

PEMBINA TRAILS SCHOOL DIVISION

Regular Meeting Of The Board March 12, 2014

Meeting Type : Board Meeting

Date : Wednesday, March 12, 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), J. Field, J. Fisher, L. Goodridge, G. Melnyk, D. Zuk

Administration:

T. Fransen - Superintendent of Education,
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, G. Bruce, S. Clayton

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 8:15 p.m.

AGENDA APPROVAL

Resolution #BD20140312.1001

Moved By: Gerry Melnyk Second By: Julie Fisher
THAT the agenda be approved as amended

CARRIED

MINUTES APPROVAL

Resolution #BD20140312.1002

Moved By: Jacquie Field Second By: Laureen Goodridge
THAT the minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board held on
February 27, 2014, be approved as corrected.

CARRIED

CORRECTION: Page 5, Bairdmore Parent Advisory Council Resolution
#BD20140227.1009, fourth paragraph corrected the word "are" to read
as "area".

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS, SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS AND OTHER REPORTS (STANDING COMMITTEE

Resolution #BD20140312.1003

Moved By: Tim Johnson Second By: Dianne Zuk
THAT the Standing Committee Reports, Special Committee Report and
Other Reports be received as information and,
THAT the Teacher Contracts (Term) as listed in the Teacher Contracts
Report dated March 12, 2014, be ratified and,

**T. THIESSEN -
UNDERSTANDING
PISA**

(EDUCATIONAL
PRESENTATIONS)
(Issue #20140305002)

THAT the Substitute Teacher Contracts as listed in the 2013-14 Substitute Teacher Contracts Report dated March 12, 2014, be ratified.

CARRIED

T. Thiessen attended to present on Understanding PISA (Program for International Student Assessment) and PCAP (Pan Canadian Assessment Protocol).

She said that she always looks at what is not presented in the data. She reviewed the founding of PISA. She said that PISA contains an assessment of reading, writing, mathematics and science. The test lasts about 2 hours. The OECD (Organization for Economic Cooperation and Development) states that PISA is intended to assess international education and produces relevant reports. She said that the Canadian results (score of 518) are well above the OECD average. The results in Manitoba (score of 492) are very close to the OECD average. She probed some of the detail relating to the ages of students being tested. PISA has their own measure for socio-economic status which is a factor that they use in some of the assessments. The results indicated that the top quartile were students who are in the higher socio-economic levels, have books in the home, technology in the home, at least one parent working and higher household incomes.

She said that she had probed further into the data including performance of students who are experiencing family pressures and demands. Some students have family demands which do not permit them to study at home which can have an impact of student perceptions on their ability to achieve in mathematics. She provided a graph comparing the data for Canada and OECD.

T. Thiessen said that teachers with 11-15 years of experience produced higher PISA results than other years of experience but it was not statistically significant. Some key points which should be highlighted in the media are that we have students who are one year older performing one grade better which would be expected. One of the problems we face is that we do not know in Manitoba how many students wrote the PISA test at age 15 and how many wrote the test at 16 years of age. Students in both public and private schools write the test. Only federally funded reserve schools do not participate. Manitoba has the highest percentage of students using food banks of any province and that is bound to affect learning. We are among the provinces with the most families living in homes with low incomes. The belief of students that they are not good at mathematics is a product of some of these things and is a mind set which can, to some degree, be overcome. She said that many students in high income families are provided additional tutoring and students in low income families are not. The gap performance of students by socio-economic status is growing. Some of the questions in certain areas are poorly worded. She said that boys appear to perform better at a higher levels of certain questions than girls. She said that having international city states

standing alone should be considered a single data point given the similarity of their systems. J. Field said that Canada is not the education authority in this country as provinces are responsible for education, so the Provinces should be compared to Finland not Canada. She said that Quebec is the highest performer in Canada but the sample size in Quebec was not truly large enough for the data to be valid, but it was published anyway.

T. Thiessen said that her biggest issue with PISA is that they use a very small sample size and extrapolate it to apply to how students would have answered a different set of questions which the student did not answer. She pointed out what she believes are the biases in the Rasch statistical model which render the rankings questionable. She said that the translation of questions into certain other languages does not necessarily produce the same question in other languages. Also different cultures learn better in very different ways with respect to a given subject. She said that PCAP informs us much better than PISA in terms of performance and has better practical value.

RESPONSE TO DELEGATION L. EAGLES

(BUSINESS FROM PREVIOUS
COMMITTEE MEETING OF THE
WHOLE)
(Issue #20140313005)

Resolution #BD20140312.1004

Moved By: Tim Johnson Second By: Gerry Melnyk

THAT having given consideration to the points raised by Ms. Eagles, the Board deny the requests to require teachers to supervise the School Lunch Programs and to absorb the full cost of operating the School Lunch Programs.

CARRIED

BY-LAW NO. 86 (DEBENTURE 3696)

(BY-LAWS AND/OR POLICIES)
(Issue #20140220006)

Resolution #BD20140312.1005

Moved By: Gerry Melnyk Second By: Jacquie Field

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 second and third reading and passed.

CARRIED

2014-15 BUDGET

(FINANCE AND PLANNING
COMMITTEE)
(Issue #20140220002)

In answering a question with reference to the funding, the Secretary-Treasurer reported as to the negligible increase in funding from the province and reviewed the increases on the Typical Homeowner. He said that the projected mill rate for 2014 will either be the lowest in Metro Winnipeg or very close to it.

Resolution #BD20140312.1006

Moved By: Gerry Melnyk Second By: Tim Johnson

WHEREAS the Board has presented an opportunity for the community to provide input and to influence budget development decisions; and

WHEREAS stakeholders, either individually or as groups, have responded to the opportunity for consultation and input; and

WHEREAS the Board, after careful consideration of community input and the needs of all students, has developed a plan and budget for 2014/15 which includes the following:

- Continuation of existing educational programs;
- Continued support for the renewal, renovation and updating of school facilities;
- Allocation of 81% of our operating budget to instructional programs and activities;
- Increased support for:
 - Teaching positions moving towards compliance with the 20K3 Class Size Cap, Full Day Kindergarten at an additional school; enhancing High School staffing, English as an Additional Language and Reading Recovery;
 - Transportation services due to the Waverley West Development expansion;
 - Expenditures for the new Provincial Quality Education Initiative Fund and Career Development Fund;
 - Capital Reserve for School Bus Renewal;
 - Transfer of funds to the Winnipeg Technical College;
- A divisional administrative structure within the 4% administrative cost limit, as set forth by the Minister of Education;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that Gross Operating and Capital Expenditures of \$153,781,248 be approved for the 2014/15 Fiscal Year, and

THAT the 2014 Special Levy of \$82,288,095 be approved and submitted to the City of Winnipeg, the Rural Municipality of Headingley and Rural Municipality of Macdonald in order that these municipalities may fix and impose appropriate rates of taxation.

CARRIED

**C.U.P.E. 5121 RE,
MEMORANDUM OF
AGREEMENT**

(NEGOTIATIONS COMMITTEE)
(Issue #20140305001)

Resolution #BD20140312.1007

Moved By: Dianne Zuk Second By: Gerry Melnyk

THAT the Memorandum of Agreement dated March 6, 2014, amending the Collective Agreement between the Pembina Trails School Division and the Canadian Union of Public Employees, Local 5121, for the period of July 1, 2011 to June 30, 2016, be ratified.

CARRIED

**APPLICATION OF
ACCUMULATED
SURPLUS**

The Secretary-Treasurer explained the Application of Accumulated Surplus.

Resolution #BD20140312.1008

Moved By: Gerry Melnyk Second By: Jacquie Field

THAT an Application of the Accumulated Surplus be made for the following items during the 2014/15 Fiscal Year as follows:

Ecole Bonnycastle School Addition	\$239,530
Ecole Dieppe Elevator	96,096
Ecole St. Avila Gymnasium Addition	75,180
Fort Richmond Collegiate Healthy Living Centre	12,830
2014 Civic Election	<u>121,000</u>
Total Application of Accumulated Surplus	<u>\$544,636</u>

CARRIED

**APPLICATION OF
CAPITAL RESERVE**

(ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS)
(Issue #20140224002)

The Secretary-Treasurer explained the Application of Capital Reserve.

Resolution #BD20140312.1009

Moved By: Gerry Melnyk Second By: Tim Johnson

THAT an Application of the Capital Reserve for School Buildings be made during the 2014/15 Fiscal Year as follows:

Ecole Bonnycastle School Addition	\$1,026,630
Ecole St. Avila Gymnasium Addition	70,000
Fort Richmond Collegiate Healthy Living Centre	<u>368,528</u>
Total Application of Capital Reserve for School Buildings	<u>\$1,465,168</u>

CARRIED

**TRANSITIONS
FORUM**

(ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS)
(Issue #20140228003)

The Assistant Superintendent, Student Services, reviewed the invitation to the Transitions Forum. She said that this Forum was created to inform parents about supports available for students with special needs.

Resolution #BD20140312.1010

Moved By: Julie Fisher Second By: Tim Johnson

THAT the Transitions Forum invitation be received as information.

CARRIED

**SELECTION
COMMITTEE FOR
SCHOOL
ADMINISTRATION
APPOINTMENT,
ROYAL SCHOOL**

(ADMINISTRATIVE REPORTS)
(Issue #20140312003)

Resolution #BD20140312.1011

Moved By: Jacquie Field Second By: Laureen Goodridge

THAT two Ward 1 Trustees with the third Trustee as an alternate serve on the Selection Committee for the School Administration Appointment for Royal School.

CARRIED

**BONNYCASTLE
SCHOOL**

(QUESTIONS FROM

The Assistant Superintendent, Divisional Support Services, said that there have been some funding delays from the Public Schools Finance

TRUSTEES)
(Issue #20140313006)

Board which have now been resolved. We have applied for a parking by-law variance we have not been required to do in the past. He said that this could hold up our construction by 6 weeks. The contractor has applied for an interior and foundation permit to allow work to start which permit should be approved within a few working days with work starting shortly thereafter. The Assistant Superintendent, Divisional Support Services, said that a circular will be sent to Ecole Bonnycastle School neighbours as this activity would warrant a communication to the public. The school will inform the parents through the students.

MANITOBA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION 2014 CONVENTION

(QUESTIONS FROM
TRUSTEES)
(Issue #20140313007)

Those Trustees and Administration who will be attending the 2014 Manitoba School Boards Association Convention tomorrow evening indicated their intention to attend.

MANITOBA SCHOOL BOARDS ASSOCIATION VOTING BY PROXY

(QUESTIONS FROM
TRUSTEES)
(Issue #20140312001)

Trustees discussed the letter sent to the Manitoba School Boards Association with reference to consideration for Trustees to vote by Proxy at the 2014 Convention.

Resolution #BD20140312.1012

Moved By: Tim Johnson Second By: Gerry Melnyk

THAT a Resolution on Voting by Proxy be forwarded to the Manitoba School Boards Association for the 2015 Convention.

CARRIED

ECOLE DIEPPE SCHOOL

(QUESTIONS FROM
TRUSTEES)
(Issue #20140313008)

Trustees indicated who would be attending the public meeting to be held on March 19, 2014, with reference to Ecole Dieppe School. In response to a question, the Assistant Superintendent, Divisional Support Services, stated that certain costs will be incurred, but not at Ecole Dieppe School.

SOUTH POINTE (EAST)

(QUESTIONS FROM
TRUSTEES)
(Issue #20140313009)

The Assistant Superintendent, Divisional Support Services, said that the development of the school is progressing. He said that comments with respect to plans will go to Public Schools Finance Board tomorrow. He reviewed the future work which will need to be done.

SCHOOL LUNCH PROGRAMS

(QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS
OF THE PUBLIC IN
ATTENDANCE)
(Issue #20140312002)

In response to a question from a member of the public, T. Johnson clarified that the Division does not pay for the full cost of the School Lunch Programs.

DIVISIONAL MEDIA CENTRE

(QUESTIONS FROM MEMBERS
OF THE PUBLIC IN
ATTENDANCE)
(Issue #20140313010)

In response to a question from a member of the public, the Superintendent confirmed that the Divisional Media Centre will be closing. He said that the Centre is underutilized and that there are few physical visits to the Centre. He said that over the years, the Assistant Superintendent, Program, has tracked the usage. The Vice-President of the Pembina Trails Teachers' Association said that he will write to the

Superintendent asking for clarification on the extent the Centre is used. The Superintendent said that the Division will continue to make the best use of the materials in the Centre.

**CORRESPONDENCE
FOR INFORMATION
DISTRIBUTION LIST
MARCH 12, 2014**

(CORRESPONDENCE FOR
INFORMATION DISTRIBUTION
LIST)
(Issue #20140220005)

Resolution #BD20140312.1013

Moved By: Jacquie Field Second By: Tim Johnson

THAT the Correspondence for Information Distribution List dated March 7, 2014, be received as information.

CARRIED

The Secretary-Treasurer said that according to By-Law No. 1, the Chair determines what correspondence is made public.

The Assistant Superintendent, Human Resources and Policy, said the Human Resources and Policy Committee is already working on the codes of conduct for schools in Pembina Trails to be consistent with the Provincial Code of Conduct the Minister of Education has developed.

Resolution #BD20140312.1014

Moved By: Jacquie Field Second By: Dianne Zuk

THAT the correspondence from the Manitoba Association of Parent Councils be referred to Senior Administration for review and consideration.

CARRIED

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

Resolution #BD20140312.1015

THAT the Board move into Committee of the Whole.

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

Chair of the Board

Secretary-Treasurer