

MINUTES OF THE

REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOUIS RIEL SCHOOL DIVISION BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Tuesday, November 17, 2020, 6:30 P.M.

Virtual 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 & CEO
Marna Kenny, Secretary-Treasurer & CFO
Jeff Anderson, Divisional Principal
Amarbeer Bhandari, Director of Facilities, Maintenance and Transportation
Darcy Cormack, Divisional Principal
Clarke Hagan, Director of Information Technology Systems
Jennifer Hume, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer and Director of Financial Services
Steve Lawrie, Director of Inclusion and Clinical Services
Tim MacKay, Director of International Student Program and Newcomer Services
Deneen Madden, Executive Assistant
Lexi Muise, Administrative Assistant
Marlene Murray, Assistant Superintendent Student Services
Henri Péroquin, Assistant Superintendent Instructional Services

1. CALL TO ORDER

The November 17 Regular Meeting of the Louis Riel School Division (LRSD) Board of Trustees was called to order by Louise Johnston, Chair, LRSD Board of Trustees at 6:33 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.

With this acknowledgement, we demonstrate respect for Indigenous peoples and communities, and we celebrate a renewed relationship with one another moving forward.

1.2 Welcome and Announcements

The Chair welcomed everyone attending this virtual 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 – November 17, 2020

2020-042

Moved by Trustee Vadeboncoeur

Seconded by Trustee Landry

THAT the November 17 agenda for the Regular Board Meeting be approved.

CARRIED

2.2 Approval of Minutes of Regular Board Meeting – November 3, 2020

As there were no changes, the November 3 minutes of the Regular Board Meeting were accepted as distributed.

3. LRSD NEWS

3.1 Chair's News

This evening, the Chair expressed appreciation to everyone putting on a brave face for students, staff, and community.

Being an essential worker means making sacrifices; it can also feel isolating, even at work. Yet, our people are putting on a brave face for students, staff, and community.

We recognize and appreciate the long hours ensuring every aspect of school is safe, engaging, and joyful for our staff and students. You are our heroes!

The Board truly appreciates your dedication, professionalism, and passion.

Today, we express our gratitude to our collective commitment to doing our very best to support each other through this pandemic. It means being patient as we work together to navigate the many challenges.

We are in this together!

3.2 Superintendent Christian Michalik's News

Superintendent Michalik expressed the Senior Leadership Team's (SLT) gratitude to the Board of Trustees for their ongoing support.

Superintendent Michalik highlighted the November 16 gathering of the Council of Indigenous Grandmothers and Grandfathers, representing five of our First Nations. We talked about an exciting project, which project will be shared publicly in the near future.

4. PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD

4.1 Learning from Home School Presentation

The Board received a presentation from Jeff Anderson and Darcy Cormack, Divisional Principals, regarding the Learning from Home School.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

5.1 Standing Committees

5.1.1 Negotiations Committee Update including Budget for 2020-2021

2020-043

Moved by Trustee Parker

Seconded by Trustee Vadeboncoeur

THAT the Board accept the Negotiations Committee minutes from the October 29 meeting; and,

THAT the Board accept the Negotiations Committee budget for 2020-2021.

CARRIED

5.2 Riel-Evate Endowment Fund Committee

Trustee Nemeth, Committee Chair, provided a report regarding recent Riel-Evate Endowment Fund Committee meetings.

6. BOARD EDUCATION

6.1 Trustee Professional Development Report

The Chair provided context to the attached report regarding trustee professional development.

7. FINANCE AND AUDIT

7.1 First Quarter (Q1) Financial Update

Secretary-Treasurer Kenny provided the Q1 Financial update and answered trustee questions.

8. MULTI-YEAR STRATEGIC PLAN WITH REFERENCE TO THE ANNUAL REPORT TO THE COMMUNITY

8.1 Strategic Priority 3 – Creating a Culture of Inquiry and Responsibility - Independence

Superintendent Michalik facilitated a dialogue about the division’s Multi-Year Strategic Plan, specifically with reference to Strategic Priority 3 – Creating a Culture of Inquiry and Responsibility (Independence) and how these priorities relate to the Annual Report to the Community.

9. INFORMATION TO THE BOARD

9.1 Taskforce Updates

Superintendent Michalik and members of the SLT provided taskforce updates.

9.2 Travel Insurance Update

Assistant Superintendent Péloquin shared an update regarding positive outcomes from travel insurance claims.

9.3 Monthly Updates Regarding Communications Metrics - October 2020

Superintendent Michalik provided a monthly report on communications metrics for the month of October 2020.

9.4 United Way/Riel-Evate Campaign

Superintendent Michalik and Assistant Secretary-Treasurer Hume shared a video message of gratitude from Connie Walker, CEO of United Way Winnipeg, for the generous donations made in the 2020 United Way Winnipeg/Riel-Evate divisional campaign.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

10.1 School Board Correspondence – Received

The following correspondence was received by the Board:

Manitoba Education:

- (Page 1) Letter and Proclamation from Hon. Min. Goertzen (Nov. 13, 2020)
- (Page 3) Letter and Proclamation from Hon. Min. Goertzen (Nov. 13, 2020)

Public Schools Finance Board:

- None

General:

- (Page 5) Email from I. Bindi (Nov. 3, 2020)
- (Page 6) Email from W. Ruff (Nov. 3, 2020)
- (Page 7) Email from I. Bindi (Nov. 5, 2020)

- (Page 8) Email from I. Bindi (Nov. 13, 2020)

10.2 Manitoba School Boards Association (MSBA) Correspondence – Received

The following MSBA correspondence was received by the Board:

Labour Relations:

- (Page 1) Memo from M. Whiteway RE: Update Bill 45 (Nov. 3, 2020)

General MSBA Correspondence:

- (Page 37) Letter from W. Bloomfield RE: St. Norbert Remembrance Day
- (Page 38) E-bulletin (Nov. 4, 2020)
- (Page 39) Executive Highlights (Oct. 16, 2020)
- (Page 40) Memo RE: 2021 Recognition & Awards Programs
- (Page 53) Memo RE: MSBA Media Features
- (Page 56) Email RE: MSBA Fall General Meeting Agenda Package (Nov. 12, 2020)
- (Page 59) Zoom – How Tos 2020
- (Page 61) Fall General Meeting Agenda

11. ACTION ITEMS

11.1 Dissolution of the Adhoc Recognition Policy Committee

2020-044

Moved by Trustee Landry

Seconded by Trustee Page

THAT the dissolution of the Adhoc Recognition Policy Committee be deferred to a future date.

CARRIED

12. PUBLIC FORUM

The following members of the public were in attendance and had the opportunity to make comments or ask questions about this evening's agenda items:

- Carol Bitchok
- Charlene Sacher
- Charlene Sacher
- Donna Cushnie-Alexander
- Irene Bindi
- Jay McGurran
- Kelly Grijalva
- Lisa Hettrick
- Marcela Cabezas
- Maureen Desjardins

- Scott Wood
- Sharon Sapoznik
- Tina Choy-Pohl
- Trinda Tickner
- Kelly Grijalva asked if someone on a bus has a positive COVID-19 test result, will other passengers and families be notified?

Superintendent Michalik advised that if someone travelling by school bus received a positive COVID-19 test result, communicated by Public Health and resulted in contact tracing, that case would be noted on our database as a confirmed case on a bus in relation to a specific school.

- Lisa Hettrick asked where the teachers would come from for the online learning?

Superintendent Michalik advised that we continuing to refine our staffing strategy. We currently have 300 substitute teachers; many are retired teachers. While some retired teachers are now in our schools, many are reluctant to be in schools due to the pandemic; however, they show interest in teaching at the Temporary Learning from Home Option. We need to continue replenishing our substitute teacher ranks.

This weekend, we posted an advertisement in the Winnipeg Free Press printed paper and, on their website, to encourage individuals that have graduated with a bachelor's degree to apply for work as a substitute teacher. This is a pre-pandemic staffing strategy. The individual would require a certified temporary learning permit and could be hired as a substitute teacher.

If you know of a teacher, or an individual with a bachelor's degree, looking for employment and especially if that person is French speaking, please reach out to us.

13. ADJOURNMENT

The November 17 Regular Meeting adjourned at 8:30 P.M.

“original signed by L. Johnston”

Chair

“original signed by M. Kenny”

Secretary-Treasurer