

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE GRANDE PRAIRIE PUBLIC SCHOOL DIVISION HELD AT CENTRAL OFFICE ON **April 28, 2020**

**COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE** Board Chair John Lehnrs reported that a Committee of the Whole meeting was held prior to the Regular Board meeting for the purpose of discussing the Division's 2020 – 2021 Budget.

Board Chair John Lehnrs called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:17 p.m. with the following present:

**PRESENT** Trustees Lesley Craig, Paulette Kurylo, John Lehnrs, Rob Martin, Joan Nellis, Andre Ouellette, Superintendent Sandy McDonald, Deputy-Superintendent James Robinson, Secretary-Treasurer Norm Guindon, Director of System Supports Kimberly Frykas, and Secretary to the Board Sandy Fredland (minutes).

Regrets: Trustee Lynn Driedger

**PRESENTATION** No presentation.

**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, *Teacher Professional Learning and Schulich Scholarship Winner.*

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

CARRIED 15178

**MINUTES** Regular Board Meeting of March 24, 2020  
The Board reviewed the Regular Board Meeting minutes of March 24, 2020.

**MOTION:** Lesley Craig moved to adopt the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of March 24, 2020 as circulated.

CARRIED 15179

**BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES**

**BOARD CHAIR/SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT** Board Chair Report

- Alberta School Boards' Association (ASBA) Director's Meeting  
John Lehnrs reported to the Board regarding the ASBA Director's meeting held April 9, 2020.

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- **Return to Regular Classes**  
Board Chair John Lehnert discussed with the Board the possibility of developing a plan for the Division should the government re-open schools prior to the end of June.

The Alberta School Boards' Association (ASBA) distributed a questionnaire asking Trustees to submit their thoughts in regard to an early re-opening of schools. Boards have until May 1, 2020 to complete the questionnaire.

Superintendent's Report

**Items for Information**

Sandy McDonald provided to the Board information regarding the following:

- **Kindergarten Registrations**  
Sandy McDonald reported to the Board regarding Kindergarten registration to date. Board Chair John Lehnert requested from Administration a budget scenario be brought to the Board that provides a 5% decrease in enrolment, based on the current economic situation.
- **Peace Collaborative Services (PCS) Update**  
At a meeting held on April 20, 2020, 6 of the 8 Divisions currently in PCS agreed to work together to continue as a regional collaborative. The Grande Prairie Public School Division has offered to continue as the banker board, and representatives from each Division are currently working towards establishing operating rules for the new collaborative.
- **Capital Maintenance and Renewal Planning**  
Sandy McDonald reported to the Board that the government announced a stimulus program to add money to Division's Infrastructure, Maintenance and Renewal (IMR) budgets. Administration submitted a list of projects for the Grande Prairie Public School Division.
- **Reading University 2020**  
Reading University 2020 has been cancelled by the organizers.
- **Learn at Home Update**  
Based on feedback from schools, the Division's learning from home programs are off to a strong start. Supports have been put in place for those students with Individualized Program Plans. A more detailed report on learning at home will be brought to the next Board meeting.
- **Nutrition Program Update**  
Approximately 150 food hampers are being prepared for families and delivered to schools for pickup. The Division is also providing targeted

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nutrition to Sunrise House. Consideration is being given to directing some of the nutrition grant to other community nutrition programs.

- **Scheduled Reports to the Board**  
Two regularly scheduled reports for this meeting, *Supporting Student Mental Health* and *Division Staff and Student Wellness Update* will be provided at a later date.
- **High School Graduation Ceremonies**  
Division High Schools have cancelled May graduation ceremonies. Principals are working together and collaborating with other divisions to develop an alternate plan for celebrating and these details will be shared as they come available.
- **Board Workplan Update**  
The Board retreat scheduled for April/May was discussed, and decision was made to reschedule the retreat to the 2020 – 2021 School year.
- **Principal Interviews**  
Interviews for the vacant Principal positions for Charles Spencer High School and École Montrose were held on Friday, April 24, 2020. The successful candidates are:  
Charles Spencer High School – Chris Dextrase  
École Montrose – Andrea Couture
- **Rupertsland Institute Computer Donation**  
The Rupertsland Institute – Metis Centre of Excellence, an Alberta organization focused on supporting the Metis people of Alberta, has offered 200 students in the province their own Chromebook laptops to support student learning at home. Ken Dunfield, Division Indigenous Programming Principal and staff at the Bridge Network were able to nominate several students and as a result, 19 Division students received new laptops.
- **Teacher Professional Learning**  
Principals Tracey Mark and Corrine Shmyruk organized a Collaborative Café that took place on April 24, 2020. The Café provided an opportunity for teachers to collaborate electronically with peers across the Division to share their experiences with the change from in person teaching to at home learning. The event was reported as being a great success.
- **Schulich Scholarship**  
International Bacculaureate student Shubh Patel of the Grande Prairie Composite High School was awarded a Schulich Leader Scholarship.

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The scholarship is awarded to students who have met two of the following criteria: academic excellence, leadership and financial need, and are entrepreneurial-minded high school graduates from across Canada enrolling in a Science, Technology, Engineering or Math (STEM) program.

**BOARD POLICY REVIEW**

**CULTURE AND ENGAGEMENT**

**BUSINESS SERVICES**

2021 – 2024 Division Capital Plan Approval

Norm Guindon presented to the Board the 2021 – 2024 Capital Plan. The identified projects for the Grande Prairie Public School Division 2021 – 2024 Capital Plan are as follows:

- Charles Spencer High School Permanent Addition
- Crystal Park School Modernization
- New School, K – 8, Southwest area of Grande Prairie (Kensington)
- Aspen Grove Gym and Partial Modernization

Trustees discussed the Capital Plan and determined the rank of priority for each project and submission to Alberta Education.

**MOTION:** Rob Martin moved that the Board approve the 2021 – 2024 Division Capital Plan as follows:

1. Charles Spencer High School Permanent Addition
2. Crystal Park School Modernization
3. Aspen Grove Gym and Partial Modernization
4. New School, K – 8, Southwest area of Grande Prairie (Kensington development)

CARRIED 15180

Transportation Contract Update

Norm Guindon provided the Trustees with a verbal update regarding the First Student Contract. A two-year extension was negotiated to the existing contract.

2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2019 – 2020 Financial Update

Norm Guindon provided the Board with the 2<sup>nd</sup> Quarter 2019 – 2020 Financial update for information.

Division Corporate Name Change Discussion

Norm Guindon discussed with the Board taking *The Board of Trustees* out of the initial request for the Division's corporate name change to the Minister, with the request for the corporate name change to, "The Grande Prairie Public School Division".

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**MOTION:** Andre Ouellette moved THAT the previous motion 15165 passed on February 11, 2020 be replaced with and amended to be, pursuant to section 79 of the *Education Act*, the Division corporate name be changed to “The Grande Prairie Public School Division”, if approved by the Minister of Education.

CARRIED 15181

**ASBA / PSBAA**

Public School Boards’ Association of Alberta (PSBAA)

- Spring General Meeting May 29 – 31, 2020: Cancelled
- May 29, 2020: Zoom meeting scheduled

Public School Boards’ Council (PSBC)

- April 21, 2020 Zoom meeting  
Lesley Craig reported to the Board regarding the PSBC meeting that was held through Zoom on April 21, 2020.

Alberta School Boards’ Association (ASBA)

- Zone 1 Meeting, May 13, 2020: Changed to a Zoom meeting

**ALBERTA  
EDUCATION**

**COMMITTEE  
REPORTS**

**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, May 12, 2020 to be held in the Central Office Board Room.

**CORRESPONDENCE**

- Letter to Division Staff from the Board of Trustees, 2020 04 09
- Letter from Minister of Education, Re: GP Christian School Lease Funding, 2020 04 08
- Letter from Alberta Education Re: 2019-22 3 Year Plan and 2018-19 AERR 2020 03 11

**NEW IDEAS / NEW  
ISSUES**

Rob Martin asked if there had been any feedback from the community regarding a 5G tower placed near the high school, and the response was no. Trustee Martin also inquired about virtual school for families in the future. Superintendent McDonald responded that across the province a lot of work is being committed to the Alberta Distance Learning Centre.

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Paulette Kurylo commented that the Board Policy regarding Trustee Liaison Committee with School Councils is not in line with the direction provided by the Alberta School Council Resource Guide. It was decided that this will be reviewed by the Board Policy Committee when that particular policy comes up for review and brought back to the Board.

Lesley Craig shared that a company called Lighthouse Promotions is offering banners for grad students and asked that this be shared with High School Principals.

Joan Nellis requested communication go out to parents in regard to Division budget cuts. Sandy McDonald will have a draft communication brought to the May 12, 2020 Board Meeting.

John Lehnert reported to the Board that the National School Boards' Association (NSBA) sent out a call for proposals for the 2021 NSBA Congress. Trustee Lehnert will resubmit the Continuous Improvement Index for presentation at the 2021 NSBA Congress in New Orleans.

Sandy McDonald advised the Board that the 2020 Board Social will be put on the next Board meeting agenda for discussion.

**ADJOURNMENT**

John Lehnert called the Regular Board Meeting closed at 8:06 p.m.

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Chair

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Secretary-Treasurer