

Regina, Saskatchewan
May 14, 2024

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. Sarah Cummings Truskowski, Chair Ms. Lacey Weekes, Vice-Chair Mrs. Cindy Anderson	Mr. Adam Hicks Mr. Ted Jaleta Mrs. Tracey McMurchy Ms. Tara Molson
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	

Cindy Anderson 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: *Trustee Code of Conduct*.

Adoption of Agenda Motion by Tracey McMurchy:
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 asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on April 16, 2024.

Motion by Tara Molson:

That the minutes of the Board meeting of April 16, 2024, be approved as distributed.

Motion Carried.

F.W. Johnson Collegiate Student Voice Jason Coleman, Superintendent of Student Achievement/School Services, advised that he recently met with students in the Leadership 30 class at F.W. Johnson Collegiate. During that meeting, he asked them to comment on three questions. F.W. Johnson Collegiate students Callie Kjarsgaard, Viki Bernier, Danica Kachur, Katherine Keil, and Janelle Zimmer, provided a summary of their responses:

- 1) What are the top 3 to 5 things to love about F.W. Johnson Collegiate?
 - Diversity
 - Canteen
 - Extracurricular
 - Teachers

Chair	CFO

- Guidance counsellors
- 2) If changes could be made to 3 things at F.W. Johnson Collegiate, without adding resources, what would those changes be?
 - Transition Plus classroom
 - Class sizes
 - Homework room at lunch time
 - Open the hallways at lunch time
- 3) If you directed all Regina Public Schools, what suggestions would you make to improve the Division for students?
 - Transportation for students – opportunity for partnership with Regina Transit
 - Reconsideration of boundaries
 - More guidance counsellors at the elementary level
 - More connection between elementary and high school; grade 8 to grade 9 transition activities
 - More time with resource officers in the school; less schools per officer
 - Dedicated social worker in high schools.

The students and Mr. Coleman responded to questions relative to average class sizes at F.W. Johnson Collegiate, school boundaries, the number of students who utilize public transit, closure of hallways during the lunch hour, resource officer time, the curriculum offered at the school, their experience with this process of providing student voice to the Board members, and student forums. Board members expressed appreciation for the presentation.

Director’s Report

Darren Boldt, Director of Education/CEO, provided his standing report, advising that final adjustments for the 2024/25 Budget are underway and will be presented to the Board in June for consideration and approval. He noted that the Division is diligently working at staffing schools and other Division positions for the 2024/25 school year, noting that staff lists for schools will be finalized by mid-June, and other positions will continue to be filled through the summer months. With just under two months remaining of the current school year, he advised that high schools are preparing for Grade 12 graduation celebrations, and elementary schools are organizing farewells for the Grade 8 students who will be moving to high school. He reported that Regina Public Schools supports and encourages successful transitions and school and Division Office staff are working to ensure smooth transitions for all students at all grade levels. He advised that, on April 16th, Thomson Community School hosted its first ever Cree Language Competition, inspired by the Cree word mamawînehîyawêtân (mama-wi-NEh-HI-ya-way-tan), which means “let’s speak Cree together.” Thomson students began the school year by learning Cree word sets and progressed from there to include the use of materials from the Saskatchewan Indigenous Cultural Centre. This event was a great example of strengthening pride in the language and supporting and encouraging the diversity seen every day in all Regina Public schools. He further advised that Thomson Community School was one of the winners of the Mosaic School Nutrition Challenge and will receive \$15,000 to purchase appliances, tower gardens and enhance their existing snack program and agricultural programming. He reported that, on May 11th, the Royal Road Race, hosted by the Jaleta Pacers, was held at the RCMP Depot grounds. The race has a charitable component and, this year, funds will go to helping student food insecurity at Regina Public Schools. He was pleased to announce that the event raised \$21,238 and, on behalf of schools and students, expressed gratitude to Trustee Ted Jaleta. He further congratulated all the volunteers, organizers, and racers, including many Regina Public Schools employees, and students from École Wascana Plains School and Douglas Park School. He noted that, on May 10th, all employees participated in a Division-wide Diversity professional development session. He highlighted that, today at Campus Regina Public, the Division’s Diversity, Equity, and

Chair	CFO

Inclusion Office, along with other Division staff, hosted the second annual Student Forum for high school student leaders across the Division. He reminded Board members that June 1st marks the beginning of Pride Month and noted that Regina Public Schools will be holding a Division-wide Pride Day on Friday, June 7th. He further advised that many employees and administration will also be participating in the Queen City Pride Parade on Saturday, June 15th. Mr. Boldt concluded his report by noting that the Long Service Reception that will be held at the Conexus Arts Centre on June 13th. The event honours superannuating employees and employees celebrating 25 years with the School Division.

Indigenous Education Advisory Council

Sarah Cummings Truskowski advised that the minutes of the May 7, 2024 Indigenous Education Advisory Council meeting are included in the Board agenda package. She outlined the agenda items discussed, including a presentation by Balfour Collegiate staff on the “Following Their Voices” program which encourages staff to privilege Indigenous voices and, in turn, increase graduation rates; updates from Vanéa Cyr, Supervisor of Indigenous Education, on the Indigenous Education Responsibility Framework and how it is being implemented and integrated into the Division’s Strategic Plan, on the Indigenous Advocates Review and its next steps, and on improvements and changes to Division Office environmental aesthetics; a review from Jeff Cappel, Indigenous Education Coordinator, on the successful Feast and Round Dance at Campbell Collegiate; a request regarding the display of an Eagle Staff in the main lobby of Division Office; and a discussion regarding an increase of Cree Language programming.

Preventive Maintenance and Renewal Plan

Information regarding the Ministry of Education’s Preventative Maintenance and Renewal Program had been distributed. In the absence of Scott Saxby, Superintendent of Facilities, Naomi Mellor, Deputy Director of Division Services/CFO, highlighted amendments to the 2023-24 and 2024-25 plans and outlined plans between 2025-26 to 2027-28, with a focus on roof sections, building security, boilers, and more. Ms. Mellor responded to questions relative to tendering and the potential for listing next year’s tenders to encourage more bidders.

Motion by Cindy Anderson:

That the amended 2023-24 and 2024-25 Preventive Maintenance and Renewal Plans and the 2025-26 to 2027-28 Preventive Maintenance and Renewal Plan be approved for submission to the Ministry of Education.

Motion Carried.
(Unanimously)

Review of SSBA Membership

Ted Jaleta presented the motion of which he had given notice at the April 16, 2024 Board meeting.

Motion by Ted Jaleta:

WHEREAS the Regina Public School Division has been member of Saskatchewan School Board Association (SSBA) since 1915;

WHEREAS the formal goals of the SSBA is to function as a democratic and voluntary organization, and to ensure advocacy, leadership and support for member boards of education by speaking as the voice of publicly funded education, offering opportunities for board development and providing information and services;

Chair	CFO

WHEREAS the cumulative total amount of annual cost of membership for the Regina Public School Board is estimated \$220,000.00 a year;

WHEREAS the SSBA has made public statements on policies and STF negotiations without formally engaging with local school boards;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Regina Public School Division Board directs the Director of Education to conduct a review to assess the value of the SSBA membership and Regina Public School Division expenditure and provide recommendations to the Board.

In support of the motion, Mr. Jaleta pointed to the rationale distributed with the meeting agenda. Adam Hicks expressed support for a review. Tara Molson offered two friendly amendments to the motion—that the cumulative total amount of annual cost of membership for the Regina Public School Board be changed to the actual 2023 fee of \$174,000 a year; and that the section outlining public statements on policies and STF negotiations be removed, as these are matters that should be addressed directly with the SSBA. Naomi Mellor, Deputy Director of Division Services/CFO, provided clarification relative to SSBA fees, and Ms. Molson withdrew her friendly amendment relative to the annual cost of membership. Mr. Jaleta accepted the friendly amendment put forward by Ms. Molson relative to the removal of the section outlining public statements on policies and STF negotiations. Ms. Molson expressed support for a review but also noted that having an information package for future boards to understand the value in insurance coverage and legal services that is offered through the SSBA would be beneficial. Lacey Weekes expressed support of the motion with the friendly amendments but commented that the legal services and insurance coverage offered outweighs the membership costs. Tracey McMurchy and Cindy Anderson expressed support for an internal review. Mrs. Anderson suggested that the matter of an external review of the SSBA’s mandates be taken to the next Fall General Assembly and that this Board could advocate with other school boards. Sarah Cummings Truskowski expressed that she has concerns with the SSBA but not with the fees, as the legal services and general insurance plan are worth the fees; however, she advised that she would not support the motion as a review would take time and resources from staff who are already stretched thin, and it is not the best way to resolve concerns while maintaining a good working relationship with the SSBA. Adam Hicks offered a friendly amendment to the motion—that the wording “total amount of annual cost of membership” be changed to “total amount of annual cost of payments”. Mr. Jaleta accepted the friendly amendment put forward by Mr. Hicks.

Amended Motion by Ted Jaleta:

WHEREAS the Regina Public School Division has been member of Saskatchewan School Board Association (SSBA) since 1915;

WHEREAS the formal goals of the SSBA is to function as a democratic and voluntary organization, and to ensure advocacy, leadership and support for member boards of education by speaking as the voice of publicly funded education, offering opportunities for board development and providing information and services;

WHEREAS the cumulative total amount of annual cost of payments for the Regina Public School Board is estimated \$220,000.00 a year;

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Regina Public School Division Board directs the Director of Education to conduct a review to assess the value of the SSBA membership and Regina Public School Division expenditure and provide recommendations to the Board.

Motion Carried.

[Adam Hicks, Ted Jaleta, Tracey McMurchy, Tara Molson, and Cindy Anderson supported the motion; Sarah Cummings Truskowski and Lacey Weekes opposed the motion.]

Chair	CFO

Darren Boldt, Director of Education/CEO, noted that staff are very busy at the present moment and, in directing him to work with staff to conduct and provide a review, he requested direction on a timeline for a final report. Board members agreed to work with Mr. Boldt on a timeline through email.

Annual
Facilities
Accountability
Report and
Capital Projects
Update

In the absence of Scott Saxby, Superintendent of Facilities, Naomi Mellor, Deputy Director of Division Services/CFO, presented the annual Facilities Accountability Report for 2023/24. She advised that the Facilities Department has set a multi-year agenda to improve the quality, sustainability and performance of Regina Public school buildings, and outlined the following actions from the 2023-27 Strategic Plan: 1) Develop and implement playground standards that include universal and local accessibility considerations; 2) Develop accessible, inclusive, and functional congregated program spaces; 3) Develop a Division-wide standard and multi-year roll-out plan for gender-neutral bathrooms and change rooms across the Division; 4) Develop and implement standardized, equitable processes for school facility project requests and prioritization; 5) Develop a Facility Master Plan that provides a comprehensive assessment of building infrastructure and projected student numbers to guide future school facility capital decisions; and 6) Develop and implement a Division-wide Accessibility Plan. She highlighted performance measures, including Facility Condition Index by Schools, Facility Service Requests, Energy Sustainability, and Preventive Maintenance projects completed on time and budget. She also noted key risks and mitigation strategies, including vandalism in and around schools, inflationary cost increases, vendor capacity, succession planning, utility costs, and catastrophic equipment failure. She also highlighted capital project updates included in the material distributed with the agenda, including the Relocatables Program, North Regina Joint-Use School Project, Harbour Landing West Joint-Use School Project, East Regina Joint-Use Elementary School Project, East Regina Joint-Use High School Project, and Campbell Collegiate. Darren Boldt, Director of Education/CEO, responded to a question relative to advocating for Intensive Supports funding for the Harbour Landing West Joint-Use School project. Adam Hicks recommended that a formal letter from the Board be sent to the Ministry of Education in this regard. Delaine Clyne, Supervisor of Strategic Supports, responded to questions relative to the East Regina Joint-Use Elementary and High School projects and the Campbell Collegiate project and inflation costs.

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. Sarah Cummings Truszkowski advised that ballots are to be submitted to Executive Assistant Suzanne Shuba by May 31st.

Planned Agenda
Items

For Board member information, the Chairperson noted the planned agenda items currently set for the June 11, 2024 Board meeting, including Director’s Report, Audit and Risk Management Committee, 2024/25 Budget Submission, Succession Planning Committee, Destruction of Public Documents, Quarterly Finance Accountability Report, Quarterly Transportation Accountability Report, Biannual Human Resources Accountability Report, SRO Review Update, Meeting with SSBA Executive (in closed session), Board Self-Evaluation and Director Evaluation (in closed session), and Shared Values Recognition Program Recipients (in closed session).

Chair	CFO

Information –
Subdivision
Reports

Cindy Anderson advised that she and Sarah Cummings Truskowski visited Imperial Community School and saw plans for the new joint-use school. She noted that Regina Catholic Schools has chosen their school name— St. Raphael School. She expressed excitement for the new school.

Tracey McMurchy advised that she had the honour of meeting with staff at Family Service Regina to discuss the Shirley Schneider Support Centre located at Balfour Collegiate. She noted that the Centre is an alternative high school setting for pregnant and/or parenting women between the ages of 14 and 21, with the mission to provide a safe and welcoming environment where young women are provided with the academic and social supports necessary to obtain their high school education. She highlighted that the students have access to health supports: immunization, prenatal class, and a nurse practitioner, are offered cost-free childcare, nutritious meals/snacks, parenting support, and support with any non-academic struggles they may face. She further advised that she dropped off a butterfly larvae kit at Thomson Community School to further engage students in learning. The school is also planning some gardening time tomorrow with Elder Sharon, and she hopes to drop off some watering cans to assist them. Thomson Community School is also hosting a land-based learning event on May 28th to present their learning journey during the 2023-24 school year. She concluded by advising that she and Tara Molson attended a community meeting to discuss the revitalization of an area west of Balfour Collegiate, to create a path along College Avenue to Broadway Avenue. The vision is for a functional all-seasons pathway lined with spaces to grow native and pollinator attracting plants, with a variety of fruit tree species, along with traditional medicinal plants. Through the development of this path, there will be opportunities to enhance food security in the community, encourage more foot traffic, and facilitate safe passage between these major avenues.

On behalf of the Board of Education, Cindy Anderson 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 Cindy Anderson:

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

Motion Carried.

Motion by Lacey Weekes:

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 14, 2024 Board meeting be authorized to continue beyond the 8:30 p.m. presumptive adjournment time.

Chair	CFO

Motion by Lacey Weekes:

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 *Employee Engagement Survey Overview, 2024/25 Budget Development Update, Ad Hoc Committee on Associate Schools, and Trustee Code of Conduct*. The progress reports were accepted.

[Rick Steciuk and Suzanne Shuba left the meeting prior to the discussion regarding *Trustee Code of Conduct*.]

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

Motion by Cindy Anderson:

That the meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried.

Time of meeting: 5:30 to 9:15 p.m.

Chairperson

Chief Financial Officer