

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES OF THE BATTLE RIVER SCHOOL DIVISION, HELD ON DECEMBER 14, 2023, COMMENCING AT 9:00 A.M.

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**PRESENT**

LYLE ALBRECHT  
DOUG ALGAR  
KAREN BELICH  
DWIGHT DIBBEN  
PATRICK MCFEELY

**ABSENT**

**ALSO PRESENT**

RHAE-ANN HOLOIEN, Superintendent of Schools  
STEPHEN HOYLAND, Assistant Superintendent - Education Services  
IMOGENE WALSH - Secretary - Treasurer  
NATASHA WILM - Assistant Superintendent - Human Resources  
MICHELLE GIRVAN, Executive Assistant - Superintendent

**CHAIR MCFEELY IN THE CHAIR**

**CALL TO ORDER**

Chair McFeely called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

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**APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

#130\23 D DIBBEN- That the Board of Trustees approves the Agenda as presented.

CARRIED

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**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

#131\23 D ALGAR - That the Board of Trustees approves the Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of November 28, 2023.

CARRIED

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**IN-CAMERA SESSION (9:36 A.M.)**

#132\23 L ALBRECHT - That the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees recess to permit Trustees to meet in-camera, and that all persons, except Trustees, Superintendent Holoien, Secretary - Treasurer Walsh, Assistant Superintendent - Education Services Stephen Hoyland, Assistant Superintendent - Human Resources Natasha Wilm, and Executive Assistant - Superintendent Girvan be excluded.

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CARRIED

**OUT OF IN-CAMERA SESSION (9:44 A.M.)**

#133/23 K BELICH - That the in-camera session be concluded and that the regular meeting reconvene.

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CARRIED

**COMMUNICATION TO BUFFALO TRAIL SCHOOL DIVISION**

#134\23 D DIBBEN - That the Board of Trustees authorizes the Board Chair to correspond with Buffalo Trail School Division as discussed in closed session.

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CARRIED

**HUMAN RESOURCES ACCOUNTABILITY REPORT**

#135\23 K BELICH - That the Board of Trustees approves the Human Resources Accountability Report as presented.

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CARRIED

Ms Wilm left the meeting at 9:53 a.m.

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Coleman Miller at Forestburg School, together with Sydney Nelson, Educational Assistant, Rachelle Sveahun, Educational Assistant, Javeria Qadar, parent, Aayan Mohammad, student, and Brock Bartlett, Division Principal, joined the meeting at 9:53 a.m.

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Ms Wilm joined the meeting at 9:55 a.m.

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**STUDENT SUCCESS**

Chair McFeely welcomed Mr Miller, Ms Nelson, Ms Sveahun, Ms Qadar, and Mr Mohammad and invited their presentation. The group shared their success in transitioning Mr Mohammed into the school. Mr Mohammad is a student with down syndrome who immigrated from Abu Dhabi and is quickly overcoming challenges presented to him through the support of his educational assistants, teachers, and division supports, and has become an integral part of his school community.

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Mr Miller, Ms Nelson, Ms Sveahun, Ms Qadar, Mr Mohammad, and Mr Bartlett left the meeting at 10:33 a.m.

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**MEETING RECESS**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees recessed at 10:36 a.m. and reconvened at 10:42 P.m.

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**MINISTER EXCESS RESERVE REQUEST**

#136\23 D ALGAR - That the Board of Trustees requests an exemption from the reserve cap from the Minister of Education in the amount of \$5,067,975 for Educational Assistant salaries for the years of 2023-24 and 2024-25.

CARRIED

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**MEETING RECESS**

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees recessed at 10:46 a.m. and reconvened at 12:45 p.m.

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**RURAL EDUCATION SYMPOSIUM**

#137\23 D DIBBEN - That the Board of Trustees approves Trustee Belich to attend the Rural Education Symposium in March 2024.

CARRIED

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**ADJOURNMENT**

All items of business being completed and there being no dissent, Chair McFeely adjourned the meeting at 1:20 p.m.

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PATRICK MCFEELY, CHAIR

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IMOGENE WALSH, SECRETARY-TREASURER

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