

At a meeting of the Board of Education of the Regina School Division No. 4 of Saskatchewan, held via teleconference at 1600 4th Avenue.

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| 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 | |

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| Administration Present | Mr. Greg Enion, Director of Education |
| | Ms. Naomi Mellor, Deputy Director, Division Services/CFO |
| | Mr. Darren Boldt, Deputy Director, Student Achievement |

Mrs. K. Gagne 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.

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| Adoption of Agenda | <u>Motion by Mr. A. Hicks:</u> |
| | That the agenda be adopted as prepared. |

Motion Carried.

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| 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 March 3, 2020. |
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| | <u>Motion by Mrs. C. Anderson:</u> |
| | That the minutes of the Board meeting of March 3, 2020, be approved as distributed. |

Motion Carried.

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| Policy and Governance Committee | Mr. J. Kasperski advised that the Policy and Governance Committee met on March 10, 2020, to review a number of items, including proposed amendments to Policies 3, 10, 13, 14 and 19, noting that Committee members recommended additional changes, and that the copies included in the Board package include those changes. He further noted a discussion relative to access to Board and Standing Committee agenda packages, and advised that Mr. Darren Boldt, Deputy Director, Student Achievement, will follow-up with Mr. Joe Maierhoffer, Manager of Information Governance and Reporting, to determine |
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options that can be presented to the new Board. He commented on a discussion regarding communicating to the Board on Administrative Procedures updates and advised that, going forward, any AP updates will be presented in an Executive Summary twice a year as part of a Board meeting agenda. In regard to Policy 19, he noted a suggestion from Committee members for the development of a one-page document that could be circulated to potential trustees on what can and cannot be done when campaigning for an election. Also, regarding the Appendix to Policy 19, he noted that Ms. Delaine Clyne, Supervisor, Policy, Planning and Research, would review and ensure that the Board follows the same format used by the City of Regina. He responded to a question relative to changed wording to Item 1 on page 2 of Policy 10.

Motion by Mr. J. Kasperski:

That the proposed amendments to Policies 3, 10, 13, 14 and 19, be approved, as presented.

Motion Carried.
(Unanimously)

Mr. Kasperski shared the remainder of his report with the Board via email, including:

- Committee members discussed the Board Development Plan, and it was the consensus that it be brought forward after a new Board is elected.
- Committee members agreed that Administration would work with the RPSTA and other employee groups to prepare a joint communication that would include guidelines for appropriate social media messages and wording, which could include a Code of Conduct.
- Committee members discussed notice of motion processes and potential changes that could strengthen current practice. Administration will research various motions that can be filed and develop draft wording to be added to Policy.
- Committee members were advised that the current practice for Closed Session is for the Executive Assistant to take notes of the discussions for use in preparing minutes, after which the notes are destroyed. Committee members were informed that they can request to see the formal recorded minutes from Closed Session portions of Board meetings.
- Committee members briefly discussed Board training and sessions offered through the SSBA, and it was agreed that this should be revisited after the November Board election.
- Mr. Kasperski inquired on follow-up reporting on the recommendations presented in Ms. Glenna Curry’s Mental Health and Wellness report, and was advised by Mr. Greg Enion, Director of Education, that there will be a Strategic Plan developed and there will be some form of matrix built in for annual reporting.

Committee Meetings in March, April and May

A list of Standing Committee meetings scheduled for March, April and May had been distributed. Mrs. K. Gagne inquired of the Committee Chairs if the meetings will proceed and, if so, in what format. Mrs. T. Foster, Chair of the Personnel and Organizational Culture Committee, advised that the March 31st meeting could be deferred to a later date, prior to the end of June. Mr. A. Hicks, Chair of the Audit and Risk Management Committee, advised he would like to proceed with the April 6th meeting, via teleconference, with an abbreviated agenda. Mrs. Foster, Chair of the Community Relations Committee, proposed that she would circulate information to Committee members relative to the Community Engagement Plan and that, if consensus was reached in that regard via email, the May 12th meeting could be cancelled. Mr. J. Kasperski, Chair of

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the Policy and Governance Committee, advised that the May 19th meeting could be deferred to a later date, prior to the end of June. Dr. J. Ekong, Chair of the Communication and Advocacy Committee, requested that the March 17th meeting that had been cancelled, be rescheduled for a date in April, possibly April 14th, via teleconference, with an abbreviated agenda. Mrs. Gagne advised that the Indigenous Education Advisory Council meeting scheduled for April has been cancelled, but requested that Mr. Greg Enion, Director of Education, arrange a teleconference meeting in the near future for Board members to meet with the new Supervisor of Indigenous Education, Ms. Vanea Cyr.

COVID-19
Preparedness
Update

Mr. Greg Enion, Director of Education, provided Board members with a brief update regarding Division and sector responses to the COVID-19 pandemic during the last nine days, including the Provincial directive to indefinitely suspend elementary and high school classes beginning Friday, March 20th, and the subsequent Provincial directive that all school divisions pause educational operations for a one-week period and direct all school staff to stay home from Friday, March 20th until end of day Friday, March 27th. He advised that all facilities are still being checked daily by facilities staff to ensure functionality and safety. Relative to a further request from the Province, he advised that some child care centres remain open in our facilities, and facilities staff are checking those facilities daily and are available to support them. He advised that Division Office staff have also been allowed to work from home during this week, and out-of-scope staff are preparing plans for moving forward. He confirmed that reception phone messages and emails are being monitored and responded to daily. He noted many conference calls that have been happening over the last two weeks, including Board Chair calls and Director calls, and highlighted the recent information from the Provincial Response Team regarding the forming of two sub-committees, a Corporate Services Team and an Instructional Services Team.

Ms. Naomi Mellor, Deputy Director, Division Services/CFO, advised that all staff are currently being paid their regular wages, and that most staff are at home, with the exception of certain personnel in varying departments. She confirmed that school bus drivers also continue to be paid and that all buses have been cleaned and disinfected. She further advised that the schools are all being cleaned and disinfected and checked daily. She reiterated Mr. Enion’s comment, noting that child care centres remain open in 11 Regina public schools. Relative to the financial impact, she noted that school divisions will see both savings and costs, and that a forecast on the 2019-20 fiscal year is being prepared, which will include best estimates on those particular savings and costs. She advised that she is a SASBO representative on the Corporate Services sub-committee, which held a conference call earlier in the day. She emphasized the importance that essential staff return to safe working conditions.

Mr. Darren Boldt, Deputy Director, Student Achievement, advised that, although school and in-scope staff are at home for the week, Superintendents are still in contact with principals, discussing plans moving forward relative to provision of and accessibility to curriculum for PreK to Grade 12 in the Division, while keeping in mind that the Province will continue to provide more detail in the coming days. He further advised that the window for teacher transfers has not yet been opened, and staffing processes for the next school year will probably look different given the current circumstances, but assured Board members that the department is working diligently on what the future will look like for teachers, staff, students and families.

Mr. Enion advised that he is working on a nutrition plan with the Regina Food Bank for those families impacted by the lack of usual school lunch programs at Kitchener, Albert, Seven Stones and Thomson Community Schools. He noted that the Division will commit a portion of its nutrition budget, and that food

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hampers will be offered to families starting next week. He pointed to a number of other community groups providing lunches to school families, and that the Division will do its best to assist vulnerable families.

Mr. Enion, Ms. Mellor and Mr. Boldt responded to questions relative to Federal programs that provide computers and internet access to families in need, provisions, including various formats, to provide continued learning to students, access to Division devices for students without, challenges related to mandatory or voluntary continued learning for the remainder of the school year, student assessment and how this may provide an opportunity for practices to change, potential savings and how it will be used, providing mental health and wellness supports, professional development opportunities, transitions back to work, potential length of suspension, catch-up strategies, and opportunities for AP students to access curriculum. Board members conveyed appreciation for the consistent and timely messaging being provided by the Division and the Province. It was suggested that a welcome-back video presentation from the Director may help to alleviate anxiety for staff as they return to work.

2020-2021
School Year
Calendars

Proposed elementary and high school calendars for the 2020-2021 school year had been distributed. Mr. Darren Boldt, Deputy Director, Student Achievement, advised that the calendars are different from each other but do have the same start and end days, with the first day of school for students to be September 1, 2020, noting that the Division and the RPSTA are both pleased with the three-day start-up for teachers, allowing for those extra two days to be used during the school year for professional development purposes. He pointed to the two one-week breaks in both February and April, and advised that the calendars are similar with those of Regina Catholic and Prairie Valley school divisions.

[Mr. J. Kasperski exited the meeting for a short period of time.]

Mr. Boldt and Ms. Naomi Mellor, Deputy Director, Division Services/CFO, responded to questions relative to Ministry of Education calendar review, and the calendar differences with the other local school divisions.

Motion by Dr. J. Ekong:

That the 2020-2021 school year calendars be approved as presented, subject to review by the Ministry of Education.

Motion Carried.

[Mrs. C. Anderson, Dr. J. Ekong, Mrs. T. Foster, Mrs. K. Gagne, Mr. A. Hicks, and Ms. A. Young supported the motion; Mr. J. Kasperski was absent at the time of voting.]

[Mr. J. Kasperski rejoined the meeting.]

Subdivision
Reports

Mrs. C. Anderson expressed appreciation for the Provincial announcement of a new joint school including Imperial Community School.

Mr. A. Hicks also expressed appreciation for the Provincial announcement of a new school in the Harbour Landing subdivision. Given the current COVID-19 restrictions, Mr. Greg Enion, Director of Education, responded to Mr. Hicks' question relative to SCC meetings.

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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 Dr. J. Ekong:

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 *Facility Matter* and *2020-2021 Budget Development*. 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 Mr. A. Hicks:

That the meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried.

Time of meeting: 4:35 to 7:20 p.m.

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer