

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF
TRUSTEES OF THE GRANDE PRAIRIE PUBLIC SCHOOL DIVISION
HELD AT CENTRAL OFFICE ON **March 22, 2022**

**COMMITTEE OF THE
WHOLE**

Board Chair Joan Nellis reported to the Board regarding the Committee of the Whole meeting held March 22, 2022, for the purpose of discussing Board policies currently under review.

Board Chair Joan Nellis called the Regular Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m. and acknowledged that the Board is on Treaty 8 Land, with the following present:

PRESENT

Trustees Ray Buziak, Chris Johnston, Donna Koch, Paulette Kurylo, Rob Martin, Joan Nellis, Andre Ouellette, Superintendent Sandy McDonald, Deputy Superintendent James Robinson, Associate Superintendent Norm Guindon, and Secretary to the Board Sandy Fredland (minutes).

Attending virtually: Paulette Kurylo, James Robinson

Public member Andrea Willman was present in-person to address the Board regarding Agenda item, *Curriculum Implementation Planning* under Superintendent's Report. The Board agreed to allow Guest Andrea Willman to speak for 3 minutes, as per Board Policy 7 Section 9.1.

**PRESENTATION
(Begins at 7:00 p.m.)**

Grande Prairie Public School Division Education Foundation Annual Report
Dave McRae, Vice-Chair and Shauna Siebert, Executive Director of the Grande Prairie Public School Division Education Foundation presented to the Board the Foundation's 2020 – 2021 Annual Report.

The Board thanked the Education Foundation for all the work that they do in supporting the students in the Division.

**ADOPTION OF
AGENDA**

Adoption of Board Agenda

The Board reviewed the Regular Meeting agenda. The Board agreed to the following additions to the agenda:

- *2024 Alberta Winter Games* under Superintendent's Report, Action Items, and
- *In-Camera Session* to occur at the end of the meeting.

MOTION: Donna Koch moved that the Board adopt the Regular Meeting agenda as amended.

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 15373

MINUTES

Regular Board Meeting of March 8, 2022

The Board reviewed the Regular Board Meeting minutes of March 8, 2022.

MOTION: Rob Martin moved to adopt the minutes of the Regular Board meeting of March 8, 2022, as circulated.

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 15374

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**BUSINESS ARISING
FROM THE MINUTES**

**BOARD CHAIR/
SUPERINTENDENT'S
REPORT**

Board Chair Report

- No report.

Guest Andrea Willman addressed the Board and expressed appreciation for the Board's advocacy regarding delaying the implementation of the Draft K – 6 Curriculum. Ms. Willman requested a copy of the letter that was sent to the Minister of Education, advocating for a delay. The Board will consider this request under agenda item *New Ideas/New Issues*.

Superintendent's Report

Items for Information

Sandy McDonald provided to the Board information regarding the following:

- Curriculum Implementation Planning
On Thursday, March 10 the Education Minister formally announced the following grade levels and subjects of the new curriculum that will be implemented September, 2022:
 - K – 3 Mathematics
 - K – 3 English Language Arts and Literature
 - K – 6 Physical Education and WellnessTwo days have been set aside in early April to work with school administrators to identify current structures and processes regarding curriculum and to develop a more detailed implementation plan for the Division.
- Principal's Meeting – March 9
Principals and system leadership met in person on March 9 with a focus on staffing, scheduling, and planning processes that are a relative priority at this time of the school year.
- School Computer Allocation Model Review
Principals were provided an update at the Principal's meeting regarding the allocation model being used to distribute computer technology to Division schools. The allocation model has been updated to reflect current practices in instruction and the need for computers to support student learning at different levels in the Division.
- Non-Instructional Professional Learning
A two-day learning conference was held for non-instructional Division staff, occurring the same time as the Teacher's Convention.

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- Principal of Avondale School
Colin Murphy has been appointed Principal of Avondale Elementary School, effective the start of the 2022 – 2023 School Year. The process to fill vacant vice-principal positions will begin soon.
- College of Alberta School Superintendents (CASS) Learning Conference
Directors Corinne Kruse, Kim Frykas, Nancy Gorgichuk and Superintendent Sandy McDonald attended the CASS Learning Conference held in Edmonton March 16 to 18, 2022. A Retirement event was held and attended by three Central Office staff retirees.
- School Council Division Email Addresses
A request was sent by Alberta Education to school divisions for the email addresses for school council chairs, to facilitate future communication between the Department of Education and school councils directly. Rather than share the personal email addresses of the school council chairs, the Division Information Technology Department will be creating an account for each School Council to establish a consistent email address for use year after year.
- 2022 – 2023 Calendar Development – What We Heard
A document summarizing the engagement process and the feedback received from the school year calendar conversations that took place this year was presented to the Board as information. The Board expressed appreciation for the document as a resource to answer parent's calendar questions.
- Division Staff Lunch – Friday March 18
As a gesture of appreciation for the ongoing efforts through COVID, System Leadership provided all Division staff lunch on Friday, March 18.
- Staffing Report
The monthly staffing report was submitted to the Board as information.

Items for Action

- 2024 Alberta Winter Games
The Board discussed a letter received from the Mayor of Grande Prairie, requesting a letter of support for the 2024 Alberta Winter Games as well as sharing of Division facilities to assist in hosting the Games.

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MOTION: Andre Ouellette moved that the Board affirms supporting the use of Division facilities for the 2024 Alberta Winter Games over the Family Day Weekend in February 2024 and directs Administration to reply to the City of Grande Prairie with a letter of support.

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 15375

The Board meeting paused for the Presentation to the Board at 6:49 p.m.

The Board recessed at 7:28 p.m.

The Board meeting resumed at 7:32 p.m.

**BOARD POLICY
COMMITTEE**

Board Policies Currently Under Review

Andre Ouellette presented to the Board the following Board Policies for review and approval:

- Board Policy 10 – Delegation of Authority
The change to Board Policy 10 – Delegation of Authority is the removal of authority from the Superintendent to terminate a teacher's employment and to place that authority with the Board of Trustees.

MOTION: Chris Johnston moved that the Board approve changes to Board Policy 10, Board Delegation of Authority, as discussed and presented.

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 15376

- Board Policy 12 – Appeals Regarding Student Matters
Discussion was held regarding the change to Board Policy 12 – Appeals Regarding Student Matters, whereby the actual appeal process is put into Administrative Procedure (AP) 390.

MOTION: Andre Ouellette moved that the Board approve changes to Board Policy 12, Appeals Regarding Student Matters, with the addition of a hyperlink to AP 390 as discussed and presented.

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 15377

- Board Policy 13 – Appeals of Teacher Transfers
Board Policy 13 was previously entitled, *Appeals Regarding Teacher Matters*. The title has been changed to *Appeals Regarding Teacher Transfers* and the policy has been adapted to reflect this procedure. Further clarification will be sought in regard to a portion of the procedure that references the ability to take notes during the in-camera portion of an appeal. This will be brought to the Board at a future Board meeting.

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**ADVOCACY AND
ENGAGEMENT
COMMITTEE**

Advocacy and Engagement

Rob Martin reported to the Board regarding the Advocacy and Engagement Committee meeting that was held in person March 10, 2022.

**CULTURE AND
ENGAGEMENT**

**BUSINESS
SERVICES**

2023 – 2026 Division Capital Plan for Approval

Norm Guindon presented to the Board the 2023 – 2026 Capital Plan. The identified projects for the Grande Prairie Public School Division 2023 – 2026 Capital Plan are as follows:

Crystal Park School Modernization

New School, K – 8, Southwest area of Grande Prairie (Kensington)

Aspen Grove Gym and/or Partial Modernization

MOTION: Donna Koch moved that the Board approve the 2023 – 2026 Division Capital Plan as presented, with priorities as follows:

1. Crystal Park School Modernization
2. Aspen Grove Gym and/or Partial Modernization
3. New School, K – 8, Southwest area of Grande Prairie (Kensington development)

Discussion was held on the motion.

Andre Ouellette requested an amendment to the motion as follows:

MOTION: Andre Ouellette moved that the Board approve the 2023 – 2025 Division Capital Plan as presented, with priorities as follows:

1. Crystal Park School Modernization
2. New School, K – 8, Southwest area of Grande Prairie (Kensington development)
3. Aspen Grove Gym and/or Partial Modernization

Following discussion, the Board voted on Andre Ouellette's amended motion:

CARRIED

In Favour: Andre Ouellette, Rob Martin, Chris Johnston,
Paulette Kurylo, Joan Nellis

Opposed: Donna Koch, Ray Buziak

Board Chair Joan Nellis called the question.

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 15378

The 2023 – 2026 Capital Plan with approved Division priorities will be submitted to Alberta Education for the March 31, 2022 deadline.

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Student Transportation Association of Alberta (STAA)

Norm Guindon discussed a letter from the Student Transportation Association of Alberta to the Minister of Education requesting financial support for the significant increase in fuel prices.

MOTION: Ray Buziak moved that the Board supports writing a letter to the Minister of Education requesting financial support for the significant increase in fuel prices.

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 15379

ASBA / PSBAA

Public School Boards' Association of Alberta (PSBAA)

- Impact of Pandemic Summary – Survey Responses Session 2022 03 11
Andre Ouellette reported to the Board regarding the PSBAA Pandemic Summary Session that was held virtually on March 11, 2022.

Alberta School Boards' Association (ASBA)

- Charter Schools Feedback Survey
The survey request from Zone 1 regarding Charter Schools was completed and sent to ASBA Zone 1 Director prior to the deadline of March 14, 2022. The survey with responses was provided to the Trustees as information.

**ALBERTA
EDUCATION**

No report.

**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 meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday April 12, 2022, to be held at Central Office in the Board Room.

CORRESPONDENCE

- Letter from Northern Gateway to the Minister of Education
Re: Curriculum 2022 03 04
- Letter from Northern Lights to Minister of Education
Re: Curriculum 2022 03 04
- Letter of Condolence 2022 03 10
- Letter of Thanks to MLA Tracy Allard 2022 03 14

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**NEW IDEAS / NEW
ISSUES**

Joan Nellis called for any action arising from the presentation from Andrea Willman. Following discussion regarding the request for a copy of the Board's letter to the Minister of Education requesting a delay in the implementation of the Draft K – 6 curriculum, the Board will instead issue a public statement on it's position.

MOTION: Chris Johnston moved that the Board release a short public position statement affirming the Board's position regarding the draft curriculum and have it shared in appropriate ways.

CARRIED 15380

In Favour: Joan Nellis, Ray Buziak, Andre Ouellette, Chris Johnston
Donna Koch, Rob Martin
Opposed: Paulette Kurylo

Joan Nellis called for any action arising from the GPPSD Education Foundation Presentation, and there was none.

Rob Martin reported to the Board that the Foundation is looking for suggestions regarding a keynote speaker for the Striving for Excellence event coming up in October.

Andre Ouellette asked the Trustees to consider the idea of personally donating towards a High School Scholarship.

Ray Buziak asked for clarification on the process to be followed by a School Council when considering implementation of a dress code. Sandy McDonald advised that the School Council should discuss the issue with the School Principal and review AP 350.1 – Student Dress Code.

Donna Koch reported to the Board that a fundraising event is being planned at the current Composite High School for the public at the end of June. Cafeteria style food will be served, and memorabilia will be available for purchase by donation. Further information will be shared once the details are finalized.

**IN CAMERA
SESSION**

MOTION: Andre Ouellette moved that the Board go in-camera at 8:59 p.m.

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 15381

MOTION: Donna Koch moved that the Board come out of camera at 9:07 p.m.

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 15382

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ADJOURNMENT

Joan Nellis called the Regular Board Meeting closed at 9:07 p.m.

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer