

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE GRANDE PRAIRIE PUBLIC SCHOOL DIVISION HELD AT CENTRAL OFFICE ON **October 22, 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 Division's 2018 – 2019 Provincial Achievement Test and Diploma Examination results, as well as the 2019 – 2020 Enrolment Summary.

Board Chair John Lehnert called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:19 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, Deputy Superintendent James Robinson, Secretary-Treasurer Norm Guindon and Secretary to the Board Sandy Fredland (minutes).

PRESENTATION

Reading University

Rhonda Side, Linda Side and Helen Neufeld presented to the Board an update on Reading University 2019 at 7:00 p.m.

Of note:

- 79 students from the Grande Prairie Public School Division attended Reading University from July 2 – 19, 2019, which was 42% of total students attending.
- This is the 11th year for Reading University, having started in 2008.
- At Reading University, small group instruction is key, and this year the adult to student ratio was kept at 1:5, with one teacher and one educational assistant working with 10 students.

The Board thanked the presenters for the informative presentation and for their work and dedication to Reading University.

The presentation concluded at 7:46 pm

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Adoption of Board Agenda

The Board reviewed the Regular Meeting agenda.

The Board agreed to the following additions to the agenda:

- Under Superintendent's Report, *Composite High School Replacement Sod Turning Ceremony, and Christmas Cards.*
- Under Culture and Engagement, *Board Social.*

MOTION: Andre Ouellette moved that the Board adopt the Regular Meeting agenda as amended.

CARRIED 15133

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MINUTES

Regular Board Meeting of October 8, 2019

The Board reviewed the Regular Board Meeting minutes of October 8, 2019.

MOTION: Andre Ouellette moved to adopt the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of October 8, 2019 as circulated.

CARRIED 15134

BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

- Setting a Date for Composite High School Travel Club Presentation - Greece
As discussed in the Superintendent's Report below.
- Setting a Date for Student Voice Costs
Trustee Kurylo requested a date be set for the Board to receive a summary of the costs associated with having Division students participate in the Student Voice event at the Public School Boards' Association Fall General Meeting. Once all of the reimbursements have been submitted to Central Office, a report will be brought to the Board.
- Letter to the Minister of Finance – Review
John Lehnrs drafted a letter to the Minister of Finance regarding Transformative Change in Education for the Board to review. The Board discussed the contents of the letter and recessed for the Reading University Presentation at 6:57 p.m.

The Board reconvened at 7:53 p.m. to continue discussion on the letter to the Minister of Finance.

The Board agreed to meet on October 30, 2019 as an ad hoc committee to revise and complete a letter to the Minister of Finance.

**BOARD CHAIR/
SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT**

Board Chair Report

3D Children's Charity Event

John Lehnrs reported to the Board that he and James Robinson attended the 3D Children's Charity event that was held at Whispering Ridge School on October 16, 2019.

Superintendent's Report

Items for Information

Sandy McDonald provided to the Board information regarding the following:

- October 9th Principals' Meeting
The first Principals' Meeting for the year was held October 9, 2019. Specific areas of focus included review and dialogue regarding the strategic plan and sharing of information regarding the Division wellness plan.

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- Nutrition Support Meeting – Potential Donors
Trustee Lynn Driedger and two couples who are local business owners, met with Sandy McDonald on October 10, 2019 to discuss potential financial support to the Division Nutrition program. A follow up meeting will be held towards the beginning of November to discuss specific needs in the Division.
- Official Languages in Education Program (OLEP) Meeting
Sandy McDonald attended an OLEP meeting in Edmonton on Tuesday, October 15, 2019. The objective of the meeting was to review and update how the federal funds that Alberta receives for French Language instruction support and French culture are to be allocated.
- College of Alberta School Superintendents (CASS) Meeting
Re: Funding and Assurance Review
The CASS Board of Directors met with Gene Williams, Assistant Deputy Minister of Education on Friday October 18, 2019 to discuss the Funding and Assurance Review currently being undertaken by Alberta Education.
- Professional Learning and Inquiry Update
Sandy McDonald engaged in modeling generative dialogue at the Principals' meeting on October 9, 2019. Personal growth plans with an inquiry focus are mandatory for all school and system administrators this year. The focus on professional growth planning is part of a new Administrative Procedure developed this year to describe the supervision, growth and evaluation process for all levels of administration in the Division.
- Division Compensation Report
In an email received October 2, 2019 from Vivian Abboud, Chief Executive Officer of the Alberta School Boards' Association (ASBA), it was shared that the ASBA Board of Directors chose not to produce a compensation report this year. Without comparable data from across the province, Administration will not be able to provide the Board with an annual compensation report for this year.
- Seclusion Room Use Monthly Summary – September
The September monthly summary of the use of seclusion rooms submitted to Alberta Education shared that none of the 3 rooms in our schools that meet the definition of seclusion room were used as a strategy for any of the 4 students who currently have quiet room use identified as a strategy in their individualized behaviour plan.

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- **Request for Travel Club Presentation**
At the October 8, 2019 Board meeting, a request was made for Administration to arrange a presentation by the Charles Spencer travel club who was approved last year to travel to the Greek Islands. However, this trip is planned for the spring break of 2020. The Grande Prairie Composite High School trip to Thailand, scheduled for spring break 2019, did not occur due to lack of student interest.
- **Detailed Enrolment Report**
A detailed summary of enrolments by system, school and grade level has been submitted for Trustees' information.
- **Provincial Assessments and Accountability Pillar Reports**
The annual summary of Grade 6 and 9 Provincial Achievement Tests and the October Accountability Pillar results report was submitted to the Board as information.
- **Superintendent's Town Hall Meetings**
The first Superintendent's Town Hall meeting is scheduled to take place on October 24 at Parkside Montessori School. James Robinson has built a schedule to allow Central Office Administration to visit all schools over the next several months. The purpose is to build understanding of the staff regarding the outcomes in our strategic plan, to answer questions from staff, and to generally connect more directly with staff to reinforce the role everyone plays in decision making.
- **2019 – 2020 Draft Board Work Plan**
The monthly update of the Board Work Plan, with the addition of School Assurance meetings, is submitted to the Trustees as information.
- **Staffing Report**
The monthly staffing report is submitted for Trustee's information.
- **Grande Prairie Composite High School (GPCHS) Replacement Sod Turning Ceremony**
Trustees discussed the GPCHS Sod Turning Ceremony to be held on November 1, 2019.
- **Division Christmas Cards**
The Board discussed the costs associated with the Art Contest for Division students for the annual Christmas Card, and decided against proceeding with the Contest this year.

Items Requiring Further Action or Discussion

- None.

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BOARD POLICY REVIEW

Board Policy 2 – Role of the Board

Board Policy 2 was submitted to the Board by the Policy Committee for review and discussion by Trustees. Changes were made to the Policy as recommended by the Alberta School Boards' Association and reflecting moving from the School Act to the Education Act.

MOTION: Joan Nellis moved that the Board accept changes to Board Policy 2 – Role of the Board, as amended.

CARRIED 15135

CULTURE AND ENGAGEMENT

Board Social Event

The Board discussed the upcoming Board Social to be held October 26, 2019.

BUSINESS SERVICES

Audit Committee Meeting

Norm Guindon reported to the Board that the initial Audit Committee meeting was held October 10, 2019. The Auditors from Fletcher Mudryk LLP will be at Central Office from October 21 – 25, 2019 in preparation of the Division's 2018 – 2019 Audit.

ASBA / PSBAA

Public School Boards' Association of Alberta (PSBAA)

- Fall Events and Fall General Meeting
Trustees who attended reported to the Board regarding the PSBAA Fall Events and General Meeting held in Edmonton October 16 – 18, 2019.

ALBERTA EDUCATION

No report.

COMMITTEE REPORTS

School Council Year-End Reports 2018 – 2019

The Board received as information year-end reports for the 2018 – 2019 School Year from Avondale and Maude Clifford School Councils.

Teacher/Trustee Liaison Committee (TTLC) Meeting

Lesley Craig and Andre Ouellette reported to the Board regarding the TTLC meeting that was held October 15, 2019. The Board will consider some topics for discussion prior to the next TTLC meeting scheduled for January 21, 2020.

School Council Chairs/Trustee Liaison Committee Meeting Agenda

Trustees discussed topics of interest for the School Council Chairs'/Trustee Liaison Committee meeting scheduled for November 14, 2019.

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CALENDAR OF EVENTS

Upcoming Professional Development/Meetings

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

Board Calendar

The next Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees is Tuesday, November 12, 2019 to be held in the Central Office Board Room.

- Sod Turning Ceremony - November 1, 2019
- Community Remembrance Day Ceremonies
Trustee Rob Martin will attend the Anavet's Ceremony
Trustee Lynn Driedger will attend the Royal Canadian Legion Ceremony

CORRESPONDENCE

NEW IDEAS / NEW ISSUES

Trustees inquired about meeting dates/times for the Board to meet with high school students. Suggested dates will be brought to the next Regular Board Meeting for consideration.

ADJOURNMENT

John Lehnert called the Regular Board Meeting closed at 9:38 p.m.

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer