

FROM THE BOARD

Highlights of the GSSD Board of Education Monthly Meeting

May 2018

May 2018 Regular Meeting

The regular monthly meeting of the Board for May 2018 took place in the Fairview Education Center Board Room on Thursday, May 17, 2018. In attendance at this month's meeting were Chairperson Lois Smandych, Vice-Chairperson Bob Simpson, Trustees Jaime Johnson, Shannon Leson, Chris Balyski, Gilda Dokuchie, Jan Morrison, Florence Stachura, Steve Variyan, Senior Executive Assistant Heather Morris, CEO/Director of Education Quintin Robertson, Chief Financial Officer Keith Gervais, and Deputy Director of Education Donna Kriger. Board Members absent were: Gord Gendur and Jade Anderson.



The meeting was called to order at 10 am by Board Chair Lois Smandych. Meeting norms were reviewed and the minutes from the April 19, 2018 Board Meeting were approved. The minutes are posted on the GSSD website, click [here](#) to review.

Closed Session Discussions

Governance Budget

Keith Gervais, reviewed the Board Governance Budget during the closed session. Gervais indicated that the budget for the 2017-18 fiscal year is on track. Discussion ensued regarding the Board's representation at the upcoming Public Section AGM and it was decided that four Board members would attend the event in Saskatoon.

Human Resources Report

Keith Gervais updated the Board regarding the status of negotiations with CUPE 4784, DPEA and CUPE 5123. Gervais brought forward various employee issues from around the division as well as the Central Office Organization review.

Transportation Committee Review

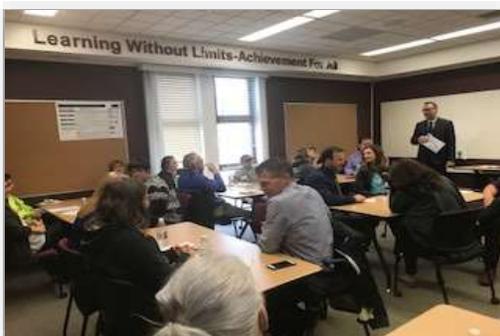
Quintin Robertson revisited discussion around the boundary concerns that exist in the Langenburg/Calder area within the Good Spirit School Division.

Professional Staffing Overview for 2018-19

Quintin Robertson led the Board through the proposed staffing levels for the 2018-19 school year. Robertson highlighted the factors considered in the determination of full time equivalent (FTE) teachers as well as the support positions within each of the GSSD schools. Robertson discussed that local diversity factors and student needs were items of consideration when determining professional staffing levels. Robertson also shared that GSSD would see a minor increase to Pupil Teacher Ratio in the upcoming school year.

Board of Education Advocacy Session

The Board of Education hosted a middle years student senate from across the school division. The purpose of the senate was to engage the voices of students and to celebrate the diversity of GSSD students and schools. The Board will also use feedback from the senate to improve the “student experience” in our GSSD Schools. The student senate enables youth within the Good Spirit School Division to be empowered as “change agents”.



Award of Tenders

The Board of Education approved the award of tenders related to the following projects occurring within Good Spirit:

- Yorkton Regional High School Asbestos Abatement was awarded to Visco Demolition Contractors Ltd; and,
- Yorkton Regional High School Ceiling & Lighting Asbestos Abatement Repairs was awarded to Nixon Electric.

New Business

Melville Comprehensive School International Field Trip – Science Exploration

The Board of Education approved the Category D International Field Trip request for Melville Comprehensive School to participate in science exploration in Florida during the week of April 20, 2019.

Melville Comprehensive School International Field Trip – Band

The Board approved the International Field Trip request permitting the Melville Comprehensive School Band students and chaperones to travel to Florida on May 16-20, 2019.

Facilities Update

Board Policy 2 identifies that the Board of Education has a responsibility to not only approve budgets, but to ensure that the resources are allocated in a manner that allows the Division to achieve desired results. Likewise, the Board has the responsibility to approve the Preventative Maintenance and Renewal Plan for the Division. To assist in their decision-making, the Board frequently requests facility reports that highlight the work completed and work still needing to be done in each of the schools within the division.

During the May 17th, 2018 Board meeting, Teresa Korol, Assistant Superintendent of Business Administration, chose to highlight the work at M.C. Knoll School and Davison School.

M.C. Knoll School

M.C. Knoll School is a Kindergarten to Grade 8 facility, located within the City of Yorkton. Korol led the Board through a virtual walkthrough of the school, highlighting some of the upgrades which have occurred and those to take place in the gymnasium over the next year.



Davison School

Teresa Korol also walked the Board through Davison School, a PreKindergarten to Grade 6 facility, which is located in the community of Melville. Korol acknowledged the excellent condition of the school as well as the upgrades made to this school over the last several years.



To view the Facilities Presentation in its entirety, click [here](#).

Director's Report

Board Development –The Duty to Accommodate

Quintin Robertson provided the Board of Education with information regarding [The Duty to Accommodate](#). Robertson identified that GSSD uses the Saskatchewan School Board Association/Saskatchewan Teachers Federation Duty to Accommodate process for all employees regardless of their position. Robertson referenced that all employers have a legal obligation to accommodate an employee who has a disability as defined in the Saskatchewan Human Rights Code.

Robertson explained that an accommodation requires an employer to tailor, adjust, or alter the workplace environment to give a person with a disability an equal opportunity for employment and that employers must accommodate to the point of undue hardship. In appropriate circumstances and where undue hardship is proven, an employer can terminate the contract of employment for a “frustration of contract” which means, through no fault of the employee, the contract is terminated as the employee is not able to perform the essential tasks of their position.

Accountability Report

Preventative Maintenance Renewal Plan

Policy 2 Role of the Board identifies the fiscal responsibility of the Board. A requirement of the Preventative Maintenance and Renewal (PMR) funding is the submission of a three (3) year plan by the end of June in each year. Any amendments to the prior year plan must be submitted on an amendment form and submitted annually with the current plan.

Examples of upcoming projects include items such as:

- Architectural – roofs, building envelope, life safety, interior structure, accessibility
- Mechanical - HVAC, plumbing, fire suppression
- Electrical – lighting upgrades, specialty items such as power doors, primary and secondary electrical systems
- Site – retaining walls, drainage
- Environmental - asbestos
- Studies – feasibility, accessibility, grade configuration

Student Incident of Concern

Quintin Robertson presented the student suspensions from across the Good Spirit School Division. The report highlighted the severity of the incidents and the follow up actions related to the events. The Board of Education passed a motion to accept the report as presented.

Financial Report

Keith Gervais shared an updated GSSD financial report with the Board during the meeting. Gervais confirmed that the Good Spirit School Division is on target to maintain a balanced budget within the 2017-18 school year.

Important Dates

May 30	Special Board Meeting
June 7-8	Public Section General Meeting and PD
June 13	GSSD Showcase Track Meet
June 13	Retirement Banquet
June 21	Regular Board Meeting
June 22	CUPE Negotiations
August 30	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 Regular Board Meeting: June 21, 2018

Location: Fairview Education Board Room

Contact Us

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