

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF  
TRUSTEES OF THE GRANDE PRAIRIE PUBLIC SCHOOL DIVISION  
HELD AT CENTRAL OFFICE ON **October 10, 2023**

Board Chair Joan Nellis called the Regular Meeting to order at 5:59 p.m., acknowledged that the Board is on Treaty 8 Land, and reviewed the Division's Universal Guiding Principles, with the following present:

**PRESENT**

Trustees Ray Buziak, Chris Johnston, Donna Koch, Rob Martin, Joan Nellis, Andre Ouellette, Superintendent Sandy McDonald, Deputy Superintendent James Robinson, Associate Superintendent Business Services Norm Guindon, Executive Assistant Business Services SheraLea Crichton, (recorder), and Secretary to the Board Sandy Fredland (minutes).

**ADOPTION OF  
AGENDA**

Adoption of Board Agenda

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

- *In Camera session* following the Regular Board meeting to discuss bargaining and personnel; and
- *Board Policy Committee Update* under Committees.

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

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 15567

**MINUTES**

Regular Board Meeting of September 26, 2023

The Board reviewed the Regular Board Meeting minutes of September 26, 2023.

**MOTION:** Andre Ouellette moved to adopt the minutes of the Regular Board Meeting of September 26, 2023, as circulated.

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 15568

**BUSINESS ARISING  
FROM THE MINUTES**

Details regarding the following Business Arising items were included in Superintendent's Report:

- **International Travel Request**  
At the March 27, 2023, Board meeting, Trustees approved in principle a request from Charles Spencer High School for students in the Spanish program to travel to Spain over the Easter break this school year. Planning for the trip is proceeding and Charles Spencer High School staff are working with Paul Therrien, Director of Student Supports, and the trip is expected to occur as planned.

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- 54<sup>th</sup> Annual Board Social  
A copy of the scheduled program of events was provided to the Trustees as information.
- Community Knowledge Campus (CKC) Standing Committee  
Following the September 26, 2023, Board meeting, Norm Guindon, Associate Superintendent of Business Service, met with the City of Grande Prairie staff to discuss the shared facilities and grounds agreement that exists for the CKC campus. City staff are currently reviewing the agreement and will follow up with both city school divisions later in the year to discuss potential agreement revisions, as well as decide whether the governance level standing committee that currently exists but does not meet, is required.
- Alberta School Boards Association Friends of Education Banquet  
Sean and Sandy Sargent are unfortunately unable to attend the awards banquet in person, however they will attend virtually.

Rob Martin entered the meeting at 6:07 p.m.

**PRESENTATION**

**BOARD CHAIR/  
SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT**

Board Chair Report

- Remembrance Day Request – Army, Navy & Air Force Veterans, Grande Prairie  
The Army, Navy and Air Force Veterans are asking for a Trustee representative to lay a wreath at the Cenotaph on Remembrance Day. Saturday November 22, 2023. Trustees Andre Ouellette and Donna Koch will lay a wreath on behalf of the Division.

Superintendent's Report

**Items for Information**

Sandy McDonald provided to the Board as information the Superintendent's report regarding the following:

- Derek Taylor Public School Trip – Bamfield Marine Station  
42 Junior High students from Derek Taylor Public School are currently fundraising for an educational field trip to the Bamfield Marine Station on Vancouver Island from March 12 to 14, 2024. The school's application was submitted in the spring of last year and was approved by the Superintendent on principle, subject to meeting all requirements for safe travel identified in Administrative Procedure 260.

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- **Community Knowledge Campus Stakeholder Meeting**  
Director of Maintenance and Operations, Geoff Barron, and Principal of Charles Spencer High School, Jason Wall, attended a meeting recently with representatives from the City of Grande Prairie Enforcement Services, RCMP, and school and system staff from Grande Prairie and District Catholic Schools to discuss community concerns regarding speeding, stunting and other behaviours in the evening at the CKC parking lots.
- **Updated Learning Disruption Funding Allocation Process**  
Alberta Education has changed the funding model for the allocation of resources to support academic interventions and is no longer using pre-assessments from the start of the school year. The process now uses student assessment data from the end of the school year to allocate funds.
- **Annual Student Enrollment Summary Report**  
Enrollment for the year has again substantially exceeded projections submitted to Alberta Education last January. A summary of the details of the 4.88% increase submitted to the province was provided to the Board as information.
- **Northwestern Polytechnic (NWP) Showcase**  
NWP hosted regional high school and system leadership staff on Monday, September 25 to provide an up-to-date introduction to current and proposed new NWP programming. Deputy Superintendent James Robinson, Director of Teaching and Learning Corinne Kruse and high school administration and counselling staff attended representing our division.
- **College of Alberta School Superintendents (CASS) Webinar**  
On October 24, Deputy Superintendent James Robinson and Director Teaching and Learning Corinne Kruse will be presenting to school divisions across the province on the GPPSD early years intervention program that provided accelerated learning opportunities for students identified through provincial assessments. The success students are experiencing in the GPPSD program has been noted in the provincial results and our division was one of 5 asked to share the design and implementation of the program.
- **Ed Can Network Article – Minding the Gap in Mathematics**  
An article describing the use of the process used to screen for numeracy proficiency at the start of each school year has recently been published in a national educational publication. The program, using the screening tool developed by Alberta Education and the numeracy

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intervention program was developed by Tracie Anthony, Numeracy Coordinator, Corinne Kruse, Director of Teaching and Learning, and division staff.

- Minister's Visit – October 23, 2023  
The Minister of Education will be in Grande Prairie on Monday, October 23 and will be touring the Grande Prairie Composite High School (GPCHS) from 2:15 p.m. to 3:15 p.m. and will be meeting with local boards following the tour at the Peace Wapiti Public School Division. Administration will be working the Principal of the Grande Prairie Composite High School, Mr. Dennis Vobeyda to plan for the visit and will use GPCHS Student Advisory Committee students to tour the Minister around the school. The Board will be meeting with the Minister at 4:30 p.m.

**Items for Action**

- Teacher Trustee Liaison Committee (TTLC) Meeting  
The first TTLC meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, October 17, 2023. School representatives have been asked to come prepared on the 17<sup>th</sup> to discuss the following question: "What are the most important topics related to teaching and learning in the Grande Prairie Public School Division, not related to the collective agreement, that teachers and the Board want to discuss?"
- Division Christmas Card Contest  
Our Division's Communications Officer, Shannon Stambaugh, and Mrs. Fredland are finalizing the annual student Christmas Card contest. This year the theme is *Happy Holidays* and will be soliciting student artwork from high school students this year. We are again seeking trustee volunteers to serve as judges to help us identify the top 3 submissions. Following discussion, this year's Trustee volunteers are Rob Martin, Donna Koch, Joan Nellis, and Chris Johnston.

**BOARD POLICY  
COMMITTEE**

Andre Ouellette provided the Board with an Update on the Policy Committee. Trustees are asked to send any feedback they may have in regard to Board Policy 7 – Board Operations, to the Committee and the feedback will be discussed at the October 24, 2023 Board Policy Committee.

**ADVOCACY AND  
ENGAGEMENT  
COMMITTEE**

Advocacy and Engagement Committee Meeting – October 10, 2023

- The first meeting of the Advocacy and Engagement Committee for this school year was held October 10, 2023. The Committee selected a Trustee Chris Johnston as the Chair of the Advocacy and Engagement Committee for the 2023 – 2024 School Year. Trustee Johnston

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provided an update from the meeting to the Board. The minutes will be submitted in the next Board meeting package as information.

**CULTURE AND  
ENGAGEMENT**

Education Foundation Striving for Excellence Awards

- Trustees Donna Koch and Andre Ouellette reported to the Board regarding the Education Foundation Striving for Excellence Awards that were held on October 4, 2023. The event was attended by 565 people with Trustee Koch as the Master of Ceremonies. The event was reported as being a great success.

**BUSINESS  
SERVICES**

Associate Superintendent Business Services Report

- Audit Committee Report  
Associate Superintendent of Business Services, Norm Guindon, reported to the Board regarding the Audit Committee meeting that was held just prior to the Board meeting.

**ASBA / PSBAA**

Alberta School Boards' Association (ASBA)

- Matt Solberg Presentation 2023 09 27  
Those Trustees who attended reported to the Board regarding the ASBA Matt Solberg presentation that was held virtually on September 27, 2023.

Public School Boards' Association of Alberta (PSBAA)

- Franklin Covey Webinar – Leadership Through Whirlwinds and Uncertainty  
Those Trustees who attended reported to the Board regarding the PSBAA Franklin Covey webinar that was held September 29, 2023.

**ALBERTA  
EDUCATION**

**COMMITTEE  
REPORTS**

- School Council 2022 – 2023 Year End Reports  
The Board received 2022 – 2023 Year End Reports from the following School Councils, as information:
  - IV Macklin School Council
  - Parkside Montessori
  - Roy Bickell School

**CORRESPONDENCE**

**NEW IDEAS / NEW  
ISSUES**

Rob Martin requested a review of the School Council Trustee representatives, as some of the Trustees were experiencing conflicts with School Council meeting dates and times. Trustees exchanged a few of the Councils and calendar invites for the School Council meetings will be re-sent to the appropriate Trustee.

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Donna Koch reported to the Board regarding the State of the Region luncheon that she attended on October 6, 2023.

**MOTION:** Donna Koch moved that the Board go in camera at 7:06 p.m. to discuss personnel items.

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 55569

**IN CAMERA  
SESSION**

James Robinson, Norm Guindon and SheraLea Crichton exited the meeting at 8:12 p.m.

Sandy Fredland exited the meeting at 8:25 p.m.

**MOTION:** Chris Johnston moved that the Board come out of in camera at 9:24 p.m.

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 55570

**MOTION:** Andre Ouellette moved that the Board accept the terms of the proposed settlement of the local ATA as discussed in camera.

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 55571

**REGULAR MEETING  
CONTINUED**

**MOTION:** Donna Koch moved that the Board accept the actions arising from the Board self-evaluation for the 2022 – 2023 school year.

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 15572

**MOTION:** Rob Martin moved that the Board accept the summary document discussed in camera regarding the Superintendent performance evaluation for the 2022 – 2023 school year.

UNANIMOUSLY CARRIED 15573

**NEXT BOARD  
MEETING**

The next meeting of the Board of Trustees is scheduled for Tuesday, October 24, 2023, to be held at Central Office in the Board Room.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Board Chair Joan Nellis called the Regular Board Meeting closed at 9:29 p.m.

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Chair

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Secretary-Treasurer