

Regular Meeting of the Board

Minutes

Thursday, March 13, 2025
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 Anishininew, Dene, and Inuit. We also acknowledge we are on Treaty One territory and the National 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.

Nous reconnaissons que nous sommes sur les terres de l'île de la Tortue où les peuples autochtones vivent depuis le début des temps. Il s'agit des terres ancestrales des nations Anishinaabe, Ininew et Dakota, ainsi que des routes traditionnelles de commerce et de voyage des Anishininew, des Dénés et des Inuits.

Nous reconnaissons également que nous sommes sur le territoire du Traité un et la patrie nationale des Métis de la rivière Rouge. La Division scolaire Pembina Trails s'est engagée à travailler ensemble en partenariat avec les communautés autochtones dans un esprit de réconciliation.

2. ATTENDANCE

Trustees:

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

Administration:

S. Amos, 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

3. CALL TO ORDER

The meeting was called to order at 8:00 p.m.

Trustee L. Karn requested that the February 27, 2025, Committee of the Whole minutes be pulled for discussion later in the agenda.

4. AGENDA APPROVAL

Resolution # BD20250313.1001

Moved By C. Stahlke
Seconded By T. Johnson

THAT the agenda be approved as amended.

Carried

5. BOARD MINUTES APPROVAL

Resolution # BD20250313.1002

Moved By D. Johnson
Seconded By C. Jolly

THAT the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board held on February 27, 2025, be approved as corrected.

Carried

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

Resolution # BD20250313.1003

Moved By C. Stahlke
Seconded By S. Nixon

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 March 13, 2025, be ratified and,

THAT the Teacher Contract Alterations as listed in the Contract Alterations Report dated March 13, 2025, be approved and,

THAT the Substitute Teacher Contracts as listed in the 2024-25 Substitute Teacher Contracts Report dated March 13, 2025, be ratified and,

THAT the Board accept, with regret, the Resignations as listed in the Resignations Report dated March 13, 2025.

Carried

11. BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE WHOLE

Trustee L. Karn stated that she did not make the statement raising concerns about certain books available in the adult section of public libraries being accessible in K-8 schools as was recorded in the minutes and requested that the sentence with her name in it be removed.

14. STANDING AND SPECIAL/ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORTS

14.3 Finance, Buildings, Property and Transportation

14.3.1 2025-26 Budget

Trustee T. Johnson read the following statement:

Thank you to our Senior Administration Team, specifically our Secretary Treasurer, Scott Carleton and his team, who have worked with the Board on the development of the 2025/2026 budget.

Tonight, if this motion is passed, we are adopting a budget that will see an additional 176 full time positions. The positions are being added to address enrollment growth, improve student outcomes, and add to our current team of dedicated staff members who support our classrooms.

Every year, we accept with gratitude, any increase in funding provided by the province. This year Pembina Trails was provided a modest 1.5 percent increase, or \$1.3 million, to put towards the division's almost nine percent increase in student enrolment over the past two years. We acknowledge, the 1.5% increase is well below the requirements to meet enrollment growth, increases in staff salaries, and fixed costs like utilities, but we remain thankful that we received the additional funding.

To ensure a balanced budget, we are asking the board to approve a 3.8 percent increase to the mill rate for a total mill rate in Pembina Trails of 10.8. Even with this increase, the mill rate in Pembina Trails will continue to remain the lowest in Winnipeg.

The modest mill rate increase combined with the province's recently announced Home Affordability Tax Credit, which replaces the Manitoba School Tax Rebate, will see homes with an assessed value up to \$420,000 with a net zero- or decrease to their education taxes.

However, when the province created a maximum rebate at \$1,500, homes assessed at half a million and higher, will be receiving a smaller rebate than in previous years. With the change in rebate, these homeowners will be paying more for their education tax levy than last year. This year we've added schedule 5 to our handouts to help homeowners understand the impact on their education property tax payment. (see schedule 5).

The full budget documents will be posted to the divisional web site and available to our community tomorrow.

Resolution # BD20250313.1004

Moved By T. Johnson
Seconded By A. Becker

WHEREAS the Board has presented an opportunity for the community to provide input and to influence budget development decisions; and

WHEREAS stakeholders, either individually or as groups, have responded to the opportunity for consultation and input; and

WHEREAS the Board, after careful consideration of community input and the needs of all students, has developed a plan and budget for 2025/26 which includes the following:

- Budget combined operating and capital expenditures of approx. \$248 million
- An increase in the mill rate of 3.8%
- An increase in combined operating and capital expenditures of \$24,562,906 or 11%
- An addition of 76.6 FTE teaching positions, 80 FTE EA positions and 20 FTE bus drivers.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Gross Operating and Capital Expenditures of \$248,043,098 be approved for the 2025/26 Fiscal Year and,

THAT the 2025 Special Levy of \$136,743,574 be approved and submitted to the City of Winnipeg, the Rural Municipality of Headingley and the Rural Municipality of Macdonald in order that these municipalities may fix and impose appropriate rules of taxation.

Carried

14.4 Human Resources and Policy Committee

14.4.1 PolicyAC, Regulation AC-R and Exhibit AC-E1 and AC-E2

Resolution # BD20250313.1005

Moved By S. Nixon
Seconded By A. Becker

THAT Policy AC, Regulation AC-R and Exhibit AC-E1 and AC-E2 be given second and third reading and passed.

Carried

15. ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS

15.1 Interchange Agreement

Resolution # BD20250313.1006

Moved By S. Nixon

Seconded By L. Karn

THAT the Board approve, in principle, the proposed Interchange Agreement between the Pembina Trails School Division, the Province of Manitoba, and C. Lourenzo for the 2025-26 school year, and

THAT the Board approve, in principle, the proposed extension to the Interchange Agreement between the Pembina Trails School Division, the Province of Manitoba, and R. Chambers for the 2025-26 school year.

Carried

17. CORRESPONDENCE FOR INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION LIST

Resolution # BD20250313.1007

Moved By T. Johnson

Seconded By S. Nixon

THAT the Correspondence for Information Distribution List dated March 13, 2025, be received as information.

Carried

18. QUESTIONS FROM TRUSTEES

In response to Trustee L. Karn's inquiry, the Secretary-Treasurer clarified that while there is no clause permitting the vendor to adjust pricing, the current pricing is valid for only 90 days. Therefore, if tariffs are imposed before the buses are built, the pricing could potentially change.

19. QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS OF THE PUBLIC IN ATTENDANCE

In response to a question from a member of the public, the Secretary-Treasurer stated that upon viewing the schedules, it would be clear that expenses went down however

there are some complexities in the way we collect special levies that would have increased the starting point for the mill rate next year. With that in mind the board made a shift in the 2025-2026 budget to collect more levy this year which didn't impact expenses.

20. REQUIREMENT FOR A COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE WHOLE

Resolution # BD20250313.1008

Moved By C. Stahlke

Seconded By A. Becker

THAT the Board move into Committee of the Whole.

Carried

21. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 8:28 p.m.

Chair of the Board

Secretary-Treasurer