

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

Members Present Ms. Tara Molson, Chair
Mrs. Sarah Cummings Truskowski, Vice Chair
Mrs. Cindy Anderson
Mr. Adam Hicks
Mr. Ted Jaleta
Mrs. Tracey McMurchy
Ms. Lacey Weekes (virtually)

Administration Present Mr. Darren Boldt, Director of Education
Ms. Naomi Mellor, Deputy Director, Division Services/CFO
Mr. Rick Steciuk, Deputy Director, Student Achievement/School Services

Sarah Cummings Truskowski 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: *Template Discussion*. Tara Molson also advised that Dylan Morin was not able to attend the meeting to make his presentation.

Adoption of Agenda Motion by Mrs. Sarah Cummings Truskowski:

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 April 18, 2023.

Motion by Mrs. Cindy Anderson:

That the minutes of the Board meeting of April 18, 2023, be approved as distributed.

Motion Carried.

Neurodiversity at Dr. A.E. Perry School Monique Bowes, Principal, Dr. A.E. Perry School, and Tracey Klassen, Grade 4/5 Teacher at Dr. A.E. Perry School, provided a brief summary of how Dr. A.E. Perry School is recognizing neurodiversity. They outlined activities and celebrations during Spirit Week and how it is all raising awareness and teaching the students about inclusion and making everyone feel important and welcome and that they have a place. The presenters responded to questions relative to the autism spectrum, student council, program needs, and sharing resources with other schools. Board members expressed appreciation for the presentation.

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Director’s Report

Darren Boldt, Director of Education/CEO, noted that May is Early Childhood Education Month, and thanked the Division’s early childhood educators and childcare partners for their dedication and hard work. He updated the Board members relative to the broken water pipe at McLurg School in April, with significant damage experienced to the building plant systems of the facility, such as the boiler and electrical systems. He advised that the Facilities department did incredible work to get the school to a condition where staff and students can safely return to the building on May 2nd. He further expressed appreciation for the staff at McLurg, the receiving school staffs and students, and the Facilities department, transportation department, and the Student Achievement team who were able to minimize disruption to students’ in-class learning. He outlined that the Division has been working to prepare the 2023/24 school year budget and, in doing so, are managing within a particularly difficult and disappointing provincial budget, which will require measures that will impact families, Division operations and schools. While the budget will not be finalized and approved by the Board until June, in the interests of transparent and full communication with staff, he advised that all employees have been notified that some of the potential measures we are looking at include examining fees for noon supervision, reducing spending on technology, learning resources and facility projects, striving to minimize transportation costs, reducing positions in Division Office that support the delivery of education programs and services, reducing noon hour staff allocations and reducing instructional positions in schools that will increase staff to student ratios, and that it is anticipated these reductions will be managed by attrition and job losses for continuing/permanent employees are not expected. While he is encouraged by recent indications from the provincial government that funding will be adjusted in some way, he did not have specifics as to timing or amounts. In order to have class configurations, timetables, classrooms, and equipment ready for students on September 5th, he advised that Spring staffing and other planning processes will continue based on current information. He assured Board members that any measures taken, students will be kept at the forefront of decisions and any additional funding beyond the amount released to us in March will be directed to classrooms and students. He advised that the Student Achievement and Human Resources teams are working diligently with schools staffing for the 2023/24 school year and staff lists will be finalized in June. He noted that the annual High School Student/Trustee forum was held on April 25th, and it was exciting for the Board and Administration to hear directly from students. He further noted that seven elementary sessions were held, one in each subdivision, to hear the voice of elementary students. In terms of the Division’s strategic planning process, he advise that Praxis Consulting is currently holding sessions with many stakeholders, and the Stakeholder Engagement Survey and Employee Engagement survey recently concluded. He extended congratulations to Regina Public Schools teacher, Dr. Krista Keeley, who recently won the prestigious STF Arbos Award. He advised that, on May 13th, he had the honour of participating in the Regina Public Schools GSA Summit at École Connaught School and noted that, although it was the third GSA summit presented by the School Division, it is the first to be held on a Saturday during non-instructional hours, and he was very pleased at the high level of participation, confirming the importance of GSAs and the issues they champion for our students, employees and communities. Darren concluded by noting how everyone is looking forward to congratulating this year’s group of retirees and distributing long service awards.

Audit and Risk Management Committee

Adam Hicks advised that the minutes of the April 25, 2023 Audit and Risk Management Committee meeting are included in the Board agenda package. He outlined the agenda items discussed, including: a review of the 2022/23 Audit Services Plan with the External and Provincial Auditors, which was approved by the Committee; an update from the executive team on the Financial Reserves; and the School Community Council grants. In regards to the upcoming budget decisions, he advised that anyone looking for information on how to advocate

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should contact a Board member. Mr. Hicks and Naomi Mellor, Deputy Director, Division Services/CFO, responded to questions relative to the SCC grants.

Indigenous Education Advisory Council

Sarah Cummings Truskowski advised that the minutes of the May 2, 2023 Indigenous Education Advisory Council meeting are included in the Board agenda package. She outlined the agenda items discussed, including: updates on visiting the Wahkotowin School, the Feast and Round Dance at Balfour Collegiate, and the First Nations University Pow Wow; land-based learning at Thomson School, École Centennial School and Campus Regina Public; the Cree Language initiative that was not approved due to budgetary constraints; and the Sweat Lodge progress.

Policy, Governance and Sustainability Planning Committee

Lacey Weekes advised that the minutes of the May 9, 2023 Policy, Governance and Sustainability Planning Committee meeting are included in the Board agenda package. She outlined the agenda items discussed, including: updates on the Climate Action Plan, Radon Monitoring, Recycling and Schools, and Electric School Buses; a new policy regarding Naming of Facilities; a review of the 4-year Policy Review Plan; Revisions to Policies 5, 6, 9, 10, and 18, and School Community Council grants. She noted that a new policy relative to Diversity, Equity and Inclusion, and revisions to Policy 14 are being deferred until after the Strategic Plan is developed. Mr. Hicks and Naomi Mellor, Deputy Director, Division Services/CFO, responded to questions relative to Radon monitoring and SCC grants.

Motion by Mrs. Cindy Anderson:

That the proposed new Board Policy 20 *Naming of Facilities* be approved as presented.

Motion Carried.
(Unanimously)

Motion by Mr. Ted Jaleta:

That the revisions to Board Policies 5, 6, 9, 10 and 18 be approved as presented.

Motion Carried.
(Unanimously)

Preventive Maintenance and Renewal Plan

Information regarding the Ministry of Education’s Preventative Maintenance and Renewal Program had been distributed. Jared Kleisinger, Superintendent of Facilities, highlighted amendments to the 2022-23 and 2023-24 plans and outlined plans between 2024-25 and 2026-27, including Permalon projects, portable refreshes, renovation of unused vocational space at Sheldon-Williams Collegiate, masonry, roof replacement projects, mechanical and galvanized pipe replacements and abatement projects, and building security, intercom systems and electrical upgrades. He further noted a continued focus on energy reduction, foundation repairs at Lakeview School, basement slab replacement at Coronation Park School, and scoping/planning work at Balfour Collegiate. Mr. Kleisinger responded to questions relative to deferral of Permalon projects in other schools, Kitchener School grading, Lakeview School roof, and work planned for Balfour Collegiate. Adam Hicks wondered if there was any opportunity to engage community members in some of the work.

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Motion by Mr. Adam Hicks:

That the amended 2022-23 and 2023-24 Preventive Maintenance and Renewal Plans and the three-year 2024-25 to 2026-27 Preventive Maintenance and Renewal Plan be approved for submission to the Ministry of Education.

Motion Carried.
(Unanimously)

Tara Molson advised that two new annual accountability reports are on this meeting agenda, one from Information Technology Services and one from Facilities, the first time that these important areas have been presented to the Board. With these reports, she noted that the Board now receives regular reporting from all key areas of the School Division regularly. She advised that publicly presenting these reports represents an important accountability measure under the Policy Governance model that the Board works within and provides Board members with an opportunity to learn about and ask about important aspects of School Division operations.

Annual
Information
Technology
Accountability
Report

Aaron Baumgartner, Superintendent, Information Technology Services, presented the annual Information Technology (IT) Accountability Report for 2022/23. He provided highlights for the year, including: implementation of a new IT organizational structure, a new leadership team, a refresh of the data center firewall security solution, a refresh of the new server and data storage hardware in both data centers, a refresh of network equipment in all elementary schools, a refresh of core network equipment in both data centres, the opening of Argyle School, and the engagement with Electronics Recycling Association. He noted continued important work tasks for the team relative to the May 2022 Cybersecurity incident, periods of time during the last school year that the IT team was short staffed while vacant roles were replaced, and the integration of IT staff into the CUPE 4643 Collective Bargaining Agreement. Looking forward, he highlighted improvement of customer service, continued progress on critical security initiatives, a refresh of the printer/copier fleet, the North Regina Joint-Use School, a refresh and upgrade of the VoIP system and phones, and a refresh of high school student technology. Mr. Baumgartner responded to questions relative to efficient supply of devices, the impact the budget will have on the proposed refreshes, Wi-Fi issues, a security operation system, and IT work at the new Argyle School.

Annual
Facilities
Accountability
Report and
Capital Projects
Update

Jared Kleisinger, Superintendent, Facilities, presented the annual Facilities Accountability Report for 2022/23. He provided highlights for the year, including: time loss and injuries, services requests, preventive maintenance and renewal, and future Capital needs. Challenges outlined included reducing the number of service requests, grounds maintenance, vandalism, and recruitment. Looking ahead, he highlighted refreshing business processes, supporting the diversity, equity and inclusion strategy, contributing to the development of a Division-level environmental sustainability plan, delivering innovative, sustainable and efficient major capital projects, organizational redesign, performance measurement, defining and monitoring performance metrics, and reducing the number of service requests. Mr. Kleisinger and Delaine Clyne, Supervisor, Strategic Supports, responded to questions relative to a site for a school in The Towns, and gender-neutral washrooms.

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Shared Values Recognition Program Voting Protocol and Process The Shared Values Recognition Program Selection Committee voting package was distributed to Board members in early May. Information on the voting protocol and process was included in the Board agenda package. Tara Molson advised that ballots are to be submitted by June 2nd.

Planned Agenda Items For Board member information, the Chairperson noted the planned agenda items currently set for the June 13, 2023 Board meeting, including Celebration of the Raising of Treaty 4 Flags at Regina Public Schools, Regina Food for Learning Delegation, SRO Review Delegation, Director’s Report, 2023-2024 Budget Submission, Destruction of Public Documents, North Regina Joint-Use School Name, Quarterly Finance Accountability Report, Quarterly Transportation Accountability Report, Biannual Human Resources Accountability Report, CUPE 650 Grievance (in closed), Discussion with SSBA Executive (in closed), and Associate Schools Review (in closed).

Agenda Requests Adam Hicks asked if Dylan Morin might be able to present at an upcoming Committee meeting instead.

Information – Subdivision Reports Cindy Anderson advised that F.W Johnson Collegiate graduates tour through their feeder schools to show the younger students how great it is to graduate.

Ted Jaleta advised that he attended the Wascana Plains SCC meeting on April 20th, the W.F. Ready SCC meeting on April 25th, the Wilfred Hunt Treaty 4 Flag raising on April 28th, the Jack MacKenzie SCC meeting on May 3rd, the Wilfrid Walker SCC meeting on May 4th, the W.S. Hawrylak Treaty 4 Flag raising on May 9th, the Youth Anti-Racism Symposium at Wilfrid Walker School on May 9th, and the Wilfred Hunt SCC meeting on May 10th. He noted that all SCC members are eager to advocate for more education funding. He further advised that schools are all preparing for the end of the school year and Grade 8 farewells. He extended congratulations to Joe Filson, Vice-Principal at Thomson School, who won the Masters Division at the Royal Road Race. He also thanked Maxine McKenzie-Cox, Vice-Principal at École Massey School, who was part of the Royal Road Race Steering Planning Committee. He further congratulated Jack MacKenzie teacher, Rachel Paterson, a badminton coach and avid athlete.

Adam Hicks advised that he has attended many SCC meetings and the members want to help campaign for more education funding. He also noted that it is nice to see the new Argyle School open.

Sarah Cummings Truszkowski advised that she has attended SCC meetings at Kitchener Community School, Martin Collegiate, Seven Stones Community School, École Connaught Community School, The Crescents School, Rosemont Community School, and Campbell Collegiate. She advised that, among other things, the inadequate provincial budget for public education was discussed. She thanked the SCCs for their care and dedication to supporting schools, students, and families in Regina Public.

Tracey McMurchy advised that she has attended most of her subdivision SCC meetings where education funding was a main topic. She highlighted other activities at schools in her subdivision, including dances, field trips, track and field, graduation, kindergarten orientation, band tours, talent shows, and many clubs. She also noted that Marion McVeety School has started composting and recycling.

Lacey Weekes advised that she attend SCC meetings at W.H. Ford School, École Centennial School, and MacNeill School, where the Provincial Education

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budget for next year was discussed. She noted that parents are very concerned and will express their concerns to the Minister of Education and the Premier. She thanked the SCCs for their advocacy. She highlighted activities planned for year-end, including barbecues and picnics. She advised that she attended the GSA Summit at École Connaught School and congratulated the staff and students for hosting. She also attended a webinar on Climate Change and Curriculum hosted by Climate Caucus, wherein they outlined things school divisions can do around climate action. She was pleased to note that the School Division is doing everything they recommended, such as declaring a climate crisis and working on a Climate Action Plan, and that we are the first school division in Western Canada to hire a consultant to find our baseline energy consumption so as to understand our carbon footprint.

Tara Molson advised that she has attended SCCs meetings at George Lee School, Gladys McDonald School, and Winston Knoll Collegiate.

On behalf of the Board of Education, Sarah Cummings Truskowski acknowledged that every student, staff and community member has equal value as prescribed under the United Nations Universal Declaration of Human Rights and the Saskatchewan Human Rights Code, noting that diversity makes us stronger.

Closed Session Motion by Mrs. Sarah Cummings Truskowski:

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. Sarah Cummings Truskowski:

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 May 16, 2023 Board meeting be authorized to continue beyond the 8:30 p.m. presumptive adjournment time.

Motion by Mrs. Cindy Anderson:

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

Motion Carried.

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At the conclusion of closed session, the Committee of the Whole reported progress with respect to consideration of *Advocacy Strategy for New Schools*, *SRO Review Update*, *2023-2024 Budget Development Update*, *Membership in SSBA*, and *Template Discussion*. 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. Ted Jaleta:

That the meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried.

Time of meeting: 5:30 to 8:56 p.m.

Chairperson

Chief Financial Officer