



# FROM THE BOARD

Highlights of the GSSD Board of Education Monthly Meeting

April 2017

## April 2017 Regular Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Board for April 2017 took place in the Fairview Education Center Board Room on Thursday, April 13, 2017. In attendance at this month's meeting were Lois Smandych, Chairperson, and Bob Simpson, Vice-Chairperson, Trustees, Jade Anderson, Chris Balyski, Gilda Dokuchie, Gord Gendur, Jaime Johnson, Shannon Leson, Jan Morrison, Florence Stachura, Steve Variyan, Director of Education/CEO, Quintin Robertson, Deputy Director of Corporate Services, Sherry Todosichuk, Deputy Director of Education, Donna Kriger.

## Monitoring and Accountability Report

Director of Education/CEO, Quintin Robertson, reviewed a survey that was shared with leaders at several levels within the school division. Quintin Robertson highlighted that the survey was distributed among approximately 70 people; 48 have been completed to date. The survey asked questions regarding Quality Indicators related to Communications and Community Relations as well as Leadership Qualities taken directly from the Director/CEO annual evaluation as outlined in Board Policy 12:

- QI 9.1** Represents the Division in a positive and professional manner.
- QI 9.2** Manages conflict effectively.
- QI 9.3** Ensures information regarding Board initiatives are disseminated to inform the electorate.
- QI 9.4** Works cooperatively with the media to represent the Board's views and positions.
- QI10.1** Provides clear direction.
- QI10.2** Provides effective educational leadership.
- QI10.3** Establishes and maintains positive, professional working relationships with staff.
- QI10.4** Unites people toward achieving the Board's goals.
- QI10.5** Demonstrates a high commitment to the needs of students.
- QI10.6** I trust the Director.
- QI10.7** Empowers others.
- QI10.8** Effectively solves problems.

Within the presentation, Quintin Robertson highlighted the questions which were asked, the approval rating, and written responses shared within the survey.

Upon completion of the presentation, the Board engaged in discussion regarding overall Division communication and evaluations. The Board of Education made suggestions about financial efficiencies that might be realized within this area. A motion was made to approve the Accountability Report as presented by Quintin Robertson.

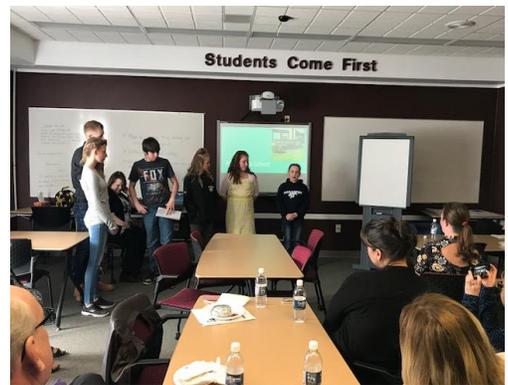
## Preeceville School Presentation

Students from Preeceville School were accompanied by Teacher Leslea Hanson and Principal Doug King to enjoy lunch and share highlights from their school with the Board of Education. The students highlighted numerous activities that happen within their school which assist in building a positive school culture. They shared how Spirit Days planned for all grade levels assist in developing a “sense of belonging”. The students also spoke of the strong connection Preeceville School has with their community members.

Responsive To Intervention support and engaging academic opportunities were discussed in great detail by the students. It was evident that the practices outlined in Sask Reads are alive and well in Preeceville School. The students spoke passionately about how the environment and instruction within their school has resulted in a renewed interest for different genres of literature.

Also highlighted in the presentation was the Breakfast Café which has ensured that students have the “fuel” necessary to learn throughout the day. Doug King reported that behaviour incidents are down since implementing the universal breakfast program.

Upon conclusion of the presentation, one of the student representatives shared the focus on “mindfulness” within Preeceville School. The idea that respect for self and those around you is assisting to promote a caring environment, exemplifying the Good Spirit School Division values of “Belonging, Respect, Responsibility, Learning and Nurturing”.



## Preliminary Budget Discussions

Sherry Todosichuk, Deputy Director of Corporate Services, engaged in preliminary discussions with the Board regarding the 2017–2018 proposed budget. Sherry discussed the challenges associated with the reduction in funding to the Good Spirit School Division. She highlighted that difficult decisions would need to be made regarding the allocation of resources within the school division, as the resources administered by the province would be considerably less than last year. Sherry indicated that all facets of the organization would be impacted as a result of reduced funding but highlighted that all budget decisions would be made with thoughtful consideration for both staff and students.

In an attempt to reduce the possibility of teacher redundancies across the school division, the Board of Education passed a motion allowing those teachers eligible for retirement to receive a retirement incentive equal to 25% of a year salary. Written notice of retirement would need to be submitted to the Director of Education/CEO on or before May 5, 2017 to be eligible for the incentive.

## Audit Tender

The Board of Education passed a motion to enter into a three-year agreement for audit services with Miller Moar Gordecki Kreklewich based out of Melville, Saskatchewan. Requests for proposal for audit services were sent out to a number of possible service providers. There were seven responses received which were assessed against the following criteria: experience in the education sector, references, communication, and price. Based on the criteria listed, the tender of Miller Moar Gordecki Kreklewich was approved.

## Student Transportation

The Board of Education discussed a future transportation meeting with Christ the Teacher RCSSD prior to finalizing a revised Transportation Policy. It was highlighted that the division intends to discuss a proposed walk zone for city schools. A review of this policy was necessary to further assist administration in making prudent decisions that keep students safe as well as to manage the operating costs for student transportation.

A revised proposal of Board Policy 16 expands upon the existing policy and provides clearer direction for administration moving into the future.



# Revised 2017-18 School Calendar Approval

**Good Spirit School Division  
2017 - 2018 School Calendar**

The calendar grid shows the following key dates and events:

- August/September 2017:** School starts on August 28. Labour Day on September 4.
- October 2017:** Thanksgiving on October 9. School resumes on October 10.
- November 2017:** Remembrance Day on November 11. School resumes on November 13.
- December 2017:** Christmas break from December 23 to January 1, 2018.
- January 2018:** School resumes on January 2.
- February 2018:** Presidents Day on February 19.
- March 2018:** Good Friday on March 30. School resumes on March 31.
- April 2018:** Easter break from April 2 to April 4.
- May 2018:** Victoria Day on May 21. School resumes on May 22.
- June 2018:** School ends on June 1.

**Legend:**

- Light blue: Regular school days
- Yellow: Day off
- Green: Days for students
- Red: School Day off
- Dark green: Professional Development
- Blue: Holiday

The Board of Education has approved the revision made to the [2017-2018 Good Spirit School Division Calendar](#). Quintin Robertson, Director/CEO explained the necessity for the proposed changes and informed the Board that the calendar has been shared with the Ministry of Education. Approval of Division school-year calendars is referenced as a selected role of the Board within Board Policy 2.

## Naming of the Sturgis School

On March 16, 2017, the Sturgis School Community Council made a motion to rename the consolidated Sturgis Elementary School and Sturgis Composite High School, to be **Sturgis Composite School**. The school in Sturgis is slated to open in the fall of 2017-18.

In accordance with Board Policy 2 whereby the naming of schools and other Board-owned facilities is considered to be a selected responsibility, the Board of Education approved the proposed name for the consolidated school located within the community of Sturgis.

## Award of Contract – Sturgis HVAC

Good Spirit School Division received four tender submissions regarding the HVAC installation at the Sturgis Composite High School. The Board was informed that Penguin Refrigeration submitted the lowest bid in the amount of \$69,080 excluding GST. A motion was passed to award the contract to this firm in accordance with Board Policy 2, which requires the Board to approve the awarding of all contracts and all capital projects in excess of \$50,000.00 in value, and the financing of capital projects.

## Norquay Gym Floor Project

In accordance with Board Policy 2, the Board of Education approved the Norquay School Community Council loan application for the gym flooring project up to the amount of \$50,000 as recommended by the Board Finance Committee.

In partnership with the Facilities Department, the Norquay SCC is fundraising to assist in the gym floor replacement project which will be scheduled for completion during the summer of 2017.

## Insurance Appraisal Services Agreement

A motion was passed regarding the Board entering into a five-year agreement with Suncorp Valuations for insurance appraisal services. Suncorp Valuations has been providing insurance appraisal services to Good Spirit School Division for a number of years. With the current contract expiring, Suncorp Valuations has proposed renewing this contract for a five-year term.

## Upcoming Dates

April 14	Good Friday
April 17-21	Easter Break
April 25	CTTCS Advocacy Session @ 5:30 pm, Mano's
April 26	Professional Assistant Day
May	Early Childhood Education Month
May 18	Board Meeting
May 18	CUPE Advocacy Session @ 5:30 pm, Mano's
June 15	Board Meeting
June 15	Superannuation/Retirement Banquet

## 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 by emailing [Heather.Morris@gssd.ca](mailto:Heather.Morris@gssd.ca)

Thanks for reading!

Next Board Meeting Scheduled for May 18, 2017

Location: Fairview Education Board Room

## Contact Us

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