

### May 2020 Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of the Board for May 2020 took place via Zoom on Thursday, May 14, 2020. In attendance at this month's meeting were Bob Simpson, Chairperson, Jaime Johnson, Vice Chairperson, Trustees Jade Anderson, Chris Balyski, Gilda Dokuchie, Gord Gendur, Jaime Johnson, Jan Morrison, Lois Smandych, Steve Variyan, and Florence Stachura, Assistant to the Director Heather Morris, Director of Education/CEO Quintin Robertson, Chief Financial Officer Keith Gervais and Deputy Director of Education Donna Kriger.

### Accountability Report

Shawn Kostiuk, GSSD Network Coordinator, provided an Accountability Report to the Board of Education, focusing on the upcoming Division Technology Rollover. Kostiuk highlighted that GSSD will convert from a five-year, all-in-one rollout of technology resources to smaller annual deployments with the initial phase focussing on the upgrade of staff laptops. Network Coordinator Kostiuk identified that the annual deployments would be balanced between infrastructure, hardware as well as apps and systems.

Within his report, Kostiuk updated the Board regarding the impact of COVID-19 on the Technology Department and its resources. Kostiuk would have shared that with the suspension of face to face classes, over 900 devices were distributed across the division to assist students and staff with the Supplemental Learning Plan. Getting devices in the hands of students and staff required a collaborative effort involving technicians, bus drivers, caretakers, transportation department personnel and facilities personnel. The deployment was extremely successful and enabled learning to continue through an online forum.

To view the accountability report in its entirety, visit [gssd.ca](https://gssd.ca) > Board > Board Meetings > 2020 05 14 Regular Board Meeting > Accountability Report – [Technology Renewal](#).

### Board Development

Heather Morris, Assistant to the Director, and Donna Kriger, Deputy Director, engaged the Board of Education in conversation related to professional staffing within the school division. Morris would have informed the Board that the staffing process begins during December and January each year with the collection of enrolment projections using:

- Baragar Demographic Dynamics data which is provided by Vital Statistics and the Canada Revenue Agency, on an annual basis;
- local school knowledge; and,
- straight line projections.

The Board was made aware that in late January and early February, the Deputy Director and Assistant to the Director begin developing a staffing formula for professional staffing which is adjusted accordingly based on the March Provincial budget. There are numerous factors to consider when staffing and Morris shared that the staffing formula takes into consideration such things as; pupil teacher ratio (PTR), high school practical and applied arts, grad coaching allocations, local school diversities, low cushion school factors, and central add-ons such as coaches or interventionists, counselors, etc.

Within the report, Kriger would have reiterated that the purpose of establishing a staffing formula accomplishes:

- a base for equitable staffing allocations across the Division;
- a base for annual budget preparation (as professional staffing constitutes approximately 48% of the annual budget);
- a transparent method for responding to changing student enrolments;

- a method for addressing student and program requirements; and,
- a guideline for allocating school-based staff.

Kruger shared that during the staffing process for the 2020-21 school year, considerable attention was given to the PTR as this was a significant focus of the contract negotiations between the Saskatchewan Teacher’s Federation and the Saskatchewan Government. Maintaining the PTR was also listed as a priority by in-school administrators and School Community Council’s. The PTR was maintained at 2019-20 levels, with the exception, of a 0.25 PTR increase at the Yorkton Regional High School. Listed to the right, are the current and historic PTR levels for schools within GSSD.

<b>PTR Ratios:</b>	<b>2020-21</b>	<b>2019-20</b>	<b>2018-19</b>
<b>Grades K-3</b>	15.05	15.05	14.80
<b>Grades 4-8</b>	16.50	16.50	16.30
<b>Grades 9-12 (# of students)</b>			
0-49	14.00	14.00	12.00
50-100	16.25	16.25	16.25
101-149	16.50	16.50	16.25
150-199	16.75	16.75	16.50
200-249	17.00	17.00	16.75
250-299	17.25	17.25	17.00
300 plus	17.50	17.50	17.25
400 plus	17.75	17.75	17.50
500 plus	18.00	17.75	17.50

Morris shared that in-school administration time saw some adjustments as a means of preserving the PTR at 2019-20 levels. Kruger would have concluded the report by reviewing the Transfer of Professional Staff process and the accompanying Administrative Procedure to explain how GSSD has been able to avoid teacher redundancy for the past five years.

To read more on the board development topic, visit [gssd.ca](http://gssd.ca) > Board > Board Meetings > 2020 05 14 Regular Board Meeting > Board Development – [School Professional Staffing](#).

## New Business

### Board Policy 7 Amendment

To ensure the Director of Education is adhering to the following quality indicators contained within his evaluation, the Director reviews Board Policy on a regular basis with the Board of Education during regular board meetings.

- QI 5.1 – The Director ensures policy is adhered to as per Policy 10 Section 3 implementation.
- QI 5.2 – The Director demonstrates a knowledge of and respect for the role of the Board in policy processes.
- QI 5.4 – The Director ensures administrative procedures are in compliance with the intent of Board Policy and are kept current.

The Board of Education made a motion to accept the following amendments were made to Board Policy 7:

- Point 2.1
  - replace “Fairview Education Centre” with “Good Spirit Education Complex”
- Point 3.1.1.
  - replace “Fairview Education Centre” with “Good Spirit Education Complex”
  - include “Under Exceptional circumstances, meetings will be held via conference call or video conference.”

The update version of Policy 7 Board Operations had been posted the to website: [gssd.ca](http://gssd.ca) > Board > Board Policy Handbook > Policy 7 [Board Operations](#).

## Director's Report

### Board Policy Review

Director of Education/CEO, Quintin Robertson reviewed Board Policy 13 (Appeals and Hearing Regarding Student Matters) and Board Policy 17 (Student Transportation) with the Board of Education. Possible revisions or amendments to the Policies will be brought forth at the Regular Board Meeting in June.

### 4 Seasons of Reconciliation

Robertson updated the Board regarding the professional development (PD) modules which are currently available for all GSSD employees. Robertson suggested that 4 Seasons of Reconciliation is currently being considered by other school divisions across the province and that GSSD was the first Saskatchewan school division to adopt the PD for its employee groups and Board members.

4 Seasons of Reconciliation is an effective means to advance the Truth and Reconciliation Commissions Calls to Action but also serves as an effective tool for meeting the GSSD strategic plan goal to “increase our organization’s cultural competencies through division-wide processes and professional learning that grow our collective understanding about Indigenous identity, histories, worldview and systemic barriers.”



### Financial Update

Chief Financial Officer, Keith Gervais, provided the Board of Education with an update regarding the 2019-20 budget. Gervais identified that due to COVID-19, GSSD would realize some operational savings in a variety of functional areas within the division.

Gervais provided the Board with a high-level overview of the upcoming budget for the 2020-21 school year. Gervais will deliver his detailed budget report for Board approval during the May 28, 2020 Special Board Meeting.

### Education Continuity Plan

Robertson reviewed and provided an update on the events involving the COVID-19 Pandemic which have resulted in the Senior Leadership Team of GSSD enacting their Education Continuity Plan. Robertson identified that on May 7, 2020, the Government of Saskatchewan announced that in-class learning would be suspended in all provincial schools until at least September 2020.

Saskatchewan Education’s Response Planning Team (RPT) encouraged everyone in Saskatchewan’s education community to continue with these learning opportunities until the end of the school year, as in-class learning will not take place until at least September. Robertson shared that the RPT is working with education sector partners to begin work on what in-class learning may look like this fall, although the timelines will depend on the safety of everyone in Saskatchewan schools including students, teachers, and school staff. For those students graduating this year, school divisions are working with graduates and staff to consider virtual graduation ceremonies and possible postponements as public health orders currently prevent more than 10 people from gathering.

Cassandra Betts and Josey Rink, Grade 4 teachers from PJ Gillen School in Esterhazy, provided the Board with an overview of how they deliver their supplemental learning.



## DAILY CHALLENGES:

MINI MOVIE MONDAY	TRAVEL TUESDAY	WHATEVER WEDNESDAY	THOUGHTFUL THURSDAY	FUN FRIDAY
They watch a short video and have to respond with a summary, prediction, connection, etc.	I give them a virtual tour (inside of a sub, statue of liberty, etc.) or a live video to watch (pandas, eagles, etc.)	-Weird Wednesday -Where Would You Go Wed -What about You Wed	I give them a kindness task they have to complete (clean the house, tell someone how awesome they are, etc).	I give them a fun challenge to complete (build a fort, dance contest, talent show, magic trick).



Ms. Rink shared that she provides daily challenges for her students to complete.

Some examples of Travel Tuesday challenges include participating in virtual tours inside a submarine and watching pandas in a live video from a sanctuary in China.

During one of their Thoughtful Thursday activities, the students were asked to write letters to the local grocery store.

The class had adopted a sea turtle this year so if the students click on the sea turtle, they can track it.

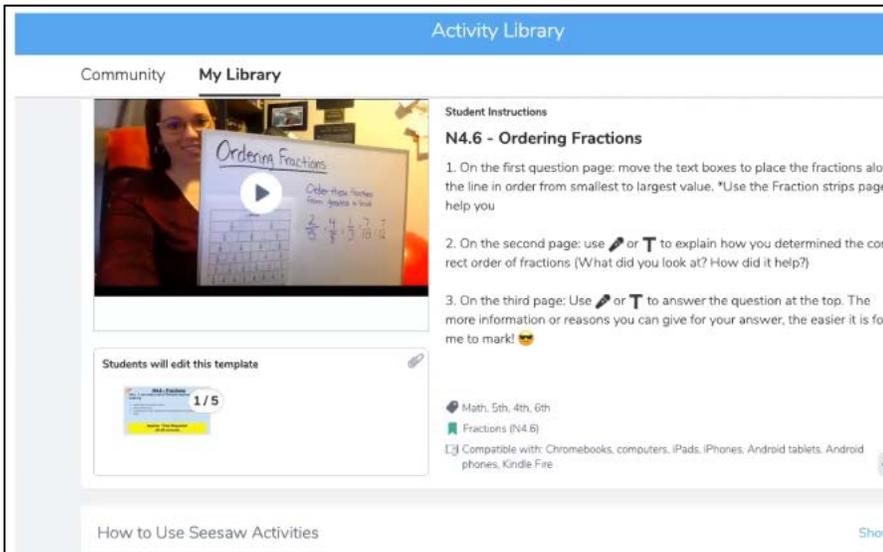
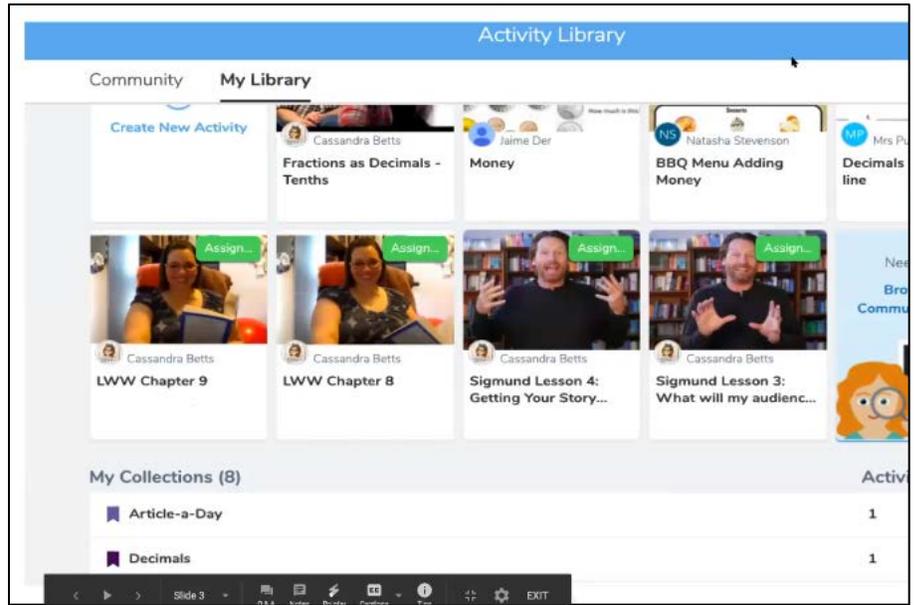
There are 15 different links connected to a variety of activities within Ms. Rink's virtual classroom.



Online Learning Weekly Plan				
Monday	Tuesday	Wednesday	Thursday	Friday
<b>ELA</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Daily Article <input type="checkbox"/> Reading Passage <input type="checkbox"/> Writing	<b>ELA</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Daily Article <input type="checkbox"/> Novel Study	<b>ELA</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Daily Article <input type="checkbox"/> Reading Passage <input type="checkbox"/> Writing	<b>ELA</b> <input type="checkbox"/> Daily Article <input type="checkbox"/> Novel Study	<b>ELA</b> <input type="checkbox"/> <input type="checkbox"/>
<b>MATH</b> <input type="checkbox"/> SeeSaw Lesson	<b>MATH</b> <input type="checkbox"/> XtraMath/iKnowIt	<b>MATH</b> <input type="checkbox"/> SeeSaw Lesson	<b>MATH</b> <input type="checkbox"/> XtraMath/iKnowIt	<b>MATH</b> <input type="checkbox"/> (40 min)
<b>Total time:</b> 1 hr. 15 mins.	<b>Total time:</b> 1 hour	<b>Total time:</b> 1 hr. 15 mins.	<b>Total time:</b> 1 hour	<b>Total time:</b> 1 hr.
Daily Article (ReadWorks) → 15 minutes Reading Passage (ReadWorks) → 15 minutes Writing Prompt (SeeSaw) → 15 minutes		Math Lesson (SeeSaw) → 20-30 min Novel Study (SeeSaw) → 20-30 min XtraMath/iKnowIt → 15 minutes		
<b>TOTAL for the WEEK: 5 hrs.</b>				
*All times are approximate and will vary depending on each student ** A 45-minute class ZOOM will be scheduled <b>Wednesdays from 3:00pm-3:45pm</b> , for those who can make it. Purpose: to clarify assignment expectations, help with math concept, discuss				

Mrs. Betts provides parents with an online learning weekly plan. The activities are easily accessible to students in ReadWorks, SeeSaw and XtraMath/iKnowIt

Mrs. Betts finds that videos are very engaging for students, so she uses Sigmund's Academy for Writers which she links to SeeSaw. She provides slide templates for the students to complete, based on his activity.



In math, Mrs. Betts records a 12-15 minute video which teaches her students the concepts and then they have slides to complete.

The link to the GSSD slides are also available to students.

Ms. Rink & Mrs. Betts also shared how they engage with their students and deliver guided reading online. The Board would like to thank Josey and Cassandra for providing a sneak peek of what virtual education looks like.

The Division is very proud of GSSD teachers for their amazing efforts dedicated to engaging with their students during these tricky times.

### GSSD Professional Development Opportunities

Robertson shared the numerous professional development opportunities currently available to GSSD employees during the suspension of regular programming. Robertson identified that positive feedback being shared from GSSD staff regarding the variety and quality of PD being offered. Numerous coaches, coordinators, superintendents, and teachers have dedicated considerable time and effort into ensuring that top quality learning opportunities have been made available for all functional groups within GSSD.

Robertson invited the Board of Education to participate in a virtual session featuring Jon Gordon, an internationally acclaimed motivational speaker and well-known author. Jon will join the employees of GSSD in a Zoom session along with representatives from the Ministry of Education and local MLA's on May 19, 2020. Robertson shared that GSSD along with the Good Spirit Teacher's Association and CUPE have shared the cost to make this opportunity available to the entire employee group of the Good Spirit School Division.

## Upcoming Important Dates

May 18	Victoria Day
May 19	Jon Gordon Presentation, 9:45 am
May 25	Board Chair Council Teleconference, 8:30-9:30 am
May 28	Special Board Meeting, 1-5 pm
June 18	Regular Board Meeting, 10 am–5 pm
August 27	Regular Board Meeting, 10 am–5 pm

hope

If you only carry one thing throughout your entire life, let it be hope. Let it be hope that better things are always ahead. Let it be hope that you can get through even the toughest of times. Let it be hope that you are stronger than any challenge that comes your way. Let it be hope that you are exactly where you are meant to be right now, and that you are on the path to where you are meant to be... Because during these times, hope will be the very thing that carries you through.

- Nikki Banas

### Upcoming Board Meetings:

May 28, 2020 (Special Board meeting), June 18, 2020, August 27, 2020

Location: GSSD Board of Education Zoom Conferencing

To review Board Policy 7 Board Operations, visit [gssd.ca](http://gssd.ca) > Board > Policy Handbook > [Board Operations](#)

### Submissions & Feedback

To submit photos or stories regarding the Board of Education or an individual Trustee in your school community, please contact [Heather.Morris@gssd.ca](mailto:Heather.Morris@gssd.ca).

### Contact Us

Good Spirit School Division  
#204

Phone: (306)786-5500

Visit us online at

[www.gssd.ca](http://www.gssd.ca)

*Building Strong Foundations to  
Create Bright Futures*

For more information related to the Board of Education, visit our website at [gssd.ca](http://gssd.ca) > [Board](#)