

PEMBINA TRAILS SCHOOL DIVISION

Regular Meeting Of The Board February 27, 2014

Meeting Type : Board Meeting

Date : Thursday, February 27, 2014

Start time : 8:00 PM

Location : Administration Office, 181 Henlow Bay, Winnipeg, Manitoba

MINUTES

ATTENDANCE

PRESENT:

Trustees:

D. Johnson (Chair), T. Johnson (Vice-Chair), S. Clayton, J. Field, J. Fisher, L. Goodridge, G. Melnyk

Administration:

T. Fransen - Superintendent of Education,
G. Bruce - Assistant Superintendent, Program,
E. Egan - Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources & Policy,
J. Karras - Assistant Superintendent, Divisional Support Services,
S. Schmidt - Assistant Superintendent, Student Services,
C. Stahlke - Secretary-Treasurer.

Regrets: G. Watson, D. Zuk

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 8:00 p.m.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Resolution #BD20140227.1001

Moved By: Gerry Melnyk Second By: Sue Clayton
THAT the agenda be approved as amended

CARRIED

MINUTES APPROVAL (MINUTES APPROVAL)

Resolution #BD20140227.1002

Moved By: Julie Fisher Second By: Laureen Goodridge
THAT the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board February 13, 2014, be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS, SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS AND OTHER REPORTS (STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS, SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS AND OTHER REPORTS) (Issue #20140210006)

Resolution #BD20140227.1003

Moved By: Tim Johnson Second By: Jacquie Field
THAT the Standing Committee Reports, Special Committee Report and Other Reports be received as information and,
THAT Teacher Contracts (Term) as listed in the Teacher Contracts Report dated February 27, 2014, be ratified and,
THAT Substitute Teacher Contracts as listed in the 2013-14 Substitute Teacher Contracts Report dated February 27, 2014, be ratified and,
THAT Teacher Contract Alterations, as listed in the Contract Alterations Report dated February 27, 2014, be approved and,

THAT the Disbursements List for the period January 1 through January 31, 2014, in the amount of \$7,873,171.82 be approved and,
THAT the Board accept, with regret, the Resignations as listed in the Resignations Report dated February 27, 2014.

CARRIED

**LUNCH HOUR
SUPERVISION - L.
EAGLES**

(DELEGATIONS)
(Issue #20140110001)

L. Eagles attended to present her submission to the Board. She circulated supplementary information. She said that parents are paying out of pocket for lunch hour supervision. She said that she moved to Winnipeg from Saskatchewan and has found many different things in the education system in Manitoba. She expressed concern that parents have to pay for lunch hour supervision for students within the school day. She has learned about contractual obligations for duty free lunch hours for teachers in Manitoba. She believes that teachers should be present during the lunch hour and not farm out lunch supervision to others. L. Eagles stated that she does not think parents should have to pay for lunch supervision. She said that other provinces have teachers working the lunch hour. She is concerned about liability and believes that divisions are liable during the lunch hour.

L. Eagles would like to see consistent training and standards with a teacher on duty over the lunch hour, without parents having to pay for lunch supervision. She urged the Board to consider these recommendations.

In response to a question from a Trustee, L. Eagles acknowledged that in her research she found that there are varying practices with reference to lunch hour supervision among school divisions. She reiterated her view that at least one teacher should be present during the noon hour.

In response to a question from a Trustee, the Superintendent said that the Division subsidizes the lunch programs. He said that the lunch hour is not part of the school day and the lunch hour is a shared responsibility between the parents and the school. Each school and the parents determine the details of the lunch programs at their school.

J. Field said that the duty free lunch hour for teachers was introduced into Collective Agreements in the 1990's.

L. Eagles said that should would like parents to be relieved from paying and have teachers supervise students at the lunch hour.

The Chair said that we will respond likely within a few weeks.

**PEMBINA TRAILS
TEACHERS**

The Pembina Trails Teachers' Association attended to present to the Board. A. Filewich and S. Welbergen appeared and presented their brief.

**ASSOCIATION
2014-15 DRAFT
BUDGET**

(DELEGATIONS)
(Issue #20140210003)

A. Filewich said that it is unclear whether the high school divisor was restored, in part, in accordance with the motion passed by the Board in November. She pointed out that teachers have expressed concerns over the years concerning workloads. She stated that teachers face challenges with the large class sizes. She stated that teachers face challenges over the ability to conduct assessments or engage students. She said building relationships in large classrooms is difficult. She said that teachers have concerns regarding safety with the high number of students in classes especially physical education and practical arts.

S. Welbergen said that class size matters in middle years too. She said that students must be educated for the 21st century and shared how teachers have become facilitators. She said that teachers have to do things differently than in the past and class size matters to achieve that goal. She said that there is a constant struggle to find time to meet the needs of the students.

A. Filewich said that teachers will continue to do their hard work. She asked Trustees to put the resources back into the schools. She said that the Board should look to increase Division revenues to provide more teachers for the system.

The Superintendent said that the high school divisor as passed was introduced into the Draft Budget.

**BY-LAW NO. 85
(DEBENTURE 3954)**

(BY-LAWS AND/OR POLICIES)
(Issue #20140210001)

Resolution #BD20140227.1004

Moved By: Gerry Melnyk Second By: Jacquie Field

WHEREAS, it is deemed necessary and expedient to raise by loan the sum of 927,700.00 dollars on the credit of the said school division for the purpose of: St. Avila Gymnasium Addition, Fort Richmond Addition, Vincent Massey Science Classroom Renovation, Fort Richmond Science Classroom Renovation, Viscount Alexander Structural and Roof, Dalhousie Roof Replacement, Bairdmore Phase 2 Replacement.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law No. 85, being a by-law of the Board of Trustees of the Pembina Trails School Division, for the purpose of borrowing the sum of 927,700.00 dollars and of issuing debentures therefor be given second and third reading and passed.

CARRIED

BY-LAW NO. 86
(DEBENTURE 3696)
(BY-LAWS AND/OR POLICIES)
(Issue #20140210002)

Resolution #BD20140227.1005

Moved By: Gerry Melnyk Second By: Tim Johnson

WHEREAS, it is deemed necessary and expedient to raise by loan the sum of 3,023,900.00 dollars on the credit of the said school division for the purpose of: Waverley West High School, Dalhousie Roof Replacement, Bairdmore Landscaping and Access Project, Vincent Massey Classroom Renovations, Fort Richmond Science Classroom Renovation, Bairdmore Phase 2 Envelope Replacement.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED THAT By-Law No. 86, being a by-law of the Board of Trustees of the Pembina Trails School Division, for the purpose of borrowing the sum of 3,023,900 dollars and of issuing debentures therefor be given first reading.

CARRIED

MANITOBA
EDUCATION RE,
2014-15 SCHOOL
BUS PURCHASE
(CORRESPONDENCE FOR
DISCUSSION)
(Issue #20140128004)

The Secretary-Treasurer reviewed his report on the 2014-15 Provincial School Bus Tender.

Resolution #BD20140227.1006

Moved By: Julie Fisher Second By: Laureen Goodridge

THAT the Pembina Trails School Division decline to participate in the 2014-15 Provincial School Bus Tender process.

CARRIED

MANITOBA SCHOOL
BOARDS
ASSOCIATION RE,
VOTING BALLOTS
(CORRESPONDENCE FOR
DISCUSSION)
(Issue #20140210004)

J. Field noted that Trustees needed to be present on the Saturday morning at the 2014 Manitoba School Boards Association Convention to vote. She said that it would require a change to the Constitution in order to permit casting vote by proxy. She said that the Board could formally write to the Manitoba School Boards Association requesting that voting by proxy be permitted.

Resolution #BD20140227.1007

Moved By: Julie Fisher Second By: Jacquie Field

THAT the Board of Trustees of the Pembina Trails School Division write to the Manitoba School Boards Association requesting that they consider permitting voting by proxy at the Manitoba School Boards Association Convention.

CARRIED

Resolution #BD20140227.1008

Moved By: Sue Clayton Second By: Gerry Melnyk

THAT Trustees J. Field or J. Fisher be authorized to receive the designated Pembina Trails School Division voting ballots at the Manitoba School Boards Association 2014 Convention.

CARRIED

**BAIRDMORE
PARENT ADVISORY
COUNCIL RE,
REQUEST TO
CHANGE
CATCHMENT
BOUNDARY**

(ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS)
(Issue #20140219003)

The Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources and Policy, reported on the Bairdmore Advisory Council request to change the catchment boundary.

She said that there had been a request to move the catchment north to Bison Drive but that is not possible due to growth in the area and availability of space in the school. She said that there is projected continued growth to reach the capacity of Bairdmore School by 2018.

The Superintendent said that we have reached 20K3 in Kindergarten at Bairdmore School and should be at or near 20 students in Grade 1. He said that there are numbers larger than 20 students in Grades 2 and 3.

Resolution #BD20140227.1009

Moved By: Jacquie Field Second By: Julie Fisher

WHEREAS the Baairemore Parent Advisory Council made a presentation to the Board in March 2013, to move the catchment boundary north to Bison Drive;

AND WHEREAS representatives of the Division met with the Bairmore Parent Advisory Council and representatives of the Chancellor Parent Advisory Council on October 29, 2013;

AND WHEREAS there is projected to be a lack of capacity to accommodate all of the students in the expanded catchment area, therefore be it resolved,

THAT the Board deny the request to change the Bairdmore Catchment area by moving the catchment boundary north to Bison Drive.

CARRIED

**ECOLE DIEPPE RE,
CATCHMENT AREA**

(ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS)
(Issue #20140220001)

The Assistant Superintendent, Divisional Support Services, reported on the Ecole Dieppe Catchment Area. He said that there is an uptake in French Immersion enrolment in the Division and the 20K3 Initiative puts pressure on space in schools. He said that Senior Administration met with the Dieppe Advisory Committee to discuss this. A committee of six parents, Trustees and Administration representatives met to review this issue. He reviewed the items discussed by the Advisory Committee and the timelines for action.

The Assistant Superintendent, Divisional Support Services, outlined the recommendations of the Dieppe Advisory Committee to move Grades 5 and 6 to Ecole Charleswood School. He said that before arriving at this recommendation, many scenarios were considered and administrators from other middle years schools were brought in speak as to how a middle school milieu works.

G. Melnyk said that the Dieppe Advisory Committee also asked that the Grade 9 English students be relocated from Ecole Charleswood School to Oak Park High School. They also asked that the Schools of Choice

be grandparented to Ecole Charleswood School. J. Field said it would be prudent to stay within the mandate of what we asked the committee to address.

In response to a question from a Trustee, the Assistant Superintendent, Divisional Support Services, said that transportation was discussed, particularly with respect to day care. These students would be eligible for transportation given the distance to Ecole Charleswood School or because they would have to cross a hazardous roadway. There is a bus route now which might be available for seat sales.

In response to a question from a Trustee, the Assistant Superintendent, Divisional Support Services, said that the information was shared with the Parent Advisory Council.

In response to a question from a Trustee, the Assistant Superintendent, Divisional Support Services, said that four e-mails were received by parents expressing concern, stating that the Advisory Committee was not informed of all options available, such as creating a dual track school. He noted that this was outside the terms of reference of the Advisory Committee. He said that some parents were concerned that the Division had a preconceived plan which had been set prior to discussions with the Advisory Council. He said that this was not so. He also explained the arrangements that will be made within the school to accommodate students.

J. Field said that parents want to keep the cohort together.

A parent in the gallery asked for permission from the Board to make a presentation before the vote on this matter. The Board consented unanimously to give leave to the parents to make a presentation to the Board.

Lisa McRae acted as spokesperson. She said that she is on the Parent Advisory Council. She said that she was not aware of what the Advisory Committee had done or what the terms of reference actually were. She said that one issue of concern is transportation of students from Sunnyside to Ecole Charleswood and back. She thought that this was being provided by Metro Transit. She referenced a parent who had some confusion about the availability of transportation. She is concerned about the safety of students and where students are picked up and dropped off and the cost. She does not want students with a 6 year age difference attending school together in Ecole Charleswood. This is a junior high school and there are no play structures present or activities for students of a younger age. She said that if there is no lunch supervision, young students will be walking down Grant Avenue without supervision. She said that students have leadership opportunities at Ecole Dieppe which they will not have if they are moved to Ecole Charleswood School. There are WE Day opportunities available

to students at Ecole Dieppe which benefit the students. She said that changing to a different school with more available capacity than Ecole Charleswood could be a better fit for the students. She asked if the students could be grandfathered at Dieppe. She said that the parents want more information as they believe that many parents may be unaware of the implications and many are strongly concerned about the safety of their children.

The Assistant Superintendent, Divisional Support Services, said that questions raised by the parents generally are similar to the questions raised this evening. He said that Grade 5 and 6 students are considered middle years and that there are other schools in Pembina Trails that have the same grade configurations being proposed at Ecole Dieppe and Ecole Charleswood School. He acknowledged that some reorganization of the lunch program would be required but that the students would be supervised and not allowed to leave the school property. He said that the effective date being 2015/16 would give time to make any building modifications and plan for this change. He explained that the transportation of the students would be undertaken safely.

Another Ecole Dieppe parent said that she attended the Kindergarten Registration night at Ecole Dieppe and there had been no mention of this possible change. The Assistant Superintendent, Divisional Support Services, said that as the Board had not, at that point, approved this change so the matter could not be discussed at the Kindergarten Registration. He said that the communication will go to parents tomorrow.

J. Field said that the students at Arthur A. Leach School are excited about their exposure to practical arts and band and she feels that there are more hands on opportunities at Ecole Charleswood School. She said that there is no certainty that particular teachers will accompany the students to the new school but increased programming is good for the students. She said that for Arthur A. Leach School students there remain opportunities at Bonnycastle School to provide leadership opportunities. She said this could apply also to Ecole Dieppe/Ecole Charleswood School.

L. McRae said that safety for students and lack of information have been the main concerns of this group.

The Assistant Superintendent, Divisional Support Services, said that involved parents were soliciting parent interest in December. Another parent said that parents would have liked to have had the opportunity to express their concerns before the Board considered the decision and not react to it after the Board has made its decision.

The Superintendent said families feel stress at transition time. If the

Board approves this the Division would work very hard to address the issues of safety and transportation for the students.

In response to a question from a Trustee, the Assistant Superintendent, Divisional Support Services, said that the administrators from the other middle years schools could be present at the information meeting to share how the middle years schools work and there could be small groups formed to identify any further concerns and address them. He said that the Division is assembling a document with frequently asked questions about this proposed transfer.

Resolution #BD20140227.1010

Moved By: Gerry Melnyk Second By: Julie Fisher

THAT the Grade 5 and 6 French Immersion catchment area of Ecole Dieppe be moved to Ecole Charleswood School commencing with the 2015-16 school year, and, THAT the Division communicate its intention to change the Ecole Dieppe and Ecole Charleswood catchment areas to both parent communities as soon as possible, and,

THAT the Division hold an information meeting for parents of Ecole Dieppe and Ecole Charleswood during the month of March, 2014.

CARRIED

**YES I CAN!
AWARDS**

(ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS)
(Issue #20140225001)

The Assistant Superintendent, Student Services, presented a revised report with reference to the Yes I Can! Awards. She said that a Pembina Trails student will be given the International Yes I Can Award in San Diego. She will share the names with the Communications and Community Relations Committee in order to prepare a letter.

Resolution #BD20140227.1011

Moved By: Laureen Goodridge Second By: Sue Clayton

THAT the report on the 2014 Yes I Can! Awards be received as information.

CARRIED

**THREAT
ASSESSMENT
PROTOCOL**

(QUESTIONS FROM
TRUSTEES)
(Issue #20140226001)

J. Field was concerned that our motion was not sufficiently forceful to prompt the Manitoba School Boards Association to take action with respect to the Threat Assessment protocol. It was generally agreed that the Chair of the Board would express this view in a communication with the Manitoba School Boards Association.

**CORRESPONDENCE
FOR INFORMATION
DISTRIBUTION LIST
FEBRUARY 27, 2014**

(CORRESPONDENCE FOR
INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION
LIST)
(Issue #20140210005)

Item No. 10, Letter from the Minister of Education was referred to Committee of the Whole.

Resolution #BD20140227.1012

Moved By: Jacquie Field Second By: Tim Johnson

THAT the Correspondence for Information Distribution List dated February 21, 2014, be received as information.

CARRIED

**REQUIREMENT FOR
A COMMITTEE
MEETING OF THE
WHOLE**

Resolution #BD20140227.1013

Moved By: Sue Clayton Second By: Julie Fisher

THAT the Board move into Committee of the Whole.

CARRIED

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

Chair of the Board

Secretary-Treasurer