

## **Regular Meeting of the Board**

### **Minutes**

Thursday, February 29, 2024  
Craig M. Stahlke Board Room  
Administration Office  
181 Henlow Bay, Winnipeg, MB R3Y 1M7

#### **1. Recognition of Treaty Land**

We acknowledge we are on the lands of Turtle Island where Indigenous Peoples have lived since time began. These are the ancestral lands of the Anishinaabe, Ininew, and Dakota Nations as well as the traditional trade and travel routes of the Anishinew, Dene, and Inuit. We also acknowledge we are on Treaty One territory and the homeland of the Red River Métis. Pembina Trails School Division is committed to working together in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of reconciliation.

#### **2. ATTENDANCE**

Trustees:

T. Johnson, C. Nachtigall, A. Becker, J. Brar, D. Johnson, C. Jolly, L. Karn, C. Stahlke

Administration:

L. Boles, Superintendent

C. Roberts, Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum and Learning Services

T. Scott, Assistant Superintendent, Personnel and Education Services

S. Carleton, Secretary-Treasurer

L. Farmer, Chief Human Resources Officer

Regrets:

S. Nixon

#### **3. CALL TO ORDER**

The meeting was called to order at 8:02 p.m.

#### **4. AGENDA APPROVAL**

##### **Resolution # BD20240229.1001**

Moved By D. Johnson

Seconded By L. Karn

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

**Carried**

**5. BOARD MINUTES APPROVAL**

**Resolution # BD20240229.1002**

Moved By C. Nachtigall  
Seconded By A. Becker

THAT the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board held on February 8, 2024, be approved as circulated, and

THAT the minutes of the Special Meeting of the Board held on February 15, 2024, be approved as circulated.

**Carried**

**6. STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS, SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS AND OTHER REPORTS**

The following motion has been deferred to the March 14, 2024 Regular Board Meeting:

THAT the Disbursements List for the period January 18 to February 16, 2024, in the amount of \$7,771,058.29 be approved.

**Resolution # BD20240229.1003**

Moved By C. Nachtigall  
Seconded By C. Stahlke

THAT the Standing Committee Reports, Special Committee Report and Other Reports be received as information and,

THAT the Teacher Contracts (Permanent and Term) as listed in the Teacher Contracts Report dated February 29, 2024, be ratified and,

THAT the Teacher Contract Alterations as listed in the Contract Alterations Report dated February 29, 2024, be approved and,

THAT the Substitute Teacher Contracts as listed in the 2023-24 Substitute Teacher Contracts Report dated February 29, 2024, be ratified and,

THAT the Board accept, with regret, the Resignations as listed in the Resignations Report dated February 29, 2024.

**Carried**

**7. DELEGATIONS**

## **7.1 Delegations - 2024-25 Budget**

### **7.1.1 Fort Richmond Collegiate**

M. Arksey made a presentation to the Board on the importance of the teacher-librarian role in high schools.

### **7.1.2 B. Bartok, President - Manitoba School Libraries Association**

B. Bartok made a presentation to the Board both as a parent of a student at Oak Park High School and in representation of the Manitoba School Library Association. She expressed that in her view, the reduction of teacher-librarians in the draft budget will significantly impact student learning. She outlined the importance of teacher-librarians in advancing student literacy, developing school library collections, supporting student well-being. She said that teacher-librarians are the cornerstone of the education system, offering safe and inclusive environments that foster inquiry, exploration of STEAM, foundations in digital citizenship and personal growth for students.

B. Bartok said that she feels the impact of removing teacher-librarians from libraries will impact students from marginalized communities and vulnerable populations.

B. Bartok provided references and research to emphasize the importance of teacher-librarians in schools.

In closing, B. Bartok urged the Pembina Trails Board to consider other areas for cost savings that will not have a negative impact on students.

### **7.1.3 Pembina Trails Teachers' Association**

L. Legal, President of the PTTA, made a presentation to the Board with respect to the draft budget. She outlined the importance of the following factors for students:

- Class Size
- Safe Schools
- Teacher-Librarians
- EAL
- Clinicians
- Mental Health
- Economic Information/Indicators

**11. BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE WHOLE**

**11.1 Anti-Racism Policy ACB, Regulation ACB-R and Exhibit ACB-E**

**Resolution # BD20240229.1004**

Moved By C. Nachtigall

Seconded By C. Jolly

THAT Anti-Racism Policy ACB, Regulation ACB-R and Exhibit ACB-E be given first reading.

**Carried**

**13. CORRESPONDENCE FOR DISCUSSION**

**13.1 MSBA C2024 Convention Resolutions Package**

The Board received the 2024 MSBA Convention Resolution package for review. It was noted that no print copies will be available at the convention, as C2024 is paperless.

**Resolution # BD20240229.1005**

Moved By C. Nachtigall

Seconded By A. Becker

THAT the Board receive the 2024 MSBA Convention Resolution package as information.

**Carried**

**13.2 2024 Federal Budget**

The Board reviewed the correspondence received with respect to the National Food School Program.

**Resolution # BD20240229.1006**

Moved By L. Karn

Seconded By A. Becker

THAT the Board support funding for the National Food School Program and send a letter to the Minister of Finance.

**Carried**

**14. STANDING AND SPECIAL/ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS**

**14.6 Pembina Trails School Division Educational Support Fund Inc.**

**14.6.1 Oak Park Raiders - Boys Basketball Tournament Support**

**Resolution # BD20240229.1007**

Moved By L. Karn

Seconded By C. Nachtigall

THAT a financial award from the Pembina Trails School Division Educational Support Fund Inc. be made as follows:

Oak Park Raiders Boys Basketball, \$500, 2023-24 Season Tournament Support

**Carried**

**15. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS**

**15.1 YMCA-YWCA Addendum to Lease Agreement - Ecole Crane**

**Resolution # BD20240229.1008**

Moved By C. Stahlke

Seconded By D. Johnson

THAT the addendum to the daycare lease agreement between the YMCA-YWCA (Ecole Crane) and the Pembina Trails School Division be approved.

**Carried**

**15.2 Casual Salary Grids**

**Resolution # BD20240229.1009**

Moved By C. Stahlke

Seconded By L. Karn

THAT the amended salary schedules for the following groups be approved:

- Ignite 3;
- Grounds Crew

**Carried**

**15.3 EAPT Negotiations Committee**

**Resolution # BD20240229.1010**

Moved By C. Nachtigall  
Seconded By C. Stahlke

THAT the Board approve a revision to the Standing Committee Membership for 2023-24 (EAPT Negotiations) to include the following Trustees:

- D. Johnson (Committee Chair)
- L. Karn
- J. Brar

**Carried**

**15.4 RFP-2024-PT Transportation Needs Assessment**

**Resolution # BD20240229.1011**

Moved By C. Stahlke  
Seconded By D. Johnson

THAT the Board approve the recommendation from the administration and award RFP-2024-PT Transportation Needs Assessment to Morrison Hershfield Limited.

**Carried**

**15.5 2024-25 School Day Calendar**

**Resolution # BD20240229.1012**

Moved By C. Nachtigall  
Seconded By A. Becker

THAT the Board approve the 2024-25 School Day Calendar.

**Carried**

**15.6 Yes I Can! Awards**

**Resolution # BD20240229.1013**

Moved By C. Nachtigall  
Seconded By L. Karn

THAT the Board receive the Yes I Can! Awards report as information.

**Carried**

**15.7 Land Lease - 37 Lindenwood Drive West**

The Secretary-Treasurer reviewed the terms and conditions for the proposed lease of land at 37 Lindenwood Drive West.

**Resolution # BD20240229.1014**

Moved By C. Stahlke

Seconded By A. Becker

THAT the lease agreement between the City of Winnipeg and the Pembina Trails School Division with respect to land at 37 Lindenwood Drive West, Plan No. 12507/3, be approved.

**Carried**

**17. CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION LIST**

**Resolution # BD20240229.1015**

Moved By C. Nachtigall

Seconded By C. Jolly

THAT the Correspondence for Information Distribution List dated February 23, 2024, be received as information.

**Carried**

**18. QUESTIONS FROM TRUSTEES**

In response to question from Trustee Nachtigall, the Superintendent acknowledged that she is aware that there has been public conversation that the province has allegedly announced the build of seven new schools but is unable to confirm if the information is accurate or if the new builds include two new K-8 schools in Pembina Trails School Division. She also stated that there has been no further communication with the Minister or Deputy Minister of Education regarding timelines for two new K-8 schools since January 2024.

**19. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE**

**Member of the Public:**

With regard to the community feedback, how many responses did you receive and what was the overall theme?

**Board Chair:**

We received over 1100 responses from the ThoughtExchange with the prominent theme being class sizes.

**Member of the Public:**

Is it true the ISP will see a 12.5% increase in enrolment? Is there also an expected increase in funding to support services for these students?

**Assistant Superintendent, Personnel and Education Services:**

We do not know where the 12.5% increase in ISP enrolment number came from. The enrolment increases vary from year to year and are dependent on how many students can obtain visas. The revenue from the incoming ISP students directly supports the needs of ISP students and all students in the school.

**Member of the Public:**

Has the Board given any thought to providing coverage in the High School libraries to accommodate technician am/pm and lunch breaks?

**Superintendent:**

We have given that issue some consideration already in this draft budget. With the budget being in the draft phase we have not yet finalized any decision about library technicians.

**Member of the Public:**

In the draft budget you mentioned a reduction in class size. How much of a decrease do you anticipate?

**Superintendent:**

The extent to which we can reduce class sizes is dependent upon the outcome of the draft budget when it becomes a final budget. The provincial government has indicated lower K-3 class sizes are a priority, which was reinforced as part of their mandate letter released to the public.

**Member of the Public:**

Why were Teacher Librarians chosen to be deployed into classrooms?

**Trustee Stahlke:**

When the Board is faced with budget cuts, multiple scenarios must be considered. In this case, we considered multiple options utilizing teaching resources that are outside the typical classroom setting.

**Member of the Public:**

Teacher Librarians often provide enrichment experiences for students who need to be engaged and challenged. How will you deal with the lack of enrichment for students without a teacher librarian in the library?

**Superintendent:**

Opportunities for rich learning experiences for students take place throughout the school via curricular and extracurricular classes, clubs, and events.

**Member of the Public:**

Has the Board considered that French Language collections and literacy experiences may be minimized for students by removing French speaking Teacher Librarians?



**Superintendent:**

Yes. This is yet another piece of the puzzle to be considered when developing and planning resource allocations.

**Member of the Public:**

How did you determine the value assigned to Teacher Librarians?

**Trustee Stahlke:**

No comparison of value was made between teachers, teacher librarians, counsellors, or administrators. One is not considered more valuable than the other. The proposed deployment of teacher librarians to classrooms is due to increasing enrolment and the need for smaller class sizes.

**Member of the Public:**

How did you determine how much tax a family should pay?

**Secretary-Treasurer:**

We are provided with assessed property values from the City of Winnipeg and used an average house cost to arrive at our recommendation.

**Member of the Public:**

If the community is prepared to pay more, why aren't you asking for more taxes to avoid cuts?

**Trustee Stahlke:**

Trustees must ensure a balance between the required student services and what the public reasonably expects to pay. Other factors to be considered are municipality costs, cost of living, etc.

**Member of the Public:**

Are you aware that a \$174 tax increase would result in reduced class sizes?

**Board Chair:**

Thank you for sharing what you believe to be an appropriate number for a tax increase. Class size would be one area that would be affected with a tax increase.

**20. ADJOURNMENT**

Meeting adjourned at 9:54 pm

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Chair of the Board

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Secretary-Treasurer