

FROM THE BOARD

Highlights of the GSSD Board of Education Meeting

August 31, 2017

August 2017 Regular Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Board took place in the Fairview Education Center board room on Thursday, August 31, 2017. In attendance at this month's meeting were Lois Smandych, Chairperson, Bob Simpson, Vice-Chairperson, Trustees, Jade Anderson, Gord Gendur, Jaime Johnson, Shannon Leson, Florence Stachura, Chris Balyski, Senior Executive Assistant, Heather Morris, Director of Education, Quintin Robertson, Deputy Director of Corporate Services, Sherry Todosichuk, Deputy Director of Education Services, Donna Kriger.

Human Resources Accountability Report

Deputy Director of Corporate Services, Sherry Todosichuk, presented a Human Resources update for members of the Board. The Report highlighted the staffing changes which took place across the school division during the period of July 2016 to July 2017. The information included the professional and support staff contracts (permanent, temporary, replacement and those amended) assigned throughout the school division. Also highlighted within the report were retirements and leaves requested/approved during this time frame.

New Business

Based on discussion arising from the Board of Education retreat held on August 25, 2017, trustees voted unanimously in favour of amending Board Policy 1 regarding the Foundational Statements for the Good Spirit School Division. The Board of Education added "Perseverance" to the values of Belonging, Respect, Responsibility, Learning and Nurturing.

The Board of Education devoted time to discuss revisions to the Board Work Plan for the 2017-18 school year. It was determined that Board Development throughout the year needed to focus on the issues and relevant work taking place throughout the school division. The Board of Education renewed their commitment to focus on advocacy throughout the school division. The Board committed to working closely with Student Senates and strengthening relationships with their First Nations Partners.

Board Policy 8 regarding Committees of the Board was reviewed during the August 31, 2017, meeting. Changes made to the Standing Committees of the Board, included a reduction in number of members to the Transportation Committee as well as deleting the Student Discipline Committee.

Policy 9, Committees of the Board, was reviewed.

Board Members elected to Standing Committees of the Board were:

- Local Implementation Negotiating (LINC) – Lois Smandych, Jan Morrison
- Support Staff Negotiations – Florence Stachura, Bob Simpson
- Board Executive – Lois Smandych, Bob Simpson, Gord Gendur
- Transportation – Bob Simpson, Florence Stachura, Jade Anderson
- Finance – Jaime Johnson, Steve Variyan, Lois Smandych, Bob Simpson (alternate)
- First Nation Education Services Agreements and Networking – Jaime Johnson, Gilda Dokuchie, Jade Anderson
- Melville Comprehensive School Governance Authority – Bob Simpson
- Public Board Section – Lois Smandych, Bob Simpson (alternate)
- East Central District Athletics Association (ECDDA) – Bob Simpson, Shannon Leson (alternate)

The Board of Education passed motions in support of:

- The Langenburg Central School to host the Provincial Student Leadership Conference in September of 2018-19 school year.
- Allowing GSSD schools to use local advertising on their 15 passenger vans.

Organizational Meeting

A new Board Executive was elected with Lois Smandych returning as Board Chair and Bob Simpson as Vice Chair. Gord Gendur was elected to the Board Executive for the 2017-18 school year.



Lois Smandych



Bob Simpson



Gord Gendur

The Board of Education will meet during the following dates during the 2017-18 school year:

- October 5, 2017
- November 23, 2017
- December 21, 2017
- February 1, 2018
- March 15, 2018
- April 19, 2018
- May 17, 2018
- June 21, 2018
- August 30, 2018

Meeting times for the Board of Education will continue to be held from 10:00 am – 5 pm.

The Board of Education set indemnity rates and expense reimbursements for the 2017-18 school year. The Board of Education demonstrated due diligence in setting indemnity rates and reimbursements in light of the budget restrictions imposed by the Government.

Directors Report

Director of Education/CEO, Quintin Robertson, shared informational items from the Saskatchewan School Board Association with the Board of Education. Director/CEO Robertson also highlighted important events which will be acknowledged and celebrated within the Good Spirit School Division during the upcoming school year. Those events include but are not exclusive to:

- Provincial Students Day
- International Literacy Day
- Orange Shirt Day
- School Sport Week
- Education Week
- Library Week
- School Bus Driver Appreciation Day

Director/CEO Robertson shared information related to the Minister of Education's visit to the Kamsack Comprehensive Institute in October. The visit will highlight the excellent work done by the Following Their Voices Team as well as the Invitational Shared Services Initiative that Good Spirit is involved in.

Director/CEO Robertson also highlighted the appointment of a new Minister of Education for Saskatchewan as well as the appointment of Norm Dray as the Executive Director to the Saskatchewan School Board Association.

Deputy Director of Corporate Services, Sherry Todosichuk, shared the Financial Report with the Board of Education to close out the meeting.

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 October 5th, 2017

Location: Fairview Education Board Room

Contact Us

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