

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 (virtually) Mr. Brandon-Shea Mutala Mrs. Sarah Cummings Truszkowski
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Administration Present	Mr. Mark Haarmann, Director of Education/CEO (virtually) Mr. Barry Lacey, Deputy Director of Division Services/CFO Mr. Rick Steciuk, Deputy Director of Student Achievement/School Services
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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 advised that both Tracey McMurchy and Mark Haarmann are joining the meeting virtually because they are attending their children’s Grade 12 graduation ceremonies. He then asked for a motion to adopt the agenda.

Adoption of Agenda	<u>Motion by Lacey Weekes:</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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2025-2026 Budget Submission	Copies of the 2025-2026 Budget Submission had been distributed. Barry Lacey, Deputy Director of Division Services/CFO, and Ashley Kuntz, Superintendent of Business Services, provided additional information, first by setting out the year-round budget process, with the fiscal year beginning in September and ending in August. They advised that if enrolments projections are higher by September 30th, a funding adjustment is received from the Ministry of Education in December; however, the Province has indicated that an enrolment funding adjustment will not be made in the 2025/26 school year, and the Division will need to find ways to absorb the difference if enrolment numbers are higher than projected. From January to March of each year, budget priorities are determined and administrators begin to calculate the impact on a status quo budget. This year, Provincial budget detail from March was delayed to April due to collective bargaining with teachers. The Division’s Preventive Maintenance and Renewal Plan (PMR) was developed and submitted in May, and the final budget is now prepared for Board approval to submit to the Ministry. They noted that this year’s budget showed an increase over the past few years with additional funding related to class complexity, intensive supports, and PMR; however, over half of the increase is restricted for specific purposes. They outlined that, of the overall \$24M increase in operating funding, \$12.6M is restricted funding for Specialized Support Classrooms, School-based Complexity, Classroom Complexity, and Associate Schools, with \$11.4M
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Chair	CFO

unrestricted funding to cover salary, inflation and projected enrolment increases. A PMR grant increase of \$1.4M was welcomed, and \$19M is for ongoing capital projects including the Southeast area joint elementary and Southeast area joint high school, the Harbour Landing West School, the Campbell Collegiate foundation, and the Imperial/McDermid rebuild (tawâw school). Without additional actions, they advised that the Division is projected to incur a deficit of \$2.6M on a cash basis. They outlined that, to balance the budget, the Division was required to undertake system wide reductions and re-structuring that sought to balance the needs across the Division while minimizing impact. These included a reduction in non-instructional expenses in Facilities and Information Technology, a reduction of one structured learning classroom at Wilfred Hunt School, a restructuring of the elementary band program, and the elimination of funding for the high school transition program from the Division’s unrestricted funding base and instead fund an equivalent program from restricted funding. They outlined key increases and decreases in revenue and expenditures and also set out how the new restricted funding would be allocated. On a PSAB basis, the budget shows a surplus of \$8.2M because of amortization charges and other non-cash items but, on a cash basis, shows a balanced budget. In summary, Mr. Lacey noted that the March 2025 Provincial funding makes a positive difference in funding classroom complexity, intensive supports, and PMR but the Division continues to face challenges funding for general inflation and contracted services and ongoing program needs and pressures. Balancing the budget is a significant accomplishment. He is hopeful that future Provincial funding for Pre-K to Grade 12 education will be predictable, stable and adequate. Board members expressed appreciation for the extensive work undertaken to bring this budget to fruition. They thanked Regina Public stakeholders for their feedback on the band program and asked for their continued advocacy in that area as well as in the areas of intensive supports and classroom complexity. They assured stakeholders that the band program was not being defunded, and that many programs and educational areas were affected by inadequate provincial funding. They encouraged advocacy for more unrestricted funding. They pointed to the lack of adequate educational space, child food insecurities, discrimination and safety concerns, increased transportation costs, facility repairs, and so much more. One Board member advised that they would not support the budget because the provincial government has underfunded education once again and a vote in favour may encourage them to continue underfunding public education.

Motion by Cindy Anderson:

That the 2025-2026 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.

	<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>		<u>For</u>	<u>Against</u>
C. Anderson	✓		B. Mutala		✓
A. Hicks	✓		S. Cummings Truszkowski	✓	
T. Jaleta	✓		L. Weekes	✓	
T. McMurchy	✓				

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.

Chair	CFO

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 6:21 p.m.

Chairperson

Chief Financial Officer