

**MINUTES OF THE**

**REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOUIS RIEL SCHOOL DIVISION BOARD OF TRUSTEES**

Tuesday, September 1, 2020, 7:00 P.M.  
900 St. Mary's Road, Winnipeg  
In-Person and Online Hybrid Meeting

**BOARD MEMBERS:** Louise Johnston, Chair  
Pamela Kolochuk, Vice-Chair  
Josie Landry, Trustee  
Sandy Nemeth, Trustee  
Robert Page, Trustee  
Tom Parker, Trustee  
Chris Sigurdson, Trustee  
Cindy Turner, Trustee  
Neil Vadeboncoeur, Trustee

**ALSO IN ATTENDANCE:** Christian Michalik, Superintendent  
Marna Kenny, Secretary-Treasurer  
Lisa Aitken, Assistant Superintendent  
Jeff Anderson, Divisional Principal  
Amarbeer Bhandari, Director of Facilities, Maintenance and Transportation  
Darcy Cormack, Divisional Principal  
Clarke Hagan, Director of Information Systems  
Jennifer Hume, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer  
Steve Lawrie, Director of Student and Clinical Services  
Tim MacKay, Director of EAL and ISP  
Deneen Madden, Executive Assistant  
Lexi Muise, Administrative Assistant  
Marlene Murray, Assistant Superintendent  
Henri Péloquin, Assistant Superintendent

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The September 1 Regular Meeting of the Louis Riel School Division Board of Trustees was called to order by Louise Johnston, Chair, Louis Riel School Board at 7:01 P.M.

### **1.1 Treaty Acknowledgement**

The Chair acknowledged the land on which our learners, staff and families gather is Treaty One Territory and the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe, Ininewak, and Dakota peoples, and homeland of the Métis Nation.

### **1.2 Welcome and Announcements**

The Chair welcomed everyone attending this in-person and online hybrid meeting. The Chair noted the use of audio recording at board meetings for accuracy. It was also noted that unless approved, photographs, personal recordings, audio, visual or otherwise, are not permitted.

### **1.3 Affirmation of Vision and Mission**

The Chair read the division's Vision and Mission statements.

## **2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA AND MINUTES**

### **2.1 Approval of Agenda for Regular Board Meeting – September 1, 2020**

2020-012

Moved by Trustee Parker

Seconded by Trustee Kolochuk

THAT the September 1 agenda for the Regular Board Meeting be approved with the addition of item 5. Staffing.

CARRIED

### **2.2 Approval of Minutes of Regular Board Meeting – June 16, 2020**

As there were no changes, the June 16 minutes of the Regular Board Meeting were accepted as distributed.

## **3. LRSD NEWS**

### **3.1 Chair's News**

Welcome to the first board meeting of the 2020-2021 school year.

As we set course to re-imagine school through this worldwide pandemic, I want to acknowledge and extend the Board's sincere appreciation for the courageous leadership of Christian Michalik, LRSD Superintendent, and the Senior Leadership Team (SLT). Christian's passion and drive to ensure this division does its very best to create a safe, healthy, and meaningful school year is apparent in every aspect of consulting and planning. Together with the SLT he has turned challenges into opportunities!

Our Multi-Year Strategic Plan is based on the Circle of Courage. The SLT truly is living every aspect of courage and generosity.

I want to acknowledge every employee in Louis Riel School Division (LRSD) for their work from the moment the pandemic was announced. Everyone worked together. Union leaders and groups collaborated, and taskforces were struck. Many staff members worked through the summer to build and review every detail of the response plan.

Thank you sounds small, but please know that your professionalism, passion, and hard work are so very appreciated! Thank you for giving our LRSD community and families hope!

### **3.2 Superintendent Christian Michalik's News**

The first ever Town Hall Live Event in the history of LRSD will take place tomorrow commencing at 9:00 A.M. and will launch the 2020-2021 school year with all staff. The second Town Hall Live Event will take place later tomorrow evening at 7 P.M. when we will welcome community members to the conversation. At this time, we have 2,477 community members registered for the community town hall. I look forward to sharing all that we have accomplished in such a short time to make the coming school year as joyful, safe, and healthy for everyone in LRSD.

## **4. FINANCE AND AUDIT**

### **4.1 Statutory Declaration Secretary-Treasurer 2020-2021**

2020-013

Moved by Trustee Kolochuk

Seconded by Trustee Vadeboncoeur

THAT the Statutory Declaration made by Marna Kenny, Secretary-Treasurer, be accepted.

CARRIED

## **5. STAFFING**

### **5.1 Personnel Update - Director of Facilities, Maintenance and Transportation**

2020-014

Moved by Trustee Sigurdson

Seconded by Trustee Kolochuk

THAT Amarbeer Bhandari be appointed Director of Facilities, Maintenance and Transportation, effective immediately.

CARRIED

## **5.2 Personnel Update - Acting Vice-Principal**

Superintendent Michalik provided a personnel update that Charlene Edge-Rowntree will be the acting Vice-Principal at Victor Mager School, effective immediately.

## **6. INFORMATION TO THE BOARD**

### **6.1 Transportation Taskforce Update**

Assistant Superintendent Péroquin provided an update on behalf of the Transportation Taskforce.

### **6.2 Distancing, Cohorting and Movement of Staff and Students Taskforce Update**

Divisional Principal Anderson provided an update on behalf of the Distancing, Cohorting and Movement of Staff and Students Taskforce.

### **6.3 Learning and Teaching Taskforce Update**

Divisional Principal Cormack provided an update on behalf of the Learning and Teaching Taskforce.

### **6.4 Well-Being and Mental Health Promotion Taskforce Update**

Director of Student and Clinical Services Lawrie provided an update on behalf of the Well-Being and Mental Health Promotion Taskforce.

### **6.5 Staffing Needs to Respond to the Pandemic Taskforce Update**

Assistant Superintendent Aitken provided an update on behalf of the Staffing Needs to Respond to the Pandemic Taskforce.

### **6.6 Response to Symptoms and Infection Taskforce Update**

Assistant Superintendent Murray provided an update on behalf of the Response to Symptoms and Infection Taskforce.

### **6.7 Infrastructure and Custodial Requirements Taskforce Update**

Director of Facilities, Maintenance and Transportation Bhandari provided an update on behalf of the Infrastructure and Custodial Requirements Taskforce.

### **6.8 Communication Taskforce Update**

Superintendent Michalik provided an update on behalf of the Communication Taskforce.

### **6.9 Financial Support Taskforce Team**

Secretary-Treasurer Kenny provided an update on behalf of the Financial Support Taskforce.

### **6.10 Blended Learning and Technology Taskforce Update**

Director of Information Systems Hagan provided an update on behalf of the Blended Learning and Technology Taskforce.

#### **6.11 Questions from Parents**

Superintendent Michalik shared a document provided to administrators entitled, *Q & A for School Leaders* which is a document meant to assist in guiding a safe return to schools. In this document we answer the most frequently asked questions received from the public since July.

### **7. POLICY**

#### **7.1 Policy Update - Rescinding Governance Policy JLIIA - Lunch Supervision**

Superintendent Michalik provided the rationale that while the changes being proposed in the new policy are excellent, given the pandemic situation, now is not a good time to change and harmonize the current practices. This will be revisited when things are in a more steady and predictable state.

2020-015

Moved by Trustee Kolochuk

Seconded by Trustee Landry

THAT Policy JLIIA – Lunch Supervision - be rescinded and that the former policy be re-instituted for the 2020-2021 school year.

CARRIED

### **8. CORRESPONDENCE**

#### **8.1 School Board Correspondence – Received**

The following correspondence was received by the Board:

Manitoba Education:

- (Page 1) Letter from D. Rudy RE: Executive and Management Streamlining (July 8, 2020)
- (Page 2) Letter from Hon. Minister Goertzen RE: Semester Dates (July 13, 2020)
- (Page 3) Letter from S. Whiteford RE: Expiring Emergency Order (July 24, 2020)
- (Page 4) Letter from Hon. Minister Goertzen RE: Technology Education Equipment Replacement Grant (Aug. 5, 2020)
- (Page 7) Letter from Hon. Minister Goertzen RE: Newcomer Support Project Grant (Aug. 26, 2020)

Public Schools Finance Board:

NONE

General:

- (Page 9) Letter from M. Cabezas RE: Donation (June 17, 2020)
- (Page 10) Thank you letter from Y. Hao (June 26, 2020)
- (Page 12) Historian Newsletter (July 2020)
- (Page 20) Thank you note from M. Perron (July 6, 2020)
- (Page 21) Thank you note from J. Woznesensky (July 12, 2020)
- (Page 23) Thank you note from T. Prince (July 15, 2020)
- (Page 24) Copy of a letter to K. Debaets RE: Concerns (July 15, 2020)

Other:

- (Page 25) Email from T. Desloges (July 2, 2020)
- (Page 28) Email from C. Tait (Aug. 11, 2020)
- (Page 30) Email from M. Grandmaison (Aug. 12, 2020)
- (Page 32) Email from V. Grandmaison (Aug. 12, 2020)
- (Page 34) Email from S. Matthews (Aug. 25, 2020)

## **8.2 School Board Correspondence – Sent**

The following correspondence was sent by the Board:

- (Page 1) Letter to A. Vernon (June 26, 2020)
- (Page 2) Letter to W. Ruff (June 30, 2020)

## **8.3 Manitoba School Boards Association (MSBA) Correspondence – Received**

The following MSBA correspondence was received by the Board:

Labour Relations:

- (Page 1) Memo: RE: Privacy Issues Related to Remote Learning (Aug. 25, 2020)

General MSBA Correspondence:

- (Page 5) MSBA Op. Ed. (June 11, 2020)
- (Page 7) MSBA Op. Ed. short version (June 11, 2020)
- (Page 8) Op. Ed. RE: Winnipeg Free Press Article (June 11, 2020)
- (Page 10) E-bulletin (June 17, 2020)
- (Page 11) Sunrise School Division Transportation Posting (July 14, 2020)
- (Page 13) Ontario Public School Boards Letter RE: Recruitment (July 14, 2020)

## **9. RECESS TO COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE-IN-CAMERA**

2020-016

Moved by Trustee Kolochuk

Seconded by Trustee Sigurdson

THAT the Committee of the Whole resolve.

CARRIED

**10. RISE AND REPORT FROM COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE**

2020-017

Moved by Trustee Kolochuk

Seconded by Trustee Landry

THAT the Committee of the Whole rise and report.

CARRIED

**11. ACTION ITEMS**

**11.1 Bylaw 20202021-001 - Religious Instruction - École Sage Creek School**

2020-018

Moved by Trustee Landry

Seconded by Trustee Sigurdson

THAT Bylaw 20202021-001 being a bylaw to authorize the instruction of religion at École Sage Creek School during the period of September 2020 to June 2021, be deferred to the September 15 Regular Meeting to receive further clarification.

CARRIED

**11.2 Letter from Employee #990822**

2020-019

Moved by Trustee Kolochuk

Seconded by Trustee Sigurdson

THAT the letter from employee #990822 be received as information; and,

THAT the Chair respond.

CARRIED

**11.3 Letter from J. Richard**

2020-020

Moved by Trustee Kolochuk

Seconded by Trustee Landry

THAT the letter from J. Richard be received as information; and,

THAT the Chair respond.

CARRIED

**12. PUBLIC FORUM**

The following members of the public were in attendance online:

- Cyril Indome, Teacher
- Carol Bitchok, Teacher
- Marcela Cabezas, President, Louis Riel Teachers' Association (LRTA)
- Scott Wood, Vice-President, LRTA
- Jay McGurran, Vice-President, LRTA

Marcela Cabezas asked if the division would support teachers wearing masks even with the two meters of distance.

Superintendent Michalik responded that the masks being provided are not medical-grade masks. We need to look at the evolving science behind wearing a mask:

- how long does one wear a mask
- when one is wearing a mask for an extended period of time indoors within two meters vs. when one is respecting the two meters of distancing
- when one is distancing outdoor

Science will guide us as we carefully build a culture around wearing masks. We need to be clear about when it is necessary to wear a mask.

**13. ADJOURNMENT**

The September 1 Regular Meeting adjourned at 9:10 P.M.

“original signed by L. Johnston”

---

Chair

“original signed by M. Kenny”

---

Secretary-Treasurer