

FROM THE BOARD

Highlights of the GSSD Board of Education Monthly Meeting June 2017

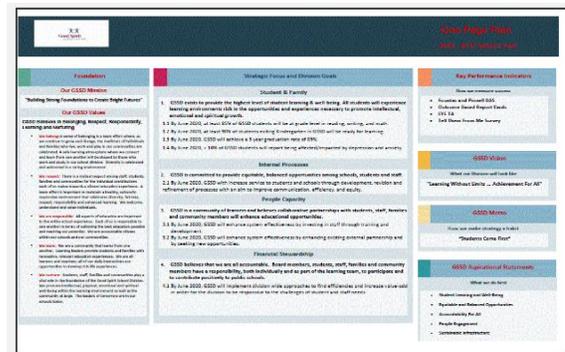
June 2017 Regular Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Board for June 2017 took place in the Fairview Education Center board room on Thursday, June 15, 2017. In attendance at this month’s meeting were Lois Smandych (Chairperson) and Bob Simpson (Vice-Chairperson), Trustees, Jan Morrison, Jade Anderson, Gilda Dokuchie, Jaime Johnson, Florence Stachura, Steve Variyan, Chris Balyski, Shannon Leson, Director of Education/CEO, Quintin Robertson, Deputy Director of Corporate Services, Sherry Todosichuk, Deputy Director of Education Services, Donna Kriger. Board member(s) absent: Gord Gendur

Monitoring and Accountability Report

Director of Education/CEO, Quintin Robertson, took the Board through the Year End Strategic Plan Report citing both evidence and background for the plan. Director/CEO Robertson highlighted the celebrations and areas of improvement associated with each of the GSSD goals set for the 2016-17 year.

Under the Student and Family Focus, Director/CEO Robertson referenced that GSSD exists to provide the highest level of student learning and well-being. He emphasized that GSSD is committed to all students experiencing learning environments which are rich in the opportunities and experiences necessary to promote intellectual, emotional and spiritual growth.



Data was shared with the Board of Education regarding each of the key performance indicators identified within the Strategic Plan for 2016-17. Director/CEO Robertson shared reading data from across the school division referencing both areas of identified growth as well as areas requiring additional attention.

Items		YTD Target	YTD Variance	Actual
1.1	By June 2020, at least 85% of GSSD students will be at grade level in reading, writing, and math.	85%	6%	79%
1.2	By June 2020, at least 90% of students exiting Kindergarten in GSSD will be ready for learning	90%	6%	84%
1.3	By June 2020, GSSD will achieve a 3 year graduation rate of 85%.	84%	2%	82%
1.4	By June 2020, <10% of GSSD students will report being affected/impacted by depression and anxiety.	15%	-10%	25%

Writing and math results were highlighted along with action plans associated in these areas. GSSD Early Learning results were shared and a detailed explanation of the developmental domains used in the Early Years Evaluation was presented to the Board. The key performance indicators and data regarding student attendance, student mental wellness, and student engagement were also shared. Director/CEO Robertson concluded the Student and Family Focus with information regarding graduation rates in GSSD.

The Board of Education was made aware that Good Spirit is poised to meet the goals set by the province in the Education Sector Strategic Plan (ESSP).

Data was also provided to the Board of Education through Director/CEO Robertson’s year-end report that identified much work has been accomplished by both Corporate Services and Education Services within GSSD to ensure that the Division remains a community of learners who believe in collaborative partnerships with students, staff, families and community members to enhance educational opportunities. Much evidence was shared identifying the targeted professional development opportunities made available to staff members within GSSD. It was highlighted that all professional development was connected to both the Division Strategic Plan as well as to the ESSP.

While discussing the Internal Processes goal of GSSD, evidence was shared with the Board of Education regarding the commitment made to provide equitable and balanced opportunities among schools, students and staff. Highlighted in this section of the report was the training provided to Board Trustees, Central Office employees as well as In-School Administrators by Dr. Leroy Sloan.



Director/CEO Robertson discussed the extensive refinement and revision made to existing GSSD Administrative Procedures as well as the development of new Administrative Procedures that aim to improve transparency, communication, efficiency and equity across the division.

Lastly, GSSD's goal focussing on Financial Stewardship was highlighted. It was emphasized that GSSD is committed to finding efficiencies and increased value-add so that the Division can be responsive to the challenges of student and staff needs. Director/CEO Robertson shared how budget forecasting has ensured responsiveness to short-term operational considerations such as adjustments to staffing, professional development needs, etc.

Upon conclusion of the Year End Strategic Plan Report, the Board made the motion to approve the report as well as to use it as evidence that Director/CEO Robertson has fully met the expectations of the Board for Quality Indicator 7.2 (The Director achieves the key priorities identified in the Strategic Plan) and Quality Indicator 7.3 (The Director reports at least annually on results achieved).

Delegation Regarding Transportation to Invermay School

The GSSD Board of Education hosted a delegation of families living within the Horizon School Division boundary and just outside the division boundary of the Good Spirit School Division. The delegation brought forward a request regarding transportation for their children. The Board of Education passed a motion to provide transportation to these families for the 2017-18 school year.

Preventative Maintenance and Renewal Three-Year Plan

The Board approved the three-year Preventative Maintenance and Renewal (PMR) Plan and amendment form prepared by Assistant Superintendent of Business Administration, Teresa Korol. The PMR plan outlines the maintenance plan for all facilities within the Good Spirit School Division over the next three years. The Preventative Maintenance Plan is both required and approved by the Ministry.



Melville Comprehensive School Joint School Division Agreement

Director/CEO Robertson outlined the Joint School Division Agreement which was recently revised and signed by both the Good Spirit School Division and Christ the Teacher Roman Catholic Separate School Division (RCSSD). Both school divisions will continue to honor the long-standing relationship that has existed in the community of Melville, which allows for active and authoritative input into the matters impacting the education of the students who attend the Melville Comprehensive High School. The agreement identifies that Good Spirit School Division is committed to educating grade 7-12 students from the Melville attendance area at Melville Comprehensive School. Likewise, Christ the Teacher Roman Catholic Separate School Division is committed to educating grade 10-12 Christ the Teacher students from the Melville attendance area at Melville Comprehensive School.



Resulting from the collaborative work done by Director/CEO Robertson, the Board passed a motion stating that Director/CEO Robertson fully met the expectations for achieving and fulfilling Quality Indicator 9.1 (The Director represents the Division in a positive, professional manner) as well as Quality Indicator 5.1 (The Director ensures that policy is adhered to as per Policy 10 Section 3 implementation).

Serenic Software

The Board of Education approved the contract for Serenic Software for the period of September 1, 2017 to August 31, 2020. The software is used within the accounting, payroll and human resources departments of GSSD.

Highlights from the Director's Report

Fort Livingstone School Closure

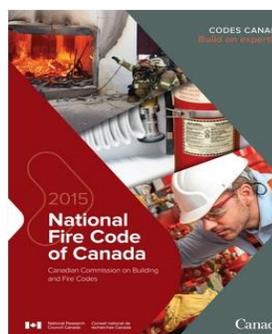
Director/CEO Robertson reviewed the Fort Livingstone School closure checklist with the Board of Education. Members of the Board were informed of the processes, which have been completed regarding the closure and were made aware of the items yet to be completed prior to the beginning of the 2017-18 school year. Students from Fort Livingstone School in Pelly will be attending Norquay School in the upcoming school year.

Changes to the Band Programming

The Board was involved in discussion related to a proposed change in Band programming for the upcoming school year within the communities of Canora, Invermay, Norquay, Preeceville, and Sturgis. Senior Band students in the mentioned communities will begin receiving Band instruction within the designated school day at Sturgis Composite School. Thus, the current practice of offering a curricular course outside of the school day will not continue. Director/CEO Robertson indicated that the proposed changes were to ensure equity of resources and compliance with provincial guidelines surrounding teacher work time. The Board was assured that students would continue to receive high quality instruction in Band programming and that the Division would support the change in practice by providing alternate forms of course delivery in situations that would warrant it. Principals of the schools impacted have been consulted regarding the change in practice.

Review of School Fire Safety

Quintin Robertson, Director/CEO, led the Board of Education through the requirements of the National Fire Code of Canada concerning schools, their fire plans, and fire code compliance. Director/CEO Robertson shared GSSD's firm commitment to ensuring our schools comply with fire regulations and that the safety of our staff and students is paramount in moving forward.



Quarterly Financial Review

Deputy Director of Corporate Services, Sherry Todosichuk, presented a Quarterly Financial Report to the Board of Education. Overall, the budget expectations are on target for the 2016-17 school year. Two areas of concern continue to be substitute teacher costs and tuition fee revenues which are lower than estimated and included in GSSD grant projections.

Areas that will require board involvement include the on-going contract negotiations with staff.



Student Incident of Concern Report

The Board of Education reviewed the suspension reports submitted by GSSD schools since the May Board meeting. Director/CEO Robertson referenced the current trends in student discipline data. He discussed what the information is used for and referenced that any school suspensions are conducted within the guidelines of the Education Act, 1995 with parental follow up. Following Board meetings, school administrators are notified of the Board's decision regarding each incident by the Director. Board members were made aware that schools within GSSD continue to seek options other than defaulting to suspensions.

Director/CEO Robertson shared that when incidents are referred to the Student Discipline Committee, detailed correspondence is provided to the family, school, and Board Trustee. Follow-up meetings occur to review the suspension prior to re-admitting the student to school. The Division will continue to include a trend analysis bi-annually, in February and June to report on student discipline matters.

The Board passed a motion indicating that the Director met the Quality Indicators related to Student Welfare, Quality Indicator 1.3 (Provides an analysis of incident reports related to student conduct (suspensions, expulsions, division threat assessments)) as well as Quality Indicator 1.4 (Utilizes performance metrics for the purpose of monitoring and evaluating operational performance relative to student wellness).

Co-op Donation

The Board of Education was made aware that on Thursday, June 15th, the local association of the Co-op made a very generous contribution of \$100,000 to the Revitalization Project of the Anne Portnuff Theatre in the Yorkton Regional High School. It was recognized that the businesses and organizations within the City of Yorkton have been and continue to be important partners in education.



Upcoming Dates

June 20	South Cluster SCC Regional Symposium @ 7 pm, Macdonald School
June 21	Central Cluster SCC Regional Symposium @ 7 pm, Dr. Brass School
June 22	North Cluster SCC Regional Symposium @ 7 pm, Norquay School
June 23	Dollars for Scholars Golf Classic

Submissions & Feedback

To submit photos or stories regarding the Board of Education or an individual Trustee in your school community, please contact the Good Spirit School Division at Heather.Morris@gssd.ca

Thanks for reading!

Next Board Meeting Scheduled for August 17, 2017

Location: Fairview Education Board Room

Contact Us

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