

MINUTES OF THE

REGULAR MEETING OF THE LOUIS RIEL SCHOOL DIVISION BOARD OF TRUSTEES

Tuesday, May 4, 2021, 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
Lisa Aitken, Assistant Superintendent Staff Services
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

1. CALL TO ORDER

The May 4 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 6:30 p.m.

1.1 LRSD Land Acknowledgement

The Louis Riel School Division (LRSD) brings together a community of schools on the traditional land of the Anishinaabek, Ininewak, and Dakota. Our division is located on

the homeland of the Métis. We recognize that Manitoba is also the traditional land of the Anishininwak and Dene.

We respect the treaties made on this land and acknowledge the harms and mistakes of the past and present. We dedicate ourselves to authentic alliances with Indigenous communities in a spirit of reconciliation and cooperation.

The ongoing development of LRSD's land acknowledgement is guided by our Indigenous Council of Grandmothers and Grandfathers, and we thank them for their generosity and collaboration.

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 – May 4, 2021

2020-086

Moved by Trustee Page

Seconded by Trustee Landry

THAT the May 4 agenda for the Regular Board Meeting be approved.

CARRIED

2.2 Approval of Minutes of Regular Board Meeting – April 20, 2021

3. LRSD NEWS

3.1 News from the Board of Trustees Provided by Trustee Page

Trustee Page highlighted the Middle Immersion program, which begins in Grade 4 after students have had several years of primarily English language instruction. Students in this program are grouped with students new to French Immersion from other schools. Students play, laugh, and learn together while immersed in a specially developed French Immersion program. In Grades 4, 5 and 6, these students continue to develop their French language skills. In Grade 7, Middle Immersion students are joined by Early Immersion students, which are students who have been studying French Immersion since Kindergarten or Grade 1. Many parents have said the transformation and results from having their students in this program have been stunning.

Registration for Middle Immersion at École Henri-Bergeron is now open for the 2021-22 school year. To schedule an individual meeting regarding this program, please contact École Henri-Bergeron.

3.2 News from Superintendent Michalik

Superintendent Michalik quoted John F. Kennedy, “When written in Chinese, the word 'crisis' is composed of two characters. One represents danger and the other represents opportunity.”

It is in that spirit that I approached students with the notion that opportunity can come from this pandemic, this crisis that we’re all living, if we make the time to capture our lived experience.

On May 5, Beyond the Horizon, a student-planned and student-led virtual summit, will gather youth in grades 5 to 12 to enjoy an amazing day of learning. There will be keynote speakers and, most importantly, dialogue between students. The conversation will focus on their lived experience and lessons learned from this pandemic so that we can build a better post-pandemic world.

The next step in the community conversation will be to welcome the summit organizers as keynote speakers when educators come together for a day of professional learning on May 31. We will start our learning by listening to students tell us what they heard from their peers through Beyond the Horizon.

After May 31, my hope is that we will extend that conversation to engage with our parents/guardians by leveraging existing structures such as Parent Advisory Committees and information evenings to continue the dialogue into the 2021-22 school year.

4. PRESENTATIONS TO THE BOARD

4.1 Digital Music Project

Ingrid Pedersen, Coordinator of Arts Education, Warren Hart, teacher from the Learning from Home School, and Melissa Burns, teacher from Archwood School, made a presentation to the Board in the form of a mini symphony.

The first movement introduced Soundtrap, a music creation program. The division first started working with Soundtrap in January 2021. Soundtrap proposed a partnership of a pilot project which would run from January to June 2021. Soundtrap has provided professional learning opportunities, training sessions, licensing, online resources, certification courses, and lesson plans. Some of our teachers’ work has been shared on Soundtrap’s website and included as resources. Working with Soundtrap has been a fantastic opportunity!

The second movement outlined the data collected. In January, we started with no student or staff users and as of April 25, 2021 and grew to 1,765 users across many

schools. There is an average of 668 weekly users. There was 286,684 minutes of students actively recording in the sound studio. In a typical week, there are 900 projects being created. Students have participated in 15,324 projects and staff have opened up more than 800 projects.

The third movement shared teacher testimonials and provided samples of student work.

As we navigate COVID-19, Soundtrap has been especially helpful since we are not able to play wind instruments.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

5.1 Standing Committees

5.1.1 Community Engagement Committee Update

Trustee Nemeth, Committee Chair, provided a verbal report on behalf of the Community Engagement Committee. Trustee Nemeth highlighted the LRSD community information on Bill 64 Facebook page, which has over 400 followers. As well, several schools have invited trustees to Parent Advisory Council meetings or broader school community groups to engage in conversations around Bill 64, the proposed changes, and the impacts. Currently, 17 schools in LRSD have organized conversations to help their communities understand Bill 64.

5.2 Riel-Evate Endowment Fund Committee

Trustee Nemeth, Committee Chair, provided a year-end report on behalf of the Riel-Evate Endowment Fund Committee. The endowment fund is currently valued at approximately \$147,000.

2020-087

Moved by Trustee Nemeth

Seconded by Trustee Parker

THAT the report of the Riel-Evate Endowment Fund Committee for the year ending June 2021 be received as information; and,

THAT the grant payment from The Winnipeg Foundation be used to award a Riel-Evate Endowment Fund graduation bursary, as part of the June 2021 graduation ceremonies, at each Louis Riel School Division high school and at the Louis Riel Arts & Technology Centre.

CARRIED

6. BOARD EDUCATION

6.1 Bill 64 - The Education Modernization Act and its Four-Pillar Strategy

The Chair and Superintendent Michalik led a table discussion regarding Bill 64: The Education Modernization Act and the four-pillar strategy with focus on Pillar 1: Governance and Accountability for Results.

Pamela Kolochuk, Vice-Chair joined the meeting at 7:28 p.m.

7. FINANCE AND AUDIT

7.1 Finance Update

Secretary-Treasurer Kenny advised that a meeting took place recently with government representatives and information was shared regarding our financial challenges related to pandemic expenses and budgetary constraints. We remain hopeful we will receive answers from government regarding requests for financial support related to our pandemic related expenditures and, as a result, project accumulated deficit.

8. STAFFING

8.1 Personnel Update

2020-088

Moved by Trustee Vadeboncoeur

Seconded by Trustee Kolochuk

THAT the Board appoint Jolene Capina as the vice-principal at Collège Jeanne-Sauvé, effective August 1, 2021.

CARRIED

9. INFORMATION TO THE BOARD

9.1 Pandemic Updates

Superintendent Michalik provided pandemic updates.

9.2 Town Hall Live Event April 21, 2021 – Nelson McIntyre Collegiate Family of Schools

Superintendent Michalik shared an update from the Town Hall Live Event held on April 21 highlighting the Nelson McIntyre Collegiate Family of Schools.

9.3 Leadership Team Meeting - April 21, 2021

Superintendent Michalik shared the agenda from the April 21 Leadership Team Meeting and answered trustee questions.

9.4 Future Planning Scenarios - Southeast Quadrant

Superintendent Michalik shared an update from the community meetings held on April 26, 28 and 29 regarding future planning in the southeast quadrant of the division.

10. CORRESPONDENCE

10.1 School Board Correspondence – Received

The following correspondence was received by the Board:

Manitoba Education:

- (Page 1) Letter from Hon. Minister Cullen RE: Education Week in Manitoba (April 19, 2021)
- (Page 2) Proclamation for Education Week April 19-23, 2021
- (Page 3) Letter from Hon. Minister Cullen RE: Better Education Starts Today (April 27, 2021)

Education Funding Branch:

- None

General:

- (Page 5) Email from Faculty of Education (April 16, 2021)
- (Page 8) Email from M. Reynolds (April 16, 2021)
- (Page 10) Email from S. Restall (April 19, 2021)
- (Page 11) Email redirected from Hon. Minister Gordon (April 24, 2021)

10.2 School Board Correspondence – Sent

The following correspondence was sent by the Board:

- (Page 1) Email to Hon. Minister Squires (April 27, 2021)

10.3 Manitoba School Boards Association (MSBA) Correspondence – Received

The following MSBA correspondence was received by the Board:

Labour Relations:

- None

General MSBA Correspondence:

- (Page 1) Invitation to Equity and Access to Learning
- (Page 2) e-bulletin (April 21, 2021)

11. ACTION ITEMS

12. PUBLIC FORUM

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

- Bradley Harder
- Carol Bitchok
- Charlene Sacher
- Cyril Indome
- Jay McGurran
- Jennifer Fillion
- Karen Duffield
- Lisa McLellan-Bowes
- Marcela Cabezas
- Margaret Whitlaw
- Nicholas Kelly
- Ron Cadez
- Sandy Whiting
- Scott Wood

13. ADJOURNMENT

The May 4 Regular Meeting adjourned at 8:20 P.M.

“original signed by L. Johnston”

Chair

“original signed by M. Kenny”

Secretary-Treasurer