

At a meeting of the Board of Education of the Regina School Division No. 4 of Saskatchewan, held virtually 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 Mrs. Elizabeth Strom Ms. Lacey Weekes
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Administration Present	Mr. Greg Enion, Director of Education Ms. Naomi Mellor, Deputy Director, Division Services/CFO Mr. Darren Boldt, Deputy Director, Student Achievement/School Services
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Ms. 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. It was requested that the following item be added: *Director of Education Hiring*.

Adoption of Agenda	<u>Motion by Mrs. Cindy Anderson:</u>
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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.
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Approving of Minutes	The Chairperson then asked for a motion to approve the minutes of the meeting held on March 15, 2022. Mrs. Elizabeth Strom advised that she congratulated the Campbell Collegiate basketball teams in her subdivision report. Mrs. Sarah Cummings Truszkowski noted a spelling error in the 8th line of the Director's Report.
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Motion by Mrs. Elizabeth Strom:

That the minutes of the Board meeting of March 15, 2022, be approved as amended.

Motion Carried.

Parent Teacher Home Visits Program	Information regarding the Parent Teacher Home Visits Program had been distributed. Mr. Jason Coleman, Superintendent, Student Achievement/School Services, Ms. Jillian Sutherland, Principal, Dr. George Ferguson School, and Ms. Cathy Truong Novak, Vice-Principal, Rosemont Community School, provided additional information. It was noted that Regina Public Schools has had a similar program for upwards of 20+ years but in a different format. The panel advised that the five non-negotiables of the pilot are: 1) visits are voluntary for all; 2) educators are trained and compensated; 3) hopes, dream and goals are shared; 4) students are not targeted; and 5) educators go in pairs and
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reflect. They outlined the staff members involved at both schools and provided an overview of the two rounds of visits that were held, one in the Fall and one in late Winter. They also commented on the diversity of the families involved in the pilot. It was pointed out that many of the rural school divisions involved in the pilot did not experience the stress of COVID-19 cases compared to the urban divisions. A comparison of this pilot with the Regina Public Schools home visit program model was provided. Ms. Sutherland and Ms. Truong Novak discussed challenges, including concerns relative to COVID-19, weather conditions with visits being held outdoors, scheduling conflicts, and arranging interpreters. They summarized celebrations of the pilot, including in-person communications, repairing relationships between Indigenous families and the school, learning of ways to support student success, families advocating for their children, and learning about other cultures, as well as family dynamics. Mr. Coleman, Ms. Sutherland and Ms. Truong Novak responded to questions relative to ways of incorporating cultural diversity at the school level, relationship building, staff participation, measurable data, and the cost of moving forward. Board members expressed appreciation for the presentation.

Director’s Report

Mr. Greg Enion, Director of Education, advised that the Division Services and Student Achievement/School Services departments have been busy for several weeks since the provincial budget was announced. He noted that more draft budget information would be included in the May 10th Board meeting agenda, with the final budget to be determined at the June 14th Board meeting. He advised that the Facilities department is preparing for the many projects to be undertaken during the months of July and August, including tendering processes, awarding contracts, and organizing how the work will be done so that schools are ready for the Fall. He further advised that the Human Resources department and Student Achievement/School Services Superintendents are currently engaged in staffing, including consultations with teachers who submitted transfer forms. He advised that the Executive Council received a presentation earlier in the day from Ms. Delaine Clyne, Supervisor, Policy, Planning and Research, and Ms. Juanita Redekopp-McKeown, Supervisor, Instruction, who have been representing the Division at the Provincial Education Plan meetings. In discussion with Ms. Tara Molson, he noted that a session with Board members would be scheduled in early May to gather feedback on the Division’s draft strategic plan. Relative to the SRO review, he advised that the partners are securing the tendering process for a third party to conduct the review. Regarding COVID-19, he advised that, during the week of March 29th, 148 student and 58 staff cases were reported, and during the week of April 4th, 136 student and 37 staff cases were reported. Although reporting is not mandatory, he noted continuing challenges in providing adequate substitute staffing. Mr. Enion responded to a question relative to commemorating the Easter season.

Strategic Engagement and Advocacy Committee

Mrs. Elizabeth Strom advised that the minutes of the March 29, 2022 Strategic Engagement and Advocacy Committee meeting are included in the Board agenda package. She outlined the agenda items discussed, including information on the Student Forums and a potential Spring 2022 date; a discussion regarding the Urban Boards meeting; a presentation on the Division’s nutrition program; the Poverty Report presented by Mrs. Sarah Cummings Truszkowski; the decision to defer an Engagement Forum to 2022/23; a discussion on a Summer Success Camps proposal; a discussion on how to advocate for further development of Black History curriculum with the Saskatchewan School Boards Association; and a discussion on the rubric for scoring the Shared Values Recognition Program nominations.

Mrs. Sarah Cummings Truszkowski presented her Poverty Report, a copy of which was included in the Board agenda package. She provided a summary of her report, noting that poverty for children in Regina Public Schools is a huge

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concern, where children living in poverty may experience food insecurity, may not have stable housing, may not have internet connectivity at home, may face discrimination, and may face racism because racialized students are more likely to live in poverty. She further noted that poverty can have other serious negative effects on children’s mental health issues, including anxiety and depression, and can contribute to addiction. She outlined that these same students often find it difficult to get to school and attend school consistently, and often struggle academically and are less likely to graduate. She advised that the Strategic Engagement and Advocacy Committee agreed on the following three recommendations of advocacy for the Board to focus on: 1) to review nutritional programs and locations offered in Regina Public schools; 2) to help develop partnerships for increased in-school resources to help students and children in poverty; and 3) to examine transportation options for at-risk students.

Mrs. Strom and Mr. Greg Enion, Director of Education, responded to a question relative to the Engagement Forum format. Mrs. Cindy Anderson advised that she had a question she would present in closed session.

Audit and Risk Management Committee

Mr. Ted Jaleta advised that the minutes of the April 5, 2022 Audit and Risk Management Committee meeting are included in the Board agenda package. He outlined the agenda items discussed, including the 2021/22 Audit Service Plan from the external auditors, MNP LLP, and the Audit Involvement Memorandum from the Office of the Provincial Auditor; development of the Division’s Enterprise Risk Management Framework; an update on Reserve Fund Planning including an Administrative Procedure; and an update on Outstanding Legal Actions.

Second Quarter Financial Report

The Second Quarter Financial Report for the 6-month period ended February 28, 2022, had been distributed. Ms. Ashley Kuntz, Superintendent, Business Services, advised that, based on quarter two forecasted results, the Statement of Operations shows an operating deficit on a cash basis of \$8.3M, approximately \$4.8M higher than the \$3.6M budgeted cash deficit. She noted that this is due to a decrease in the operating grant of \$2M based on the December 2021 grant adjustment, lower than estimated tuition fees due to lower number of international students attending, lower than estimated interest and facilities rental income, planned spending down of the Preventive Maintenance and Renewal reserve, projected higher costs for sanitization, masks and rapid tests kits, projected higher salaries costs, and projected higher bus transportation costs. She further advised that the Division is forecasting savings in budget areas such as utilities and supplies that will partially offset the over expenditures, and that expenses will be continually monitored to determine if further savings can be redirected to fully offset pressures. Ms. Kuntz responded to a question relative to an additional \$156K from the Ministry of Education to offset substitution costs.

Second Quarter Transportation Report

The Second Quarter Transportation Report for the 6-month period ended February 28, 2022, had been distributed. Ms. Ashley Kuntz, Superintendent, Business Services, advised that the report shows a slight increase in transported students for the second quarter, as well as the addition of two routes to existing single runs to make double runs. She also noted two weather-related cancellations. She advised that Administration continues to monitor bus routes and the intensive supports transportation to sustain service levels and manage within budget. Ms. Kuntz responded to a question relative to the cancellations.

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Capital Projects Update An update on current and future capital projects had been distributed. Mr. Jared Kleisinger, Superintendent, Educational Facilities, and Ms. Delaine Clyne, Supervisor, Policy, Planning and Research, provided information on the joint-use school projects for Argyle/St. Pius X, Harbour Landing West, and Imperial/McDermid/St. Peter/St. Michael, and an emergent capital issue identified at Campbell Collegiate. Ms. Clyne, Mr. Kleisinger, Mr. Darren Boldt, Deputy Director, Student Achievement/School Services, Ms. Naomi Mellor, Deputy Director, Division Services/CFO, and Mr. Greg Enion, Director of Education, responded to questions relative to capacity at the Harbour Landing West school, accommodation for programming at Campbell Collegiate, the Ministry of Education’s Top 10 Capital Priorities list, the costs associated with the location of the Harbour Landing West school, and the foundation at Balfour Collegiate. It was suggested that parents may wish to write letters to their MLAs regarding the rejected emergent funding application relative to Campbell Collegiate. Mrs. Cindy Anderson advised that she had a question she would present in closed session.

Long Service Reception Board members determined which presentation roles they would assume at the Long Service Reception to be held June 8, 2022.

Planned Agenda Items For Board member information, Ms. Tara Molson noted the planned agenda items currently set for the May 10, 2022 Board meeting, including Director’s Report, Preventive Maintenance and Renewal Plan, Destruction of Public Documents, Shared Values Recognition Program Voting Protocol and Process, Discussion with Saskatchewan School Boards Association Representatives, and 2022/23 Budget Development.

Notices of Motion Mrs. Cindy Anderson noted that some Board meetings were held virtually during the pandemic and inquired about the availability of holding virtual Board meetings during inclement weather. Instead of bringing a notice of motion, Mrs. Anderson advised that she would present the matter to the Policy, Governance and Sustainability Planning Committee for further review.

Director of Education Hiring Ms. Tara Molson advised that, in January 2022, the Board accepted, with regret, the resignation of Director of Education, Mr. Greg Enion, effective June 30, 2022, and announced the start of a recruitment process. With the process now complete, she requested a motion to appoint a new Director of Education.

Motion by Mr. Adam Hicks:

That the position of Director of Education and Chief Executive Officer for the Regina Public School Division #4 of Saskatchewan be offered to Greg Miller, effective July 1, 2022 and on conditions mutually acceptable to the parties.

Motion Carried.

(Mrs. Elizabeth Strom, Mr. Adam Hicks, Mrs. Cindy Anderson, Mrs. Sarah Cummings Truskowski, Ms. Tara Molson, and Ms. Lacey Weekes supported the motion; Mr. Ted Jaleta opposed the motion.)

Ms. Molson advised that Mr. Miller has a Bachelor of Science, Bachelor of Education and Master of Education degrees from the University of Regina and has more than 25 years of public service in a career spanning the education, social services, and inter-governmental sectors. She noted that he began his career with Regina Public Schools in 1996 as a teacher and later served as a principal, vice principal and Supervisor of Assessment, and, in 2011, moved to

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the Government of Saskatchewan where he currently serves as Deputy Minister of First Nations, Métis and Northern Affairs and Deputy Minister of Government Relations. She was pleased to welcome Mr. Miller back to Regina Public Schools in this leadership position.

Ms. Molson took the opportunity to acknowledge and thank Mr. Enion for his 40 years of service and dedication to Regina Public Schools, including the past seven years as Director of Education, commenting that he will be an integral part of the transition in the Director’s office in the coming months. She advised that Board members will have an opportunity at the June Board meeting to properly acknowledge Mr. Enion’s service.

Information –
Subdivision
Reports

Mrs. Elizabeth Strom advised that she attended a Balfour School Community Council meeting and congratulated the Jr. basketball teams on their silver medal wins at the City Championships. She further noted the appreciation for having students able to play sports again and participate in regular activities. She also commented on their ongoing work in credit attainment.

Mr. Ted Jaleta advised that he attended the Jack MacKenzie School Community Council meeting on April 6th, where they discussed updating the SCC constitution. He noted that the students are enjoying their extra-curricular activities. He advised of a discussion on demographics, noting that there are many families who cannot afford for their children to participate in activities that have an added cost. The school has moved from an outreach program to an “in-reach” program and passed a motion to increase the budget through fundraising via the SCC to ensure that all students can participate in activities if they so choose. He commented that the school has registered their first student from Ukraine. Mr. Jaleta advised that he also attended the Wilfred Hunt School Community Council meeting on April 6th, noting that students are enjoying participating in extra-curricular activities once again.

Mr. Adam Hicks advised that he and three other Board members attended the Saskatchewan School Boards Association Spring Assembly in Saskatoon, and noted that the Provincial Youth Council presented on the second day, and a Campbell Collegiate student, Sung Park, represented the School Division very well.

On behalf of the Board of Education, Ms. 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.

Closed Session Motion by Mrs. Elizabeth Strom:

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.

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At the conclusion of closed session, the Committee of the Whole reported progress with respect to consideration of *Agenda for May 3, 2022 Joint Meeting with Regina Catholic Board, 2022/23 Budget Development, Strategic Engagement and Advocacy Committee, and Capital Projects 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 Mrs. Sarah Cummings Truskowski:

That the meeting adjourn.

Motion Carried.

Time of meeting: 5:30 to 8:16 p.m.

Chairperson

Chief Financial Officer