

At a meeting of the Board of Education of the Regina School Division No. 4 of Saskatchewan, held via teleconference, in Regina.

Members Present	Mr. Adam Hicks, Chair	Mrs. Elizabeth Strom
	Ms. Tara Molson, Vice-Chair	Mrs. Sarah Cummings Truszkowski
	Mrs. Cindy Anderson	Ms. Lacey Weekes
	Mr. Ted Jaleta	
Administration Present	Mr. Greg Enion, Director of Education	
	Ms. Naomi Mellor, Deputy Director, Division Services/CFO	
	Mr. Darren Boldt, Deputy Director, Student Achievement	

Mr. T. Jaleta 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 requested that the following item be added: *Review of Action Items*.

Adoption of Agenda	<u>Motion by Mrs. C. Anderson:</u>
	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.
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Approving of Minutes	The Chairperson then asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on November 17, 2020.
	<u>Motion by Mrs. E. Strom:</u>
	That the minutes of the Board meeting of November 17, 2020, be approved as distributed.
	Motion Carried.

Director’s Update on COVID-19	Mr. Greg Enion, Director of Education, provided an update on the Division’s COVID-19 plan. He thanked the Board members for their support of the Administration’s decision to move forward with the temporary remote learning plan for the weeks of December 14-18, 2020 and January 4-8, 2021. He also thanked Mr. Terry Lazarou, Supervisor of Communication, for his work on the communication plan. He outlined that, on December 7th, the temporary remote learning plan was rolled out to principals and employee group presidents. Later that morning, an email was shared with all staff, followed by a parent email sent to all principals for distribution, and was shared on all school and Division websites, with a media release being sent out just before the noon hour. He
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noted that a number of positive comments on the communication plan have been received. Since rolling out the plan, he advised that four additional school divisions in the province have announced similar plans for temporary remote learning. He advised that the Administration feels strongly that this is the correct path to take at the current time, particularly with the growing number of COVID-19 cases, the concern for cases that might present during the Winter break, and the continued staffing strain. Mr. Darren Boldt, Deputy Director, Student Achievement, advised that yesterday, alone, saw cases announced in nine Regina Public facilities and one Associate School. In total, he noted that 44 School Division facilities have been affected. Mr. Boldt and Mr. Enion responded to questions relative to home-school enrolments, access to counselling support during remote learning, applications for eSchool for January 2021, teacher readiness for remote learning, technology requirements, and support for students with language barriers. On behalf of the Board, Mr. A. Hicks expressed appreciation to the Administration for their leadership and proactive approach.

Intensive
Supports
Programming

Information regarding ongoing interventions, resources and services provided by the Intensive Supports department had been distributed. Ms. Angie Balkwill and Mr. Gary Halbert, Supervisors of Intensive Supports, provided additional information, highlighting the Intervention First Model, the framework used to support over 2,200 students in the Division. They commented on the three tiers of the Model, and outlined the number of Division-based professionals involved in supporting students. They further advised of provincial and community partnerships. Ms. Balkwill and Mr. Halbert responded to questions relative to the number of applications received for the various programs, program capacity, the impact of remote learning on intensive needs students, new innovative technology, factors preventing additional support, program location determination, communication with families, the use of Division-based professionals during remote learning, the role of School Resource Officers in providing support, program wait lists, and program comparisons to other school divisions. Board members expressed appreciation for the presentation.

Establish
Standing
Committees

In accordance with provisions of Policy 8 “Committees of the Board,” the Board is required to establish and/or renew its standing committees annually. Mr. Greg Enion, Director of Education, advised that, at an orientation/planning meeting held on November 16, 2020, a request to re-organize the committee structure was brought forward. He noted that Administration prepared a revised terms of reference, with guidance from the Board, for the following five committees:

- 1) Indigenous Education Advisory Council;
- 2) Audit and Risk Management Committee;
- 3) Strategic Engagement and Advocacy Committee (combining the previous Community Relations Committee and Communication and Advocacy Committee);
- 4) Policy, Governance and Sustainability Planning Committee (previously the Policy and Governance Committee); and
- 5) Organizational Culture and Diversity Committee (previously the Personnel and Organizational Culture Committee).

Motion by Mrs. C. Anderson:

That the five Standing Committees:

- 1) Indigenous Education Advisory Council;
- 2) Audit and Risk Management Committee;
- 3) Strategic Engagement and Advocacy Committee;
- 4) Policy, Governance and Sustainability Planning Committee; and
- 5) Organizational Culture and Diversity Committee;

Chair	CFO

with terms of reference, as discussed, be confirmed until the next Organizational Meeting of the Board; and that Board Policy 8 “Committees of the Board” be revised to reflect same.

Motion Carried.
(Unanimously)

Appointment of Standing Committee Members Based on member preferences expressed and in accordance with Policy 8 “Committees of the Board,” Mr. A. Hicks asked for a motion to appoint members to serve on the five standing committees until the next Organizational Meeting.

Motion by Mrs. S. Cummings Truszkowski:

- That:
- a) Ted Jaleta (Chair), Tara Molson and Elizabeth Strom be appointed to serve on the Audit and Risk Management Committee;
 - b) Elizabeth Strom (Chair), Tara Molson and Sarah Cummings-Truszkowski be appointed to serve on the Strategic Engagement and Advocacy Committee;
 - c) Cindy Anderson (Chair), Sarah Cummings-Truszkowski and Lacey Weekes be appointed to serve on the Policy, Governance and Sustainability Planning Committee;
 - d) Lacey Weekes (Chair), Cindy Anderson and Ted Jaleta be appointed to serve on the Organizational Culture and Diversity Committee; and
 - e) Tara Molson (Chair), and all other Board members be appointed to serve on the Indigenous Education Advisory Council;
- until the next Organizational Meeting of the Board.

Motion Carried.
(Unanimously)

Appointment of Board Representatives In accordance with Policy 9 “Board Representatives,” Mr. A. Hicks asked for a motion to appoint members to represent the Board on certain external committees.

Motion by Mrs. E. Strom:

- That:
- a) Adam Hicks and Tara Molson be appointed to serve as Board Representatives on the School Boards/City Council Liaison Committee; and
 - b) Sarah Cummings-Truszkowski be appointed to serve as Board Representative on the Public Section of the Saskatchewan School Boards Association;
- until the next Organizational Meeting of the Board.

Motion Carried.
(Unanimously)

Mrs. S. Cummings Truszkowski advised that Mr. Norm Dray, Executive Director of Public Section, has requested to make a presentation to the Board on the role of Public Section. Board members agreed to meet virtually with Mr. Dray on January 11, 2021, at 5:30 PM. Mrs. Cummings Truszkowski agreed to contact Mr. Dray with the meeting information.

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First Quarter Financial Report The First Quarter Financial update, for the 3-month period ended November 30, 2020, had been distributed. Mr. Bruce Lipinski, Superintendent, Business Affairs, advised that the key driver of variances from the 2020-21 budget plan is COVID-19. He outlined that additional operating revenue is estimated at \$7.1M from federal and provincial COVID-related funding and that, of that amount, approximately \$4M is approved, with the remainder included in the Division’s phase 2 funding request submitted on December 1, 2020. He further noted that the projected revenue increase is fully offset by COVID-related expenses for the operation of eSchool, technology, facility equipment and improvements, furniture and personal protective equipment. He summarized that the distributed Statement shows a net operating deficit (on a cash basis) of \$3.8M for the year ending August 31, 2020, approximately \$2M higher than the estimated deficit in the budget, due to lower than estimated Other Revenue (interest income being \$300K lower than anticipated, and \$200K in gains on bus sales in 2019-20); planned spending down of school budget reserves targeting equipment, furniture, supplies and technology, offset by reserves in the amount of \$700K; and planned spending down of Preventive Maintenance and Renewal building reserves of \$645K. Ms. Naomi Mellor, Deputy Director, Division Services/ CFO, responded to questions relative to the recalculation of operating grants when actual enrolment is submitted on January 30, 2021, and funding for mental health support.

First Quarter Transportation Report The First Quarter Transportation report for the 3-month period ended November 30, 2020, had been distributed. Mr. Bruce Lipinski, Superintendent, Business Affairs, advised that the report shows the data on transportation performance during that period. He responded to questions relative to disinfection of buses, and contract adjustments during remote learning with Warner Industries and other companies.

SSBA AGM/Fall General Assembly Update Mr. A. Hicks provided a brief summary of the Saskatchewan School Boards Association’s Fall General Assembly and Annual General Meeting, held November 25-26, 2020. He noted that he, Mr. T. Jaleta, Mrs. E. Strom and Mrs. S. Cummings Truszkowski attended the virtual event, and noted the re-election of Mr. Shawn Davidson as SSBA Executive President, and the election of Ms. Jaimie Smith-Windsor as Vice-President. He further outlined Regina Public’s voting on a number of resolutions and the outcome of same.

Agenda Requests Mr. A. Hicks inquired if any Board members had requests for future agenda items. None were noted. He advised Board members that proposed future agenda items have been added to the Board’s OneNote by Administration to assist the Chair and Vice-Chair in preparing future Board meeting agendas.

SSBA Proposed Position Statement: Infrastructure Funding Mr. A. Hicks advised that the Saskatchewan School Boards Association’s proposed Position Statement on Infrastructure Funding had been included in the agenda for information.

Subdivision Reports Mrs. E. Strom advised that a Grade 11 Regina Christian School student started *Laptops for Kids*, an initiative to donate used laptops/tablets to students in need, and commented that 50 laptops have been distributed so far. She further advised of a Grade 12 Regina Christian School student who organized *Books for Community Schools*, a book drive to collect reading material for Grade 1

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classrooms at community schools in Regina, commenting that 400 books had been distributed to date. Lastly, Mrs. Strom reported that the Campbell Business Club had developed an innovative way to maintain strong exposure in a COVID-restricted environment while continuing to support the community in a positive way, by launching a website featuring a video series called *Cade’s Cuisine*, that highlights local restaurants. She also expressed appreciation for the teachers supporting the students in this endeavor.

Ms. T. Molson thanked teachers and staff who have organized Christmas hampers for school families in need. She also advised that she had been invited to attend a Winston Knoll GSA Group meeting, and noted that they have started a virtual book club to help keep students involved and talking.

Mr. A. Hicks advised that he has been supporting the Harbour Landing School Community Council in organizing a COVID-friendly “Walk the Path” festival, with lights along the Harbour Landing pathway. He advised that students will contribute ornaments to a tree that will be visible from the walking path through the school’s windows. He further advised that students will be decorating the rink area and trees along the path.

Closed Session Motion by Mr. T. Jaleta:

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:

Meeting
Adjournment
Time

- 1) That the December 8, 2020 Board meeting be authorized to continue beyond the 8:30 p.m. presumptive adjournment time.

Motion by Mrs. C. Anderson:

That recommendation No. 1 (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 *Imperial/McDermid/St. Peter/ St. Michael Joint-Use School Planning, Southeast Joint-Use High School, Director’s Update on COVID-19, Closed Session Planning, Board Advocacy, and Review of Action Items*. The progress reports were accepted.

Chair	CFO

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

Motion by Ms. T. Molson:

That the meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried.

Time of meeting: 5:30 to 9:32 p.m.

Chairperson

Chief Financial Officer