

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE GRANDE PRAIRIE PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT #2357 HELD AT CENTRAL OFFICE ON **June 11, 2019**

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

John Lehnert reported that the Board held a Committee of the Whole meeting prior to the Regular meeting, with the purpose of discussing the District's budget submission for the 2019 – 2020 School Year.

Board Chair John Lehnert called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:05 p.m. with the following present:

PRESENT

Trustees Lesley Craig, Lynn Driedger, Paulette Kurylo, John Lehnert, Rob Martin, Joan Nellis, Andre Ouellette, Superintendent Sandy McDonald, Secretary-Treasurer Norm Guindon, Deputy Superintendent James Robinson and Secretary to the Board Sandy Fredland (minutes).

PRESENTATION

Charles Spencer High School – Co-Curricular Travel to Spain
Charles Spencer High School Teacher Karli Munro, as well as students Hannah French and Delaney Norrish, presented to the Board regarding the co-curricular International Field Trip to Spain that was taken during the Spring break of 2019. The trip was reported as being educational and worthwhile.

The Board thanked the presenters for their presentation.

Presentation began at 6:49 p.m.
Presentation concluded at 7:25 p.m.

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Adoption of Board Agenda
The Board reviewed the Regular Meeting agenda.

The Board agreed to the following changes/additions to the agenda:

- Sandy McDonald requested the addition of *The Academy: Athletics Update* by James Robinson under Superintendent's Report;
- Sandy McDonald requested *Meeting with Deputy Minister*, under Superintendent's Report; and
- Norm Guindon requested an in-camera session at the end of the Regular Board meeting.

MOTION: Paulette Kurylo moved that the Board adopt the Regular Meeting agenda as amended.

CARRIED 15101

MINUTES

Committee of the Whole Meeting of May 28, 2019
The Board reviewed the Committee of the Whole Meeting minutes of May 28, 2019.

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MOTION: Joan Nellis moved to adopt the minutes of the Committee of the Whole Meeting of May 28, 2019.

CARRIED 15102

Regular Board Meeting of May 28, 2019

The Board reviewed the Regular Board Meeting minutes of May 28, 2019.

MOTION: Andre Ouellette moved to adopt the minutes of the Regular Meeting of May 28, 2019, as circulated.

CARRIED 15103

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

No report.

**BOARD CHAIR/
SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT**

Board Chair Report

No report.

Superintendent's Report

Items for Information

Sandy McDonald provided to the Board information regarding the following:

- Chamber of Commerce – GP Regional Hospital Community Readiness Committee
Sandy McDonald accepted an invitation to attend the GP Regional Hospital Community Readiness Committee meeting hosted by the Grande Prairie Chamber of Commerce on June 4, 2019. The purpose of the committee is to provide progress on the new hospital completion and to share information that will ensure the community is prepared for the impact that will occur following completion.
- Zone 1 Alberta School Boards' Association – Edwin Parr Selection Committee
To support the Superintendent of Schools of the Fort Vermillion School District, Sandy McDonald has volunteered to host the Edwin Parr selection committee and support the process for selecting the Zone 1 ASBA Edwin Parr winner.
- Central Office Retirement Event
A retirement celebration was held in honour of Central Office Staff members Derek Bowen, Lori King, Elaine Klukas and Lorna Nordhagen on May 29, 2019 at the Stonebridge Hotel and Conference Centre.
- College of Alberta School Superintendents (CASS) – Director's Meeting
The final CASS Board meeting for the school year was held June 6 and 7, 2019 at Nisku, Alberta. The agenda focus was on the impact of proposed changes to the Education Act.

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- **Optimal Learning in Alberta – Alberta Education Sponsored Research Project**
Alberta Education has commissioned a study of the strategies that Districts across the province are using to prepare for the implementation of the new Professional Practice Standards for teachers, school and school system leaders that will come into effect September 2019. Researchers from four Alberta Universities have been assigned to several Alberta school districts, including the Grande Prairie Public School District, to participate in a series of focus groups and surveys over the next two years.
- **The Academy: Athletics Grades 4 – 8**
James Robinson reported to the Board that a meeting was held to plan for The Academy: Athletics program. Both the Grade 4 - 6 and Grade 7 – 8 Program pilot will be offered this year. An open house will be held on June 26, 2019 for existing and potential parents at École Montrose.
- **Meeting with the Deputy Minister of Education**
Sandy McDonald reported to the Board that that he has been invited to a meeting in Edmonton to discuss how school jurisdictions use funds allotted by the Federal Government for French Language programming. During that time, Sandy McDonald will be meeting with the Deputy Minister of Education and will discuss the District's budget assumptions. A meeting has also been scheduled between the Superintendent and The Senior Manager of Capital Planning North, to discuss the District's Value Scoping exercise.

Items Requiring Further Action

- **Board of Trustees' Suggested Organizational Meeting Date – August 20, 2019**
A proposed date of August 20, 2019 has been suggested to the Board as the date for the Board's Organizational meeting and first Regular Board meeting of the school year. The Board agreed to scheduling the Organizational meeting at 5:00 p.m., followed by the Regular Board meeting at 6:00 p.m. on August 20, 2019.
- **First Day of School – New High School Students**
Board support was requested for high schools to restrict attendance on the first day of school to only Grade 9 students and those students in other grades who are new to the school. The Board was in support of this.
- **International Travel Request – Grande Prairie Composite High School**
The Grande Prairie Composite High School has submitted an International Travel Request to travel to Greece and the Greek Islands April 7 – 19, 2020, during the Easter break.

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MOTION: Rob Martin moved that the Board support the request for International Travel submitted by the Grande Prairie Composite High School Travel Club, to travel to Greece and the Greek Islands April 7 – 19, 2020, subject to continued compliance with all expectations identified in the relevant Administrative Procedures.

CARRIED 15104

Board Chair John Lehnars called a recess at 6:26 p.m.
The Board was called back to order at 6:31 p.m.

BOARD POLICY REVIEW

Board Policy 2 – Role of the Board

The Board Policy Committee brought the revised Board Policy 2 – Role of the Board for Board approval. Discussion was held and further revisions were made.

MOTION: Rob Martin moved that the Board accept revised Board Policy 2 – Role of the Board, as amended with removal of 10.14.

CARRIED 15105

CULTURE AND ENGAGEMENT

Bridge Network Graduation

Those Trustees who were able to attend reported to the Board regarding the Bridge Network Graduation held June 6, 2019.

BUSINESS SERVICES

2018 – 2019 3rd Quarter Budget Update

Norm Guindon presented to the Board as information the 3rd Quarter Budget update for the 2018 – 2019 District budget.

The Board Presentation participants arrived at 6:49 p.m.
Board Presentation concluded at 7:25 p.m.

2019 – 2020 Grande Prairie Public School District Budget Approval

Norm Guindon presented to the Board of Trustees the 2019-2020 Budget to be submitted to the Alberta Government by June 30, 2019. The budget reflects a small \$9,000 surplus. As the Government of Alberta budget will not be available until the fall of 2019, the District budget has been prepared with certain assumptions in regard to unknown funding areas, which are subject to change once the Province presents its budget. Based on these assumptions the District has a balanced budget and does not anticipate to further deplete its unrestricted surplus and operating reserves if the assumptions hold true.

MOTION: Lesley Craig moved that the Board approve the 2019-2020 District Budget as presented for submission to Alberta Education by the June 30, 2019 deadline, as presented and discussed.

CARRIED 15106

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School Fees Update

Norm Guindon reported that school fees are usually updated at this time, but due to the election the Alberta government has not requested fee changes for submission as of yet, and this may not happen until the Alberta Budget is set in the fall.

Maintenance Summer Work Projects

Norm Guindon discussed the Maintenance Department Summer Work Projects report that was submitted as information to the Board.

ASBA / PSBAA

Public School Boards' Association of Alberta (PSBAA)

- Governance Seminar
Trustees Joan Nellis, Lesley Craig and Lynn Driedger reported to the Board regarding the PSBAA Governance Seminar that was held in Red Deer, Alberta May 31, 2019.
- Spring General Assembly
Joan Nellis, Lesley Craig, Lynn Driedger and John Lehnrs reported to the Board regard the PSBAA Spring General Assembly that was held in Red Deer, Alberta June 1 – 2, 2019.
- Student Voice
The District had student representation at the PSBAA Student Voice session held in Red Deer, Alberta. Students from Charles Spencer High School did an outstanding job presenting at the Student Voice session.

Alberta School Boards' Association (ASBA)

- Spring General Meeting
John Lehnrs, Lesley Craig and Lynn Driedger reported to the Board regarding the ASBA Spring General Meeting held June 3 – 4, 2019 in Red Deer, Alberta. The District's proposed Budget Bylaw Amendment motion was not passed by the Association.
- Provincial Youth Mental Health Summit
The Youth Mental Health Summit occurred at the same time as the ASBA Business meeting, but students met with Trustees for lunch to hear the keynote speaker discuss mental health.

**ALBERTA
EDUCATION**

The Education Amendment Act – Teleconference with Minister of Education

The Minister of Education held a teleconference on June 5, 2019, following the introduction of Bill 8: The Education Amendment Act, 2019 to the Legislature. The Amended Act is expected to be implemented for September 1, 2019.

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COMMITTEE REPORTS

No report.

CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Upcoming Professional Development/Meetings

The Board of Trustees reviewed the upcoming professional development meeting bulletin for Trustees.

Board Calendar

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees will be the Organizational meeting scheduled for Tuesday, August 20, 2019 at 5:00 p.m. followed by the Regular Board meeting, to be held in the Central Office Board Room.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Reply from Minister of Education, May 27, 2019
- Reply from Premier Kenney, May 15, 2019
- Letter to Grande Prairie Catholic School District (GPCSD) Board Chair Re: Shared Transportation May 31, 2019
- Minutes – Teacher/Trustee Liaison Committee Meeting, May 21, 2019
- Minutes – Non-Instructional Support Staff Meeting, May 22, 2019
- Letter from GPPSD and GPCSD to Peace Wapiti School District Re: Transportation, June 4, 2019
- Invitation – Striving for Excellence, October 2, 2019

NEW IDEAS / NEW ISSUES

Paulette Kurylo discussed the Teacher/Trustee Liaison Committee and mentioned that the group was agreeable to a \$10.00 charge for the Board Social. This will be an item on the August Board meeting agenda.

Paulette Kurylo commented that it is important to prepare students in advance of their presentations to the Board and ensure their presentation is appropriate for their audience.

IN-CAMERA SESSION

MOTION: Joan Nellis moved that the Board move in-camera at 8:08 p.m. to discuss personnel.

CARRIED 15107

MOTION: Paulette Kurylo moved that the Board come out of in-camera at 8:37 p.m.

CARRIED 15108

BUSINESS SERVICES (cont)

Superintendent's Contract Renewal

Following discussion in the in-camera session, the Board agreed to the reappointment of Alexander (Sandy) McDonald as Superintendent of the Grande Prairie Public School District for the term of September 1, 2019 to July 31, 2024.

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MOTION: Andre Ouellette moved that the Board request approval by the Minister of Education for the reappointment of Alexander (Sandy) McDonald as Superintendent of the Grande Prairie Public School District for the term of September 1, 2019 to July 31, 2024.

CARRIED 15109

ADJOURNMENT

John Lehnars called the meeting closed at 8:38 p.m.

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer