

August 2019 Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of the Board for August 2019 took place in the Saskota Room at the Good Spirit Education Complex on Thursday, August 29, 2019. In attendance at this month's meeting were Lois Smandych, Chairperson, Trustees Jade Anderson, Chris Balyski, Gilda Dokuchie, Gord Gendur, Jaime Johnson, Shannon Leson, Jan Morrison, Bob Simpson, Florence Stachura, Steve Variyan, Assistant to the Director Heather Morris, Director of Education/CEO Quintin Robertson, Chief Financial Officer Keith Gervais and Deputy Director of Education Donna Kriger.



New Business

Board Policy Amendments and Annual Work Plan

The first order of new business saw the Board of Education review Board Policy 1. The policy is reviewed annually to ensure that Division targets are reflective of the provincial Education Sector Strategic Plan. Goals written under the Student and Family focus have been set as incremental improvements versus a defined percentage goal. The change was made to make the goal setting more reasonable and achievable. The Truth and Reconciliation goal as written in the 2018-19 Strategic Plan was removed under Student and Family and has been replaced with two new goals under People Capacity. The goals remain linked to Truth and Reconciliation and increasing competencies regarding Indigenous history and culture as well as focussing on fostering existing, as well as developing new partnerships to increase educational opportunities for our Indigenous students. The Board of Education has also approved a new goal under Student and Family regarding Parental Engagement. To read Policy 1 Foundational Statements, visit our website at gssd.ca > Board > Board Policy Handbook > [Policy 1 Foundational Statements](#).

The Board of Education mapped out their annual work plan, which included accountability reports related to the goals around the Strategic Plan, advocacy with community partners and government representatives, Director Reports, Board Business regarding operational items and Board Development in areas requiring a deeper understanding of the topic. To view the work plan, visit our website at gssd.ca > Board > Board Policy Handbook > [Appendix A Annual Work Plan](#).

The Board of Education also made an amendment to Board Policy 7, which would see minor changes to the order of the Agenda items during regular Board of Education meetings. To read Policy 7, visit our website at gssd.ca > Board > Board Policy Handbook > [Policy 7 Board Operations](#).

Organizational Meeting

Through acclamation, Bob Simpson, representing the Melville-Grayson area was named Board Chair for the 2019-20 year. Also through acclamation, Jaimie Johnson, representing the Norquay-Kamsack area was named to Board Vice-Chair for the year. Signatories of the Board were determined and dates for the 2019-20 Board meetings were also set during the meeting. The dates are available on the Annual Work Plan or in the [Board Meeting](#) section on the website.

For more information related to the Board of Education, visit our website at gssd.ca > Board



The Good Spirit School Division Board of Education named the following members to the Executive:

from left to right

Steve Variyan (Representing Yorkton at large),
Jaime Johnson, Vice-Chair (Representing Norquay/Kamsack)
Bob Simpson, Chair (Representing Melville/Grayson).

Through a democratic process, the Board of Education chose members for the Standing Committees of the Board. The Standing Committees have the following Board Members named to them:

- LINC Negotiations:
 - Lois Smandych
 - Jan Morrison
- Support Staff Negotiations:
 - Jaime Johnson
 - Florence Stachura
- Board Executive:
 - Chair: Bob Simpson
 - Vice-Chair: Jaime Johnson
 - Steve Variyan
- Transportation Committee:
 - Bob Simpson
 - Florence Stachura
 - Chris Balyski
- Finance Committee
 - Shannon Leson
 - Steve Variyan
- First Nation Education Services Agreements and Networking:
 - Gilda Dokuchie
 - Chris Balyski
 - Gordon Gendur
- Melville Comprehensive School Governance Authority:
 - Bob Simpson
- Public Board Section:
 - Lois Smandych
 - Alternate – Bob Simpson
- East Central District Athletics:
 - Shannon Leson
 - Alternate – Steve Variyan
- School Community Councils:
 - Dr. Brass – Gordon Gendur
 - Yorkton Regional High School – Steve Variyan
 - Columbia – Gordon Gendur
 - M.C. Knoll – Jan Morrison
 - Gilda Dokuchie will represent, along with the local representative, Canora Junior Elementary, Canora Composite and Norquay Schools

As part of the Board Organizational meeting, indemnity rates were established for the 2019-20 year.

Director's Report

Financial Report

Keith Gervais updated the Board of Education regarding the Financial Statement for the Good Spirit School Division ending the 2018-19 fiscal year. Gervais reported that the school division will achieve the targets set within the 2018-19 budget.

Macdonald School – Naming of School Library

The Board of Education, together with Director/CEO approved the request from Macdonald School in Stockholm, to name the school library in honour of a former student who had a tremendous impact on both the school and the community.

Preeceville Senior Girls Volleyball Co-op

The Board of Education passed a motion to approve an application put forward by Preeceville School to have their Senior Girls Volleyball team join with the Kelvington High School Girl's Volleyball team (Horizon School Division) in a Cooperative Sponsorship through the Saskatchewan High School Athletics Association (SHSAA). Despite low numbers of participants, this will allow the Preeceville girls an opportunity to compete in High School Athletics within a neighboring school division. The GSSD Board of Education values extra-curricular opportunities and is pleased to approve this opportunity.

Yorkton Regional High School/ Kamsack Comprehensive Institute Football Co-op

The Board of Education passed a motion to approve an application, which will see students from the Kamsack Comprehensive Institute join with the Yorkton Regional High School in a Cooperative sponsorship through the SHSAA. This will allow students from Kamsack the opportunity to compete as members of a GSSD football team in a neighboring community while playing a sport they love.

Upcoming Important Dates

September 8	Literacy Day in Saskatchewan (International Literacy Day)
September 10	Youth Safety Education Day
September 19	Board Chairs Council, Regina, 1:30-4 pm
September 30	School Division 2019-20 Plans Due
September 30	Orange Shirt Day
September 30	Deadline for Submissions for the 2019 Premier's Board of Education Award for Innovation and Excellence and the 2019 Award of Distinction
October 3	Regular Board Meeting, 10 am – 5 pm
October 3	Deadline for Bylaw Amendments (for the AGM) 4:30 pm
October 6-12	School Sport Week
October 14	Thanksgiving Day
October 15	Draft Board of Education 2018-19 Annual Reports due
October 18	Deadline for Resolutions (for the AGM) 4:30 pm
October 20-26	Education Week
October 20-26	Saskatchewan Library Week
October 21	School Bus Driver Appreciation Day
October 28	Board Chairs Council Teleconference, 8:30 – 9:30 am
November 11	Remembrance Day
November 14	Regular Board Meeting, 10 am – 5 pm

Upcoming Board Meetings:

October 3, 2019, November 14, 2019, January 30, 2020, March 12, 2020, April 2, 2020, June 18, 2020, August 27, 2020

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.

Contact Us

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Visit us online at
www.gssd.ca