

Regina, Saskatchewan
March 18, 2025

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

Members Present
Mr. Adam Hicks, Chair
Ms. Lacey Weekes, Vice-Chair
Mrs. Cindy Anderson
Mr. Ted Jaleta
Mrs. Tracey McMurchy
Mr. Brandon-Shea Mutala
Mrs. Sarah Cummings Truszkowski

Administration Present
Mr. Mark Haarmann, Director of Education/CEO
Mr. Barry Lacey, Deputy Director of Division Services/CFO
Mr. Rick Steciuk, Deputy Director of Student Achievement/School Services

Brandon-Shea Mutala 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: *Public Section Meeting Update*.

Adoption of Agenda
Motion by Brandon-Shea Mutala:

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 February 11, 2025. It was noted that the date on page 4 for Planned Agenda Items should be March 18, 2025.

Motion by Tracey McMurchy:

That the minutes of the Board meeting of February 11, 2025, be approved as amended.

Motion Carried.

2025/26 School Attendance Area Analysis
Information regarding the southeast boundary changes commencing with the 2025-2026 school year had been distributed. Francine Brûlé, Supervisor of Strategic Supports, and Lori Daelick, Superintendent of Student Achievement/School Services, provided additional information, including an update on the status of southeast elementary schools and why a boundary change is needed for the 2025/26 school year, an overview of the goals of the boundary change and key considerations, an outline of each boundary change and resulting movement of students, and the impacts of the change on future enrolment projections, and a review of the timelines and communication plan for students, families and

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school communities. It was noted that several of the Division’s southeast elementary schools are experiencing capacity issues, which has led to overcrowding, use of non-instruction space, and double classrooms. As of March 1st, Board members were advised that École Wascana Plains School is at 144% capacity and Jack MacKenzie School is at 135% capacity. Even with the recent provincial approval of four additional relocatable classrooms that will benefit Jack MacKenzie and W.F. Ready Schools, existing enrolment pressures and project growth in the southeast necessitated a boundary modification to address capacity concerns and ensure positive learning environments for students. She advised that the Division recognized the impact that changes could have on students and the broader school community and the objective of this boundary change was to identify the best option to address capacity issues, complimenting a broader strategy to accommodate growth and developments in southeast Regina until the new southeast elementary school opens, minimize the impact on students, and consider financial impacts, including transportation costs. She further outlined communication plans that will begin this evening at SCC meetings at École W.S. Hawrylak, École Wascana Plains, École Wilfrid Walker, and École Massey Schools, as well as a communication to families through Edsby. Individualized letters will also be provided to families affected by the boundary changes. Lori Daelick, Superintendent of Student Achievement/School Services, reiterated that changes are always challenging, but that the whole process is being addressed with care and compassion. She also noted that the receiving schools are already planning activities to welcome students. Ms. Daelick, Ms. Brûlé and Mark Haarmann, Director of Education/CEO, responded to questions relative to transportation options, the total number of students impacted, registration forms, email and print communications, traffic safety, before and after school programs, and enrolment projections. Board members expressed appreciation for the presentation and supported the boundary changes presented.

Campbell Robotics

Cory Antonini, Student Achievement Coordinator, introduced Jason Grayston, the robotics teacher at Campbell Collegiate, and two Grade 12 students that are in the school’s Robotics and Drone Club, Mason and Anastasia. The students showcased a drone as well as two robots. Mr. Grayston provided some background information on the program and how sciences and mathematics are used throughout. Mason and Anastasia responded to questions relative to artificial intelligence, what drew them to robotics, career choices, and encouraging younger students to join. Mr. Antonini responded to a question relative to the kits available. Board members expressed appreciation for the presentation.

Director’s Report

Mark Haarmann, Director of Education/CEO, presented his monthly standing report, by first acknowledging and thanking staff, students, families, Board members, and the school community councils for the commitment shown to learning from each other and making our Division a more inclusive space for all our students. He noted, specifically, the celebration related to the Lunar New Year, African-Canadian Black History Month, Indigenous Storytelling Month and Inclusive Education Month, as well as Pink Shirt Day. Although our main focus will always be about reading, writing and math, it is also about learning to understand and appreciate our neighbours, our history and our potential and, in doing so, our Division moves toward true inclusivity as we continue to be and become a Division in which all feel and know that they belong. He advised that, on March 13th, he participated in Regina Public Schools’ ‘Gayla’ at Sheldon-Williams Collegiate, hosted by Sheldon’s GSA in collaboration with other GSAs across the Division. He was proud to see our schools once again ensure that all our students can feel like they belong. He thanked Angela Mallory and all who organized and supported the event. He noted that, on March 14th, many in Regina celebrated Holi, the Hindu festival of colours, love and spring. Some

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of our schools helped acknowledge this important festival with bright colours and opportunities for students to learn about different cultures, with Principal Cathy Truong and Marion McVeety School being featured on Global TV. With March being Women's History Month, he noted the same ingenuity in our schools as we celebrate mothers, sisters, aunties, kokums, and all the women who give life and spark joy, learning and creativity in everything we do. He also commented that March is the holy month of Ramadan, culminating at the end of the month with Eid Ul Fitr. Many of our schools and offices will take this opportunity to learn the important cultural lessons this most important of Muslim holidays creates. He expressed gratitude for our staff who will, as this month progresses, show respect and understanding for all who fast and spend time in prayer and contemplation. Beginning on March 5th, Ash Wednesday, he advised that the month of March also sees many Christians honouring Lent, and fasting, praying and preparing for Good Friday and Easter Sunday on April 20th, and noted that many of our school families honour this holy month and many others appreciate learning about the traditions, and he looks forward to participating in these events as much as in the Holi, Ramadan and other celebrations and commemorations that our schools will host. He outlined that, last month, Regina Public Schools was prominently featured in a number of local news stories. One was the Books and Bagels event at Douglas Park where we saw students, parents, community members, SROs and others sharing the gift of literacy. He thanked Principal Cathy McGillivray and the school team for making this popular and tasty event possible. At Seven Stones School, Principal Jason Janssen and his team hosted a United Nations presentation on STEM for girls. He noted that Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics are critically important fields for Regina and Saskatchewan students to explore and even more so for girls and young women as we strive to create an equitable, inclusive environment for our students to grow into. This is doubly important as we also explore themes and stories during Women's History Month. He thanked Student Achievement Coordinators Amanada Brace, Shayne McMillen and Cory Antonini for organizing and participating in this presentation and who continue to champion STEM and STEAM in our schools. He congratulated Jessica Irvine, a Core French Specialist Teacher at Judge Bryant School, who recently had an article published in the Canadian Association of Second Language Teachers (CASLT) magazine. He acknowledged the continued great work of our facilities and other support staff, both in schools and at Division Office. He specifically highlighted Joel Canlas, the Head Facility Operator at Dr. L.M. Hanna School, who noticed a fire in one of the relocatable classrooms on the morning of March 13th and, thanks to his quick action and that of our outstanding Facilities team led by Scott Saxby, Marc Poissant, Mike Dacey and Andy Simpson, the damage was limited and classes were able to resume using the space the very next day. He advised that the Division recently offered a Community Early Learning Event and, thanks to the efforts of Supervisor of Instruction Juanita Redekopp-McKeown and her Early Learning Team, the first-ever Stories and Stepping Stones Early Learning event was offered at École Centennial School, in collaboration with Centennial and Plainsview School Community Councils, bringing families together for an evening of fun, learning, and connection. Families participated in engaging activities, explored early learning resources, enjoyed a story walk led by the United Way Literacy Coordinator, and developed awareness of supports available through Regina Public Libraries from a Community Librarian. He further advised that the Division participated in a Health Network Maturity Assessment, working alongside the East and Central Regina Health Networks, engaging in meaningful reflection and analysis of the current state and maturity of health networks across the province. This assessment generated rich conversations and collaboration and allowed participants to explore strengths, opportunities for growth, and innovation possibilities guided by the diverse perspectives of health patient family partners, community partners, including our Division, and frontline and management staff from the Saskatchewan Health Authority. He noted that the collaborative process reinforced our shared commitment to networking with provincial and local partners. On March 7th, he highlighted that the Campbell Business Program hosted its 8th Annual Case Competition,

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hosted by the Hill School of Business, with over 100 students participating from Campbell, F.W. Johnson, Sheldon-Williams, and Weyburn. Although the day was spent focused on concepts such as marketing strategies, target markets, budgeting, and investing, students took away important life skills including decision making, critical thinking, and team collaboration, skills that they can carry into any future class or career. He thanked Campbell teacher Jill Labas and team for this event. He further noted that Ms. Labas also received a Distinction award from the Regina YWCA this week. On March 10th, he advised that the governments of Saskatchewan and Canada announced the signing of a \$15.8M three-year agreement under the National School Food Program, and he hopes to share more details soon about how these new nutritional supports will benefit Regina Public Schools' students and schools. He concluded his report by noting an opportunity he had to speak at length with a Grade 3 teacher from Harbour Landing School about teachers working together, finding time for professional dialogue and collaboration, and a commitment to constantly strive to be better. He acknowledged all staff members for their continued commitment to excellence. He and Mike Tomchuk, Superintendent of Student Achievement/School Services, responded to questions relative to the nutrition program.

2025/26 School Year Calendars

Proposed elementary and high school calendars for the 2025/2026 school year had been distributed. Mike Tomchuk, Superintendent of Student Achievement/School Services, advised that the calendars were developed in collaboration with the Regina Public School Teachers' Association, CUPE 3766 and other stakeholders, and that all legislative requirements have been met, with 180 instructional days for elementary students and 179 instructional days for high school students to accommodate for semester turn-around. Mr. Tomchuk and Rick Steciuk, Deputy Director of Student Achievement/School Services, responded to questions relative to contact time during three-way conference days, the scheduling of professional development days, the September 30th National Day for Truth and Reconciliation falling on a Tuesday, consideration of shifting the calendar to start in August and end in May, and the Winter, February and Spring breaks.

Motion by Cindy Anderson:

That the 2025/2026 school year calendars be approved as presented, subject to review by the Ministry of Education.

Motion Carried.
(Unanimously)

Public Section Meeting Update

Brandon-Shea Mutala advised that he attended the February Public Section meeting via Zoom. Discussions were held relative to a meeting with the SSBA, MLA Matt Love, and Minister of Education Everett Hindley; the SSBA's opposition to fund private schools; the importance of having the Saskatchewan Party commit to food funding; adequate long-term funding of education; continuing with Diversity, Equity and Inclusion; public school capital projects; the autonomy of the school boards in the province; the new radio advertisement; the search for a new executive director; and putting on hold for the time being the resolution relative to an extra public school member on the SSBA Board. He noted that there will be a public orientation via zoom on March 20th.

Planned Agenda Items

For Board member information, the Chairperson noted the planned agenda items currently set for the April 8, 2025 Board meeting, including Bisons for Change Celebration, Transportation Safety Celebration, Director's Report, Priorities, Planning and Policy Committee, June Budget Meeting Date, Quarterly Finance

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Accountability Report, Quarterly Transportation Accountability Report, Long Service Reception Duties, SSBA Spring Assembly Summary, and 2025/26 Budget Development Update (in closed).

Information –
Biannual
Administrative
Procedures
Update

The Chairperson advised that the Biannual Administrative Procedures Update was included in the Board agenda package for information. Board members expressed appreciation for the summary of changes included with the report.

Information –
November 2024
Election
Candidate
Contribution
and Expense
Reports

The Chairperson advised that a link to the November 2024 Election Candidate Contribution and Expense Reports was included in the Board agenda package for information.

Information –
Subdivision
Reports

Cindy Anderson thanked Principal Danielle Istace and Vice Principal Eric Benjamin for the tour of Imperial School on February 28th. She advised that Judge Bryant School had each class do their individual take on the Division’s land acknowledgment and she has asked that copies be sent to her for sharing. She also thanked the facility operators, as there is always concern about ice on the walkways around the school. She attended the March 6th Imperial School Community Council meeting. She noted the school’s partnership with Tim Hortons on team building. She further noted the discussion of having Indigenous studies as a main focus at tawâw school, especially with the move of the Michif program from McDermid to the new school. She urged her fellow trustees to consider a strong Indigenous culture program at tawâw school and perhaps advocating with the Ministry of Education. She advised that she will be meeting with Imperial and McDermid schools on March 26th.

Lacey Weekes advised that she attended an Elsie Mironuck School Community Council. She noted their appreciation for the support they receive from Regina Food for Learning, as approximately 10% of their students have food insecurities. She attended the F.W. Johnson Collegiate open house, and congratulated the STEAM program for their project presentation during the event. She advised that the trustees welcomed Minister of Education Everett Hindley and several Saskatchewan Party MLAs to Division Office on March 20th, and outlined the Division’s top five priorities: funding, inflation and increased costs; dedicated funding for intensive support students; space and the Regina east elementary school; classroom complexity—specialized support classrooms; and Kindergarten to Grade 3 Literacy—staffing, resources and training. She noted that the meeting was very positive and advised that the Board looks forward to a productive working relationship with them.

Brandon-Shea Mutala advised that he attended the Dr. L.M. Hanna School Community Council meeting on February 26th; the SCC and staff let him know that item 4 on the list provided by the city has not been completed even though the city said that it was. He noted that a dedicated area intended for parent drop-offs and pick-ups will be established on Davin Crescent. He further noted that he sent a follow-up email to the City Councillors on March 17th. He toured Henry Janzen School on February 28th, noting that the relocatable classrooms need some upkeep. He also toured Thom Collegiate on February 28th and spoke about its electrical program. He also inquired about the school accessing space above the art area. He noted the school’s cancer fundraiser begins April 14th. He acknowledged the March 4th Trustee information session with Principals, Vice Principals and LGBTQ+ staff members. He attended the Thom School Community Council meeting on March 11th and spoke of their desire to update signage and colours in the facility. He was pleased to learn of some new dual credit classes in the works. On March 12th, he attended the Henry Janzen

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School Community Council meeting and advised of activities planned to celebrate Pride. He also noted the schools Big Book Fair from March 31st to April 2nd.

Tracey McMurchy advised that Marion McVeety School held a Holi celebration on March 14th, and congratulated Principal Cathy Truong and the staff for organizing an amazing event. She noted that March 8th was International Women’s Day and she spoke at the Regina Immigrant Women Centre’s celebration, sharing her story of coming to Canada as a refugee from Vietnam and her success story as a woman, the challenges she’s faced and still faces, and the support and care she receives and gives to others. She advised that she, Adam Hicks and Director Mark Haarmann attended the SGI Speakers Program launch at Campbell Collegiate that will “bring in inspirational, educational and empowering speakers to Saskatchewan schools and organizations.” Speakers at the launch included Cody Demerais and Sandra LaRose, who shared their stories to promote traffic safety for our youth. She attended Campbell Collegiate’s open house on March 12th. She also noted the library refresh at École Massey School and the building of PreK playground equipment at Douglas Park School.

Adam Hicks noted the recent Saskatchewan Teachers’ Federation arbitration decision. He also thanked Sarah Cummings Truskowski and Brandon-Shea Mutala for agreeing to attend the budget address on March 19th.

On behalf of the Board of Education, Brandon-Shea Mutala 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 Brandon-Shea Mutala:

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

Motion Carried.

Motion by Cindy 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 March 18, 2025 Board meeting be authorized to continue beyond the 8:30 p.m. presumptive adjournment time.

Motion by Lacey Weekes:

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 *Draft Administrative Procedure, 2025/26 Budget Development, Student Incident Report and Suspension Information, and SCC Forum, Principal Feedback, and Rebranding Discussion/Update*. 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 Sarah Cummings Truskowski:

That the meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried.

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

Chairperson

Chief Financial Officer