors community. Board members expressed appreciation for the presentation and the program. Mr. Greg Enion, Director of Education, reminded everyone of the 4th Annual Laughter for Literacy event being held on March 27, 2020.

Policy and  
Governance  
Committee

Mr. J. Kasperski provided a summary of the Policy and Governance Committee meeting held on October 22, 2019. He advised that Ms. Debra Burnett, Deputy Director of Division Services, presented information on child care and before and after providers and their days of operation, noting that contracts are for activities on school days only, but that some before and after providers were operating outside of their contracts, utilizing the school on non-school days, such as on holidays during the school year and PD days. He advised that Administration would gather information from Principals with child cares and before and after school programs in their schools, and a review would be conducted with revised contracts proposed for next year. Interim arrangements involving additional rental fees will be made for the remainder of the 2019-20 school year only. He advised that the Committee reviewed and approved minor changes to Policies 2, 8 and 11, and noted that Policies 3, 7, 10, 12, 13, 14, and 19, will be reviewed at the next Committee meeting. He commented that the Board Development Plan review was deferred to the next Committee meeting. Mr. Kasperski responded to questions relative to policy review processes and revisions to administrative procedures.

Chair	S/T

Motion by Mr. J. Kasperski:

That the proposed revisions to Policies 2, 8 and 11 be approved, as presented.

Motion Carried.  
(Unanimously)

Indigenous  
Education  
Advisory  
Council

Mrs. K. Gagne provided a summary of the Indigenous Education Advisory Council meeting held on October 25, 2019, highlighting that Ms. Sarah Longman, Supervisor of Indigenous Education, informed the Council that the Regina Indian Industrial School display, located in Division Office across from the Alex Youck Museum, is now complete, with display pieces, informational pieces and artifacts from the schools. It was noted that the display is available for viewing and is open to the public. She advised that Mr. Darren Boldt, Deputy Director of Student Achievement, and Mr. Erik Van Dusen, Supervisor of Assessment, presented achievement results, outlining that the Division currently has over 24,600 students and approximately 20% of the students are self-declared. She acknowledged that Regina Public Schools continues to work diligently to close the achievement gap between non-Indigenous and Indigenous students. Mrs. Gagne concluded by recognizing Ms. Longman, as her last day with the Division was October 31st, and reported that the Council presented Ms. Longman with a star blanket to commemorate her commitment to Indigenous students and to the School Division.

Communication  
and Advocacy  
Committee

Dr. J. Ekong provided an overview of the many items discussed at the Communication and Advocacy Committee meeting held on October 29, 2019, including a follow-up on the invitation sent to the Minister of Education and a review of the meeting with MLAs. She noted that the recent Advocacy Seminar was both helpful and positive, with the Committee discussing the potential of holding another seminar approximately one year after the new Board is in place. Relative to a review of joint transportation with the Regina Catholic Schools, she advised that Administration will be preparing a report for the Board to review prior to budget deliberations. She briefly outlined discussions relative to: 1) school enrolment, including special needs and intensive needs, and the level of current funding; 2) increased graduation strategies and tracking outcomes; 3) student bus passes; 4) joint meetings with Regina Catholic Schools and the City of Regina; 5) the AGM and Community Engagement Forum, which will be discussed further at the November 26th Board meeting; 6) the Volunteer Recognition Program, that will now be called the Community Values Award; 7) community partnership successes; and 8) a meeting scheduled with the Chair of Saskatoon Public Schools to discuss the work of its foundation. Dr. Ekong responded to a question relative to timeline notification of the Community Values Award.

Proposed  
Resolution

Mrs. K. Gagne noted that, during its Board Planning Meeting on October 29th, it had been suggested that the Board submit an additional resolution for presentation at the 2019 Saskatchewan School Boards Association Annual Convention.

Motion by Ms. A. Young:

That the following resolution and associated rationale be approved for submission to the Saskatchewan School Boards Association for consideration at the 2019 Annual Convention:

Chair	S/T

BE IT RESOLVED that the Saskatchewan School Boards Association request that the Government of Saskatchewan provide guidance to school divisions as it relates to the accommodation of immune-compromised students, staff, and volunteers, as well as those who are electively unvaccinated.

Motion Carried.  
(Unanimously)

Subdivision Reports      Mr. A. Hicks advised that he had visited a couple of Halloween dances, with one of them having 600 people attend. He further advised that he had attended three GSA meetings to learn more about the alliances, and he expressed hope that one or more GSA leaders would present at a future Board meeting.

Closed Session      Motion by Mrs. T. Foster:

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 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 *Personnel Matter, Joint Board Meetings, Student Transportation, Trustee Training Matrix, SCC Joint Forum with Regina Catholic Schools*, and *OneNote Review*. The progress reports were accepted.

[Ms. A. Young absented herself from the discussion with respect to *Personnel Matter*.]

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: 5:30 to 8:02 p.m.

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Chairperson

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Secretary-Treasurer