

Regular Meeting of the Board

Minutes

Thursday, January 13, 2022
Craig M. Stahlke Board Room
Administration Office
181 Henlow Bay, Winnipeg, MB R3Y 1M7

1. Recognition of Treaty Land

We acknowledge with respect the history, spirituality and culture of the peoples with whom Treaty One was signed and the land upon which Pembina Trails School Division resides. We acknowledge our responsibility as Treaty members and honour the heritage and gifts of the Red River Métis. We commit to moving forward in partnership with Indigenous communities in a spirit of collaboration and reconciliation.

2. ATTENDANCE

Trustees:

K. McMillan, S. Billingham (TEAMS), J. Fisher, J. Glenat, D. Johnson, T. Johnson, G. Melnyk, C. Nachtigall, D. Zuk

Administration:

T. Fransen, Superintendent
L. Boles, Assistant Superintendent - Curriculum and Learning Services
E. Egan, Assistant Superintendent - Human Resources and Policy
N. Wood, Secretary-Treasurer

Regrets: Nil

3. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:09 PM

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

Resolution # BD20220113.1001

Moved By T. Johnson

Seconded By C. Nachtigall

THAT the agenda be approved as circulated/amended.

Carried

5. BOARD MINUTES APPROVAL

Resolution # BD20220113.1002

Moved By D. Johnson

Seconded By J. Fisher

THAT the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board held on December 22, 2021, be approved as circulated.

Carried

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

Resolution # BD20220113.1003

Moved By D. Zuk

Seconded By S. Billinghamurst

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 January 13, 2022, be ratified and,

THAT the Teacher Contract Alterations as listed in the Contract Alterations Report dated January 13, 2022, be approved and,

THAT the Substitute Teacher Contracts as listed in the 2020-21 Substitute Teacher Contracts Report dated January 13, 2022, be ratified and,

THAT the Disbursements List for the period October 14 to December 15, 2021, in the amount of \$8,010,443.72 be approved.

Carried

14. STANDING AND SPECIAL/ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS

14.3.1 RFP Physical Education Supplies

The Secretary-Treasurer reviewed the Request for Proposal for Physical Education Supplies and recommended motion.

Resolution # BD20220113.1004

Moved By G. Melnyk

Seconded By D. Johnson

THAT the Board award RFP 2021-008 Physical Education Supplies as follows:

- Skyline Athletics
- Catsports
- Baltic Athletics
- Kahunaverse
- Diamond Athletics
- Fitness Experience

Beginning January 2022 and ending December 31, 2023 with the right to extend the contract for one additional year if mutually agreed upon between the two parties.

Carried

15. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

15.1 COVID-19 Update

The Superintendent provided an update with respect to COVID-19. The week following the Christmas break was delivered via remote learning, with the exception of at risk and students of critical services workers. School will resume in-person learning on Monday, Jan 17. At that time, the Province is shifting away from contact tracing in schools.

The Superintendent provided a statement that our Facilities and Operations team has provided assurances that our buildings meet the provincial standards for ventilation.

Potential disruptions to busing services may be anticipated next week due to high absenteeism as a result of COVID-19.

D. Zuk asked for clarification about the Communicable Diseases policy. The Superintendent reviewed the policy, which includes a requirement for student absenteeism of 10% or greater that the principal is to contact public health. The policy is silent on staff absenteeism.

C. Nachtigall asked for information about the Rapid Test kits received. The Superintendent indicated that we have received enough for 95% of our students. Kits were distributed in an "opt-out" manner.

J. Glenat asked about potential teaching shortages once in-person remote learning resumes. The Superintendent indicated that a ThoughtExchange survey asking school leadership for ideas about how to address staffing shortages within schools should they arise. Re-deployment of staff within schools and throughout the division were offered as solutions.

J. Fisher and D. Zuk asked for clarification regarding the announcement of \$63 million of funding provided to school divisions for ventilation projects and other additional measures to get ready for a return to in-person learning by the Minister last week. The Superintendent indicated that we have not yet been notified about an award to the applications made by the Division for specific ventilation projects or for any other allocation of funds announced by the province.

J. Fisher asked a further question about social distancing approaches within schools. The Superintendent indicated that all available space within schools will be used to socially distance students out as much as possible.

T. Johnson asked about the possibility of students being able to "voluntarily" shift to a remote learning option. The Superintendent indicated that remote learning decisions will be made by Public Health, however the Manitoba Remote Learning Centre remains an option for families who may choose that option for the remainder of the school year.

D. Zuk asked about the mental health resources available to students. The Superintendent confirmed that all of our schools/students have access to counselling resources.

J. Fisher inquired about mask requirements. The Superintendent clarified that 3-layer, well-fitting masks are to be worn by students and medical masks are to be worn by and provided to all staff.

Resolution # BD20220113.1005

Moved By C. Nachtigall

Seconded By T. Johnson

THAT the update from the Administration with respect to COVID-19, be received as information.

15.2 Personnel Report

The Board received the letters of retirement from the Superintendent and Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources.

K. McMillan recognized the contributions to the education sector and the Division made by Elaine Egan, Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources and Ted Fransen, Superintendent.

The Superintendent's contract is in place until December 2022. A transition plan will be developed once a new Superintendent is chosen. It is anticipated that a new Superintendent will begin September 2022. The posting will be advertised publicly throughout several channels tomorrow.

Resolution # BD20220113.1006

Moved By T. Johnson
Seconded By J. Glenat

THAT the letters from the Superintendent, and Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources, be received by the Board.

Carried

15.3 Early Development Instrument

The Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum and Learning Services reviewed the letter received from the Province with respect to the Early Development Instrument in public classrooms. It was noted that EDI data collection will be postponed to the 2022-23 school year. The focus during 2021/22 is being placed on recovery learning.

Resolution # BD20220113.1007

Moved By D. Zuk
Seconded By J. Glenat

THAT the letter from the Minister with respect to the Early Development Instrument be received as information.

Carried

17. CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION LIST

Resolution # BD20220113.1008

Moved By J. Fisher
Seconded By D. Johnson

THAT the Correspondence for Information Distribution List dated January 13, 2022 be received as information.

Carried

18. QUESTIONS FROM TRUSTEES

D. Zuk asked for clarification regarding the MSBA memo regarding board meeting attendance. It was confirmed that the provisions for virtual attendance/meetings ended July 2021 and that regular physical attendance by Trustees is required once every three months per Public Schools Act.

D. Zuk inquired how this week of remote learning has been going. The Assistant Superintendent, Curriculum and Learning Services indicated that virtual student attendance has been strong. It was noted that the Curriculum and LIT teams have really stepped up with support for staff as required.

21. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:58 PM

Chair of the Board

Secretary-Treasurer