

FROM THE BOARD

Highlights of the GSSD Board of Education Monthly Meeting

October 2017

October 2017 Regular Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Board for October 2017 took place in the Fairview Education Center boardroom on Thursday, October 5, 2017. In attendance at this month's meeting were Lois Smandych (Chairperson) and Bob Simpson (Vice-Chairperson), Trustees, Jade Anderson, Gord Gendur, Gilda Dokuchie, Jaime Johnson, Florence Stachura, Jan Morrison, Shannon Leson, Steve Variyan, Senior Executive Assistant/Heather Morris, Director of Education/Quintin Robertson, Deputy Director of Corporate Services/Sherry Todosichuk, Deputy Director of Education/Donna Kriger.



Facilities Report

The Board of Education had highlights from the Preventative Maintenance and Renewal Projects completed over the 2016-17 school year shared with them. These highlights included the completion of roof projects at Davison School and Melville Comprehensive School. Roof projects have also commenced at schools in the communities of Sturgis, Preeceville and Invermay. In addition to these roof projects, the Board was informed of the installation of new bleachers in the Melville Comprehensive School gymnasium, hardwood floor at Norquay School

and significant renovations at the Sturgis Composite School resulting from the consolidation process that occurred for the 2017-18 school year.



Over the summer of 2017, the Yorkton Regional High School had emergency asbestos abatement completed in several locations throughout the school. Other major projects completed within Good Spirit School Division facilities involve a new kitchen at Canora Junior Elementary. In coordination with Tech Services, new camera, phone, bell and intercom systems were installed at the Esterhazy High School. Grayson School had a Home Economics classroom developed while Macdonald School had break out rooms developed within its facility. In addition to these projects, change room/gymnasium were painted at Norquay School, upgrades to the boiler system at the Melville Comprehensive School were completed, and a snoozelen room was developed at PJ Gillen in Esterhazy.



Canora Junior Elementary



Grayson School

New Business

Highlighted Celebrations

Board Chair, Lois Smandych recognized the 20 years of dedicated service that Deputy Director of Corporate Services, Sherry Todosichuk has provided to the Good Spirit School Division and former Boards associated with Good Spirit. After serving as the Chief Financial Officer and most recently, the Deputy Director of Corporate Services, Sherry will be joining Prairie Spirit School Division in January 2018, as a Controller.

The Board wishes to extend a sincere “thank you” to Sherry for her many years of dedication and service. Best wishes for continued success!



Board Policy Revisions

Director/CEO drew attention to Board Policy 7 and the Board of Education made a motion to revise the Board Policy according to the suggested revisions that would result in a slight change to the order of the Board meetings. Board Policy 15 also saw some slight revisions regarding the recruitment and selection of personnel.

Appointment of Delegates for the Upcoming SSBA Convention

For the purposes of voting on bylaw amendments and resolutions at the annual general meeting being held during the Fall General Assembly on November 13 & 14. In advance of their attendance at the Fall Assembly, the Board is required to provide a list of approved voting delegates for the meeting.

The Board passed a motion identifying that the Director/CEO has provided sufficient evidence related to meeting the following Quality Indicators within the Director’s annual evaluation:
QI 6.5 The Director provides support to the Board re: lobby efforts on behalf of the school division.

QI 6.6 The Director ensures high quality management services are provided to the Board.

Sale of the Former Hoffman School

Deputy Director of Corporate Services, Sherry Todosichuk informed the Board of Education of a formal offer made to the Board regarding the purchase of Hoffman School in Langenburg. Director/CEO, Robertson reminded the Board that The Education Act does allow for Boards of Education to dispose of real and personal property. As per section 347 (2) and (3) any real

property greater than \$100,000 in value must be advertised for sale by tender, and a board must receive approval from the Minister before selling the property. The property has been advertised for sale for two months and only one offer was received.

The Board passed a motion that the Director/CEO gave sufficient evidence of achieving the following quality indicators related to the annual evaluation of the Director/CEO:

QI 3.5 The Board is informed annually about incurred liabilities and immediately regarding pending litigation.

QI 3.6 The Director/CEO has reviewed expenditures to ensure continuous improvement in terms of value for money.

QI 6.6 The Director/CEO ensured high quality management services are provided to the Board.

QI 8.1 The Director/CEO has ensured Divisional compliance with all Ministry of Education and Board mandates (timelines and quality).

Sturgis School Gym Floor Tender

The Board of Education reviewed the tenders received for the installation of a gymnasium floor in Sturgis. The Board made a motion to accept the tender from Titan Sport Systems Ltd.

Application for Relocatable Funding

School Divisions are required to submit their application for relocatable classrooms on an annual basis to the Ministry of Education. Based on the highest priorities that exist province wide, the Ministry allocates funding for the relocatables. For the 2018-19 year the Good Spirit School Division is requesting two relocatables for MC Knoll School which is located in Yorkton. The Board passed a motion to accept the funding proposal as evidence that Director/CEO has met the requirements of:

QI 1.1 Facilitating environments where students feel safe, and have high levels of intellectual engagement.

QI 8.1 Demonstrating effective organizational skills resulting in Division compliance with all legal, Ministerial and Board mandates and timelines.

Canora Composite School SCC Loan Application

The Board of Education reviewed and approved a School Community Council Loan application from the Canora Composite School. The funding was being sought for the purchase of a new fifteen passenger van.

Highlights from the Director's Report

Annual General Meeting

Director/CEO Quintin Robertson, engaged the Board of Education in discussion regarding the Annual General Meeting (AGM), which has traditionally been held in the fall of each year. Hosting an AGM is no longer a requirement mandated by the government. As a result, the Board determined that as a cost saving measure, they would not host an AGM this fall.

Updated Enrollments/PTR

Director/CEO Robertson, opened up discussion with the Board, regarding Pupil Teacher Ratios (PTR) in schools within the Good Spirit School Division. Robertson, shared that Good Spirit School Division continues to have one of the lowest PTR's across the province, suggesting that students within Good Spirit have smaller class sizes on average than their peers in most other school divisions across the province.

Director/CEO Robertson did raise awareness to some schools across the division where actual enrolments are significantly different from what was projected in the spring. These fluctuations result in changes to projected PTR, thus requiring an appropriate, planned response.

Board Development

The Board of Education was provided with an information session regarding Fountas & Pinnell Assessment which is an assessment being used across the province in determining the reading level of our students.

The F & P is administered in the fall and the spring with a winter assessment being administered to grade 1 students and students in grade 2-6 who are below grade level. The information gained from this assessment can be used to group students, provide one-on-one instruction and guide whole class teaching.

Upon conclusion of the Board development piece on Fountas & Pinnell, the Board of Education passed a motion that Director/CEO Robertson provided evidence regarding the following Quality Indicators:

QI 6.2 The Director keeps the Board informed about Division operations.

QI 6.3 The Director provides the Board with balance, sufficient, concise information and clear recommendations for actions items in agendas.

QI 6.6 The Director ensures high quality management services are provided to the Board.

Sea Star Awards

Director/CEO Robertson reminded the Board that during the week of November 13, a committee member and/or Board member will make arrangements to present the award at the schools where award recipients work. At that time, the Sea Star award recipient will be

recognized with a starfish pin keepsake. A news release to local media will be disseminated noting special congratulations to award recipients; employees recognized may be subject to further interviews at the discretion of media representatives. Special mention of award winners may be placed on the division's website as well as social media outlets.

The Board of Education believes that peer and community recognition of staff accomplishments is important. Employees help our schools to achieve at their highest levels and play an integral role in shaping a positive school environment. The Board wishes to acknowledge and celebrate Good Spirit School Division Sea Stars for guiding our students to shape a successful future.

Important Dates:

The meeting concluded with Director/CEO Robertson highlighting upcoming important dates.

October 8-14	School Sport Week
October 15-21	Education Week – <i>Building Our Future by Learning Together</i>
October 15-21	Saskatchewan Library Week
October 16	School Bus Driver Appreciation Day
October 20	Sturgis Composite School Grand Opening
November 13&14	Fall General Assembly in Regina
November 23	Regular Board 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 November 23, 2017

Location: Fairview Education Board Room

Contact Us

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