

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 Truszkowski, Vice Chair
Mrs. Cindy Anderson
Mr. Adam Hicks
Mr. Ted Jaleta
Ms. Lacey Weekes

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

Mrs. 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.

Adoption of Agenda Motion by Ms. Lacey Weekes:
That the agenda be adopted as prepared.

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 meetings held on June 29, 2022 and August 30, 2022.

Motion by Mrs. Sarah Cummings Truszkowski:

That the minutes of the Board meetings of June 29, 2022 and August 30, 2022, be approved as distributed.

Motion Carried.

Director's Report In this first report as Director of Education, Mr. Darren Boldt welcomed Mr. Jason Coleman as Acting Deputy Director, Student Achievement/School Services. Mr. Boldt advised that school opening proceeded smoothly this Fall, with students returning on September 1st. He noted that the first Principals' meeting of the new school year was held on August 25th at māmawēyatitān centre, and staff returned to schools on August 29th and participated in Division-wide training on inclusion, equity, and diversity. He advised that schools have been holding backpack evenings, welcome barbecues, open houses, and there is excitement to be able to engage in these activities again. He commented that enrolment is being tracked daily and the Division is expecting to exceed projections this year, noting that over 500 students have registered through the Newcomer Welcome Centre since June 2022. He spoke of the need to rearrange

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staffing components to manage pupil-teacher ratios. Mr. Boldt was pleased to report on the collaboration with the City and REAL District on Miyo-wîcîwitowin Day, a Truth and Reconciliation event for high school students, to be held at Mosaic Stadium on September 29th, with over 10,000 students expected to be there. He expressed appreciation to Ms. Vanea Cyr, Supervisor, Indigenous Education, and Ms. Charlen Miller, Manager, Transportation, for ensuring students will be transported and in attendance that day. He advised that the Division would continue to supply masks, test kits and other PPE to staff and students, if requested. He thanked the Facilities staff for ensuring the schools were preparing for the return of staff and students. Mr. Boldt responded to questions relative to Newcomer Welcome Centre registrant demographics, funding for the Miyo-wîcîwitowin Day at Mosaic Stadium, employee group representatives, and current SHA guidelines relative to the pandemic. Mr. Boldt and Mr. Jason Coleman, Deputy Director, Student Achievement/School Services, responded to a question relative to staffing component changes. Ms. Naomi Mellor, Deputy Director, Division Services/CFO, responded to a question relative to the status of foundation work at Campbell Collegiate.

2022-2023
Revised Budget

Information regarding a one-time funding increase from the Ministry of Education for the 2022/23 school year to assist with rising fuel and insurance costs, together with a revised 2022/23 budget, had been distributed. Ms. Naomi Mellor, Deputy Director, Division Services/CFO, advised that the intent of the \$1.5M allocated to Regina Public Schools is to prevent inflationary costs from diverting resources away from classrooms. She noted that the funds are allocated to Transportation and Plant Operations but may be re-allocated to any area of pressure, that the funds may not be used to replace the planned use of reserves, and that Associate Schools be included in the consideration of how funds are allocated. She advised that boards are now required to approve a revised 2022/23 budget to submit to the Ministry by September 20, 2022.

Motion by Mr. Adam Hicks:

That the 2022-2023 revised budget be approved and submitted in the required form to the Ministry of Education.

Motion Carried.
(Unanimously)

Fourth Quarter
Financial
Report

Financial results for the 12-month period ended August 31, 2022, had been distributed. Ms. Ashley Kuntz, Superintendent, Business Services, provided additional information, noting that, currently, the Statement of Operations shows an operating deficit on a cash basis of \$8.7M, approximately \$5.3M higher than the \$3.56M budgeted cash deficit. She advised that this is due to a decrease in the operating grant of \$2M based on the lower than budgeted students numbers as of September, 2021, higher grant revenues and associated expenses relating to federal funding for air quality improvements in schools, provincial emergent capital funding to address structural issues at Campbell Collegiate, ongoing pandemic-related impacts, higher salary costs due to base budget pressures, inflationary pressures for insurance premiums, fuel, and technology spending following the May 2022 cyber-attack. Ms. Naomi Mellor, Deputy Director, Division Services/CFO, responded to a question relative to ongoing pandemic-related expenses. Ms. Kuntz responded to a question relative to capital project funds.

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Fourth Quarter Transportation Report The Fourth Quarter Transportation report for the 12-month period ended August 31, 2022, had been distributed. Ms. Ashley Kuntz, Superintendent, Business Services, advised that there has been an increase of approximately 600 students since September 2021, partially due to the addition of Elsie Mironuck and Wascana Plains students, who were part of the joint busing arrangement with Regina Catholic Schools that ended June 30, 2022. She further advised that Regina Public Schools, together with Regina Catholic Schools, were able to again host the First Ride Program on August 17, 2022 to new kindergarten students, which saw approximately 200 students from both divisions learn about bus safety, including danger zones, bus evacuation, bike safety, school zone safety, and brain injury prevention. She further reported that the maximum student ride time has slightly decreased from last year. Ms. Kuntz responded to a question relative to route lengths. Mr. Darren Boldt, Director of Education, and Mr. Jason Coleman, Deputy Director, Student Achievement/School Services, responded to a question relative to communicating on the City’s free transit fare program for all residents age 13 and under.

2022 SSBA AGM: Submission of Bylaw Amendments and Resolutions Mrs. Sarah Cummings Truszkowski brought forward a proposed resolution for submission to the Saskatchewan School Boards Association’s 2022 annual general meeting. Board members were expressed support for the resolution, and it was suggested that a presentation on food programs in schools be added to the agenda of a future Board meeting. Mrs. Cindy Anderson advised that she had a proposed resolution that she would like to discuss in closed session.

Motion by Mrs. Sarah Cummings Truszkowski:

That the following resolution and associated rationale be approved for submission to the Saskatchewan School Boards Association for presentation at the 2022 Annual Convention:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Saskatchewan School Boards Association bring awareness to the impacts poverty has on Saskatchewan students and prioritize poverty reduction advocacy in Saskatchewan schools.

Motion Carried.
(Unanimously)

Planned Agenda Items For Board member information, Ms. Tara Molson noted the planned agenda items currently set for the October 18, 2022 Board meeting, including Imperial/McDermid/St Michael/St Peter Concept Plan, Director’s Report, Report on School Boards/City Council Liaison Committee Fall 2022 Meeting, 2022-2023 Budget Final Estimates, Parking Lot for The Crescents School, Appointment of Standing Committee Members, Appointment of Board Representatives, 2022 SSBA AGM Appointment of Voting Delegates and Vote Distribution, and Enrolment Report.

Notices of Motion Mr. Adam Hicks gave further notice of his intention to present a motion at the October 18, 2022 meeting of the Board relative to a student council trustee.

Information – Biannual Administrative Procedures Update Ms. Tara Molson advised that the Biannual Administrative Procedures Update was included in the Board agenda package for information. Board members expressed appreciation for the changes to APs to create a solid foundation to support all students and staff. Mr. Jason Coleman, Deputy Director, Student Achievement/School Services, and Mr. Darren Boldt, Director of Education,

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responded to a question relative to expectations of Associate Schools to follow Administrative Procedures.

Information –
Subdivision
Reports

Mr. Ted Jaleta advised that he attended the Marion McVeety School Community Council Meeting on September 6. Enrolment is up from pre-pandemic levels, with average class size currently at 27-28 students. First in-person assembly was held since prior to the pandemic. Students are excited to participate in extra-curricular activities again. A meet and greet barbecue is being planned and a Terry Fox Run is scheduled for October 3. Concerns were raised about food insecurity, and Mr. Jaleta advised that the SCC is diligently working to raise funds to ensure lunches are available for children in need. Social awareness activities have included a Pride flower bed, Treaty 4 Flag raising, gymnasium floor art to honour residential school children, raising funds for anti-racism, religious awareness/accommodation, and adding diverse resources to the school library with a focus on anti-racism and truth and reconciliation. He attended the Jack MacKenzie School Community Council meeting on September 7. Enrolment is up from pre-pandemic levels and increasing. First in-person assembly held since prior to the pandemic. Students are excited to participate in extra-curricular activities again. A meet and greet pancake breakfast is being planned. He attended the Wascana Plains School Community Council meeting on September 8. New SCC members were elected at this AGM. Many new parents attended the meeting. Enrolment is up from pre-pandemic levels. Concerns were raised regarding construction of 80 new condominium units in the area, as well as a new Fire Station and a Sarcan. The concerns ranged from traffic congestion to the potential for a large influx of students to overcrowd the current school. A meet and greet barbecue is being planned.

Mr. Adam Hicks advised that it was exciting to see schools competing against one another at the multi-school track meet. He also noted that Lakeview School is hosting a Treaty 4 Flag raising on September 21. He commented that there are concerns in Harbour Landing regarding securing of land to start the new school build.

Mrs. Cindy Anderson advised that she visited Judge Bryant School on September 9. Some concerns were raised regarding SCCs and school excursions, which could be a potential topic for a future SCC Forum. She noted some interesting conversations with the students and commented that it is always a pleasure to visit schools.

Mrs. Sarah Cummings Truszkowski advised that she attended The Crescents School Community Council’s Unpack Your Backpack and Welcome Back barbecue on August 31. She noted that the façade of the school looks terrific and the community is very happy that the Davin name has been covered up to start the new school year. She also attended the Walker School barbecue and Grand Opening of their Covered Learning Structure on September 6. She noted that the Walker SCC has been fundraising for several years for this covered learning structure. She attended the Rosemont Community School Welcome Back barbecue on September 13 just prior to the Board meeting.

On behalf of the Board of Education, Mrs. 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.

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Closed Session Motion by Mr. Adam Hicks:

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 Mr. Adam Hicks:

That we rise and report.

Motion Carried.

At the conclusion of closed session, the Committee of the Whole recommended to the Board:

Board 2021-2022 Self-Evaluation Report

- 1) That the Board’s Self-Evaluation Report, as developed during the evaluation workshop held June 21, 2022, be approved as an accurate account of the Board’s performance for the 2021-2022 school year.

Motion by Mrs. Sarah Cummings Truskowski:

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

Motion Carried.
(Unanimously)

At the conclusion of closed session, the Committee of the Whole reported progress with respect to consideration of *2022-2023 Board Planning, Provincial Education Plan Update, and SSBA Resolution 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 Mrs. Sarah Cummings Truskowski:

That the meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried.

Time of meeting: 5:30 to 6:56 p.m.

Chairperson

Chief Financial Officer