

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE BATTLE RIVER REGIONAL DIVISION #31, HELD ON APRIL 26TH, 2012, COMMENCING AT 8:57 A.M.

PRESENT

CHERYL SMITH
DOUG BOWIE
JIM FIELDING
SHELLEY GRUNDBERG
REBECCA HEIBERG
NOREEN METZ
PETER MILLER
KENDALL SEVERSON

ABSENT

ALSO PRESENT

DR LARRY PAYNE, Superintendent of Schools
RAY BOSH, Assistant Superintendent – Student Services
RICK JARRETT, Assistant Superintendent – Instruction
IMOGENE WALSH, Assistant Superintendent – Business
DIANE HUTCHINSON, Communications Coordinator
SHIRLEY FAIRALL, Recording Secretary

C SMITH IN THE CHAIR

CALL TO ORDER

Chair Smith called the meeting to order at 8:57 a.m.

Emily Holliday, student, Don Murphy, teacher, Sparling School and Steve Holliday, father, joined meeting at 8:55 a.m.

STUDENT SUCCESS

Chair Smith welcomed Ms Holliday, Mr Murphy, and Mr Holliday, and invited their presentation on Emily's successes at Sparling School.

Ms Holliday, Mr Murphy, and Mr Holliday left the meeting at 9:09 a.m.

APPROVAL OF CONTINUATION AGENDA

#40\12 N METZ – That the continuation agenda be approved as presented with the following items:

- 5. INFORMATION
 - 5.10 Letter from Minister
 - 5.11 Letter from Alberta Education
 - 5.12 Meeting with Strome Parent Council
 - 5.13 Thank you from Celina Brisson, Sifton School Council President
 - 5.14 Invitation to attend 'The Wiz' a Sifton School Performance
- 7. NEW BUSINESS
 - 7.5 Budget Deliberations
- 12. BOARD CHAIR'S REPORT
 - 12.2 Communication from Wetaskiwin Regional Public School Board.

CARRIED

IN-CAMERA SESSION (9:13 a.m.)

#41\12 K SEVERSON - That the regular meeting recess to permit the Trustees to meet in-camera, and that all persons except Trustees, Superintendent of Schools Payne, Assistant Superintendent – Student Services Bosh, Assistant Superintendent - Business Walsh, Communications Coordinator Hutchinson, and Recording Secretary Fairall be excluded.

CARRIED

OUT OF IN-CAMERA SESSION (10:17 a.m.)

The In-Camera session concluded and the regular meeting reconvened.

BUDGET APPROVAL

#42\12 P MILLER – That the Board of Trustees approves the 2012-2013 budget as presented.

CARRIED

Dr Larry Payne, Superintendent of Schools, remarked that our entire Division needs to celebrate the long term stability this budget represents, but we also must acknowledge that there is a lot of pain and heartache and challenge behind these numbers.

Chair Smith, on behalf of Trustees, together with Dr Larry Payne, Superintendent of Schools, commended Ms Walsh for her leadership and work in this area.

Chair Smith applauded the entire Division for the courage and leadership necessary to achieve a budget in alignment with Policy 22.

DIVISION OFFICE CHANGES

Dr Larry Payne, Superintendent of Schools, advised that the office moves to amalgamate the Instructional Services Centre Office staff into Division Office are nearly complete and invited Trustees to tour through the building.

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 10:21 a.m. and reconvened at 10:40 a.m.

DIVISION OFFICE TOUR

Chair Smith commented on the smooth work flow and renewed energy felt throughout the building, and commended Dr Larry Payne, Superintendent of Schools, and his staff for the work done to bring the offices together.

HUMAN RIGHTS FOR SCHOOL JURISDICTIONS WEBINAR

Chair Smith brought to the Trustees' attention a Webinar on Human Rights for School Jurisdictions which they can join through video conference in the BRSD Division Office Board Room on May 9th, 2012.

LETTER FROM MINISTER LUKASZUK

Trustees reviewed a letter received from the Honourable Thomas Lukaszuk, Minister of Education, in reply to a letter from Trustees requesting clarification on the future allocation of inclusive education funding.

LETTER FROM ALBERTA EDUCATION

Chair Smith brought to Trustees' attention a letter received from Bev Crossman, Education Manager, Zone 4 of Alberta Education, commending BRSD for presenting a well-developed 2011 \ 2012 – 2014 \ 2015 Three Year Education Plan and 2010 \ 2011 Annual Education Results Report.

Dr Larry Payne, Superintendent of Schools, advised Trustees that the data pilot project has officially begun. This project will help to assist both Battle River School Division and Alberta Education with a better understanding of the data generated by BRSD in comparison with other Divisions. Alberta Education will provide a conditional funding grant to provide release time for administrators, and also participants' expenses.

STROME PARENT COUNCIL

A meeting with Strome Parent Council representatives is scheduled for May 1st, 2012 at 4:00 p.m. in the BRSD Division Office Board Room.

SIFTON SCHOOL PARENT COUNCIL PRESIDENT

Trustees received a letter of thanks from Celina Brisson, President of Sifton School Parent Council for sponsoring her attendance at the Alberta School Councils' Association Conference on April 20th to 22nd, 2012 in Edmonton. Ms Brisson also provided a summary of sessions she attended. In addition, Ms Brisson commented on the strength of the Healthy Schools' Initiative at Sifton School. Chair Smith will send a letter on behalf of the Trustees acknowledging receipt of Ms Brisson's letter.

BANKING TENDER MOTION

Ms Imogene Walsh, Assistant Superintendent – Business, provided a summary of the bank tender review results.

#43\12 R HEIBERG - That the Board of Trustees accepts the proposal submitted by the Bank of Montreal, and further that the Board enters into a five year agreement with the Bank of Montreal to provide banking services to the Division.

CARRIED

Vice Chair Bowie requested a recorded vote. Trustees voted six in favour and two opposed to the banking tender motion.

COMMUNITY ENGAGEMENT COMMITTEE

#44\12 P MILLER – That the Board of Trustees accept the 2012 Community Engagement process summary report and move forward with the recommendations included in the report.

CARRIED

Ms Diane Hutchinson, Communications Coordinator, reported that a meeting with Camrose County to continue the discussion of Community Engagement Committee focus is scheduled for June 12th, 2012.

Trustees together with Dr Larry Payne, Superintendent of Schools, are invited to attend and present at the Flagstaff Intermunicipal Group on May 7th, 2012. Trustees have requested this meeting be postponed until September 2012.

Chair Smith together with Trustee Miller thanked Ms Diane Hutchinson, Communications Coordinator, for all the work she has done in this area.

FISCAL MONITORING REPORT

Ms Imogene Walsh, Assistant Superintendent – Business, provided Interim Financial Statements and Budget Reports as at March 31st, 2012 and reviewed the documents with the Trustees.

MEETING RECESS

The regular meeting recessed at 11:55 a.m. and reconvened at 12:22 p.m.

SIFTON SCHOOL PRESENTS 'THE WIZ'

Chair Smith brought to the Trustees attention an invitation received from Sifton School to attend their presentation of *'The Wiz'*.

COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE

Trustees will attend a Committee of the Whole Meeting in Division Office on April 30th, 2012. The focus of the meeting will be to review the approach to the Three Year School Plan Reviews, policy review, and a discussion on the Board self evaluation.

BUS PASSES

Trustees discussed the current process for students requiring a bus pass. A motion on the price of bus passes will be brought forward to the May 10th, 2012 Board meeting.

ADMINISTRATORS' MEETING

Chair Smith and Trustee Severson will attend the Administrators' Meeting on May 8th, 2012 at the Edgeworth Centre in Camrose.

EMPLOYEE RECOGNITION COMMITTEE

Trustees Severson, Metz, and Grundberg will meet to review the current procedures of the Employee Recognition Night.

BOARD CHAIR'S REPORT

Alberta Education Information Session

Chair Smith reported on her attendance together with Mr Ray Bosh, Assistant Superintendent – Student Services, at the Alberta Education Consultation and Information Session held on March 27th, 2012 at the Red Deer Lodge Hotel and Conference Centre.

Wetaskiwin Regional Public School Division

Chair Smith advised Trustees that a thank you was received from Wetaskiwin Regional Public School Division Board of Trustees for the information shared regarding the Battle River School Division's School Closure Policy.

IN-CAMERA SESSION (12:44 p.m.)

#45\12 J FIELDING - That the regular meeting recess to permit the Trustees to meet in-camera, and that all persons except Trustees, Superintendent of Schools Payne, Assistant Superintendent – Student Services Bosh, Assistant Superintendent - Business Walsh, Communications Coordinator Hutchinson, and Recording Secretary Fairall be excluded.

CARRIED

OUT OF IN-CAMERA SESSION (1:11 p.m.)

The In-Camera session concluded and the regular meeting reconvened.

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT

Staffing \ Budget

Dr Larry Payne, Superintendent of Schools, reported on the meeting held with Administrators on April 19th, 2012 to begin work on the staffing budget for the 2012 – 2013 school year.

Senior Administration Planning Session

Dr Larry Payne, Superintendent of Schools, reported on the Senior Leadership Planning Session on April 10th and 11th, 2012 at Pigeon Lake. The focus of the session was two-fold; 1) to reaffirm commitment to continue working together as we move forward and 2) creating departmental three year plans.

Inclusive Education Article

Dr Larry Payne, Superintendent of Schools, brought to Trustees attention an article in the Spring 2012 ATA Magazine. The article features Leah Dushenski in her seconded role as Senior Manager of Inclusive Learning Support Branch with Alberta Education and the huge benefit of the implementation of learning coaches in the Battle River School Division.

Prekindergarten

Dr Larry Payne, Superintendent of Schools, advised Trustees that an advertisement has been posted in the local papers to gain an understanding of the level of interest in having a prekindergarten program available in Battle River School Division.

ADJOURNMENT

All items of business being complete and there being no dissent, Chair Smith adjourned the meeting at 1:23 p.m.

CHERYL SMITH, CHAIR

IMOGENE WALSH, ASSISTANT SUPERINTENDENT – BUSINESS

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