

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 (virtually)	Mr. Adam Hicks (virtually) Mr. Ted Jaleta (virtually) Mrs. Tracey McMurchy Ms. Tara Molson
Administration Present	Mr. Darren Boldt, Director of Education/CEO Ms. Naomi Mellor, Deputy Director, Division Services/CFO Mr. Rick Steciuk, Deputy Director, Student Achievement/School Services	

Lacey Weekes 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.

Adoption of Agenda	<u>Motion by Tara Molson:</u> That the agenda be adopted as prepared.
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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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North Regina Joint-Use School Name	Information regarding the naming of the new North Regina Joint-Use School had been distributed. Terry Lazarou, Supervisor of Communications, provided additional information, noting that the “Name Your School” campaign solicited a new school name from students, SCCs, community and staff of McDermid and Imperial schools, and the greater Regina community, Elders who work with the Division and all Regina Public Schools employees were also encouraged to submit potential names. From the initial long list of potential names, he advised that Administrative Council Executive agreed upon a short list, which were reviewed for accuracy of translation and appropriateness by the Supervisor of Indigenous Education and the Indigenous Education Coordinator and, thereafter, shared with the Imperial and McDermid staff, requesting they select their top two names. The name “Tawâw” was suggested by an Imperial School staff member and was the most popular potential name from the short list. He noted that Tawâw (Ta-WOW) is the Cree word for “There is room, you are welcome,” is a strong and innovative school name for Regina Public Schools and the greater Regina community, and sends a strong message of inclusivity, of wâhkôtowin (interconnectedness) and that the Division is actively encouraging reconciliation in our school communities.
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Chair	CFO

Motion by Tracey McMurchy:

That the public school that is part of the new North Regina joint-use project and the new home of the current Imperial School and McDermid School communities be named Tawâw School.

Motion Carried.
(Unanimously)

2024-2025
Budget
Submission

Copies of the 2024-2025 Budget Submission had been distributed. Naomi Mellor, Deputy Director of Division Services/CFO, and Ashley Kuntz, Superintendent of Business Services, provided additional information, noting that the budget was developed within a status quo assumption, with the plan to align with and support progress on the Division’s 2023-2027 Strategic Plan. They provided a snapshot of enrolment trends from 2015 to present, noting that accurately projecting enrolments post-pandemic has been difficult. It was noted that, between 2016/17 and 2023/24, average funding per student remained relatively stagnant between \$9.6K-\$9.7K, but showed an increase to \$10.1K for 2024/25, which is encouraging even if well short of what it would be if inflation adjustments had been factored in since 2016. Ms. Mellor noted that the March provincial budget provided an increase of \$180M in school operating funding to the province’s 27 school divisions. For this Division, she advised that the provincial budget showed an increase of \$9.3M for enrolment growth, inflation, and targeted classroom supports, an additional \$2.1M potentially available for in-year enrolment growth, the continuation of funding for 30 FTE targeted Educational Assistant positions, and the commitment to fully fund the eventual teachers’ collective agreement; however, preventive maintenance and renewal funding remained unchanged. In addition, a new southeast area joint-use elementary school, pre-planning for a new southeast area joint-use high school were both approved, and ongoing funding for the Harbour Landing West, North Regina Joint-Use, and Campbell Collegiate foundation projects were approved. She advised that, overall, the 2024/25 provincial budget is a step in the right direction, with recognition for inflation in several areas, and support for staff collective agreements and transportation; however, this is a largely status quo budget, as funding is not sufficient to reinstate budget reductions made over the past eight years or fully respond to classroom complexities and student needs. Ms. Mellor outlined that full-time equivalent positions (FTEs) will increase by 38, primarily teaching positions. On a PSAB basis, the budget shows a \$11M surplus because of capital grants but, on a cash basis, shows a \$709K deficit, which will be managed by accessing available reserve funds. It was further outlined that Administration recommends setting a multi-year target to achieve a balanced budget each year that will require a reduction in spending of \$140K per year in 2024-25 and the subsequent two years, which will be manageable provided funding keeps pace with enrolments and inflation. Ms. Mellor responded to questions relative to in-year enrolment growth funding, transportation efficiencies, increases to transportation services, pre-planning for a southeast area joint-use high school, continued targeted classroom funding, and playground accessibility projects.

Motion by Lacey Weekes:

That the 2024-2025 budget, as presented, be approved and submitted in the required form to the Ministry of Education, pending any final adjustments approved by the Director of Education/CEO.

Motion Carried.
(Unanimously)

Chair	CFO

On behalf of the Board of Education, Lacey Weekes 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.

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

Motion by Tracey McMurchy:

That the meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried.

Time of meeting: 5:30 to 6:03 p.m.

Chairperson

Chief Financial Officer