

# **FROM THE BOARD**

Highlights of the GSSD Board of Education Monthly Meeting

October 2018

#### **October 2018 Regular Meeting**

The regular monthly meeting of the Board for October 2018 took place in the Fairview Education Center board room on Thursday, October 4, 2018. In attendance at this month's meeting were Lois Smandych, Chairperson, Bob Simpson, Vice-Chairperson, Trustees Chris Balyski, Gilda Dokuchie, Gord Gendur, Jaime Johnson, Shannon Leson, Jan Morrison, Florence Stachura, Steve Variyan, Senior Executive Assistant, Heather Morris, Director of Education, Quintin Robertson, Chief Financial Officer, Keith Gervais and Deputy Director of Education, Donna Kriger. Member absent: 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 <u>August 30,</u> <u>2018</u> Board meeting were approved as shared.

## **Board Policy 2 – Role of the Board**

Members of the Board reviewed Board Policy 2 – Role of the Board, upon commencement of the Board Meeting. The Board carried out discussion regarding those things within the Policy that they cherished, those items they found challenging and points of interest they wished to be changed.

# **Accountability Report**

#### **Facilities Report**

Teresa Korol, the Assistant Superintendent of Business Administration, provided the members of the Board with a review of the work done by the facilities department during the 2017-18 school year. Korol reviewed the following:

Preventative Maintenance and Renewal Projects

- Completion of Sturgis, Preeceville and Invermay Roof Projects Fall 2017
- Commencement of Saltcoats and Norquay Roof Projects Summer 2018
- Sturgis Composite School gymnasium and main floor renovations

• Commencement of the installation of Invermay and MacDonald School phone systems

**Emergency Projects** 

• Yorkton Regional High School Asbestos Abatement

Other Major Projects included during the 2017-18 school year were:

- Preeceville School classroom upgrades 6 classroom upgrades completed
- PJ Gillen School in Esterhazy classroom upgrades 4 classroom upgrades completed
- Upgrade of PJ Gillen washroom
- Melville Comprehensive School gymnasium ceiling and lighting upgrade
- Yorkton Regional High School Upper A wing classroom upgrades post asbestos abatement
- Yorkton Regional High School Anne Portnuff Theatre renovations post asbestos abatement
- Grayson School classroom upgrades and accessibility project
- Addition of the Invermay Home Economics lab
- Langenburg Central School storage building, sidewalks and landscaping upgrades
- Installation of Victoria School camera system
- Century Field Bleacher installation

To view the <u>accountability report</u> in its entirety, visit the Board section on GSSDs website.

## **Closed Session Discussions**

During closed session, the Board engaged in discussion involving Board Governance Fundamentals presented by Laurie-Anne Rusnak, Human Resource Manager for the Good Spirit School Division. Laurie-Anne also presented various human resource issues from across the school division for the Boards consideration.

Laurie-Anne Rusnak also presented information regarding the Organizational Review, which was conducted within the Good Spirit School Division. Rusnak spoke to the process carried out, the overarching goals of the organizational review, a summary of the feedback collected through the review and recommendations for a future re-organization.

Quintin Robertson shared information regarding student suspensions from across the Good Spirit School Division. Robertson shared an update regarding revisions made to the student suspension process within Good Spirit.

The Board of Education reviewed the collated survey results comparing their growth and development as a governance board over the past two years. During their discussion, Trustees reflected on areas in which they have seen growth over the past year. Trends within the survey were identified and a discussion regarding the analysis of those trends ensued.

Robertson updated the Board regarding the non-school consolidation project in GSSD, the MySaskSchools project involving the provincial student data system, and the Yorkton Minor Football partnership.

# **Old Business**

The Board of Education passed a motion to accept the proposed Annual Work Plan for the 2018-19 school year.

## **New Business**

#### **School Review**

The Board of Education for the Good Spirit School Division passed a motion, through recorded vote, to review Calder School located at Calder, Saskatchewan in accordance with the provisions of *The School Division Administration Regulations*.

#### **Photocopier Lease**

The Board of Education passed a motion to approve the photocopier lease with Toshiba under condition 2.5 of Administrative Procedure 515.

#### **Appointment of Delegates and Allocation of Votes – SSBA Convention**

The Board of Education passed a motion to name voting delegates for the 2018 SSBA General Assembly in November of 2018.

#### **Grayson School International Band Trip**

The Board of Education passed a motion approving the International Field Trip request permitting the Grayson School Grades 7-9 band students to join the Melville Comprehensive School Band students and chaperones on their trip to Florida on May 16-20, 2019.

#### **Policy 3 Appendix A**

The Board of Education passed a motion to amend Policy 3 Appendix A – Services, Materials and Equipment Provided to Trustees to reflect the changes identified during the October 4, 2018 Board meeting.

## **Director's Report**

#### **Board Development – Understanding the Writing Implementation Plan**

According to Spring 2018 baseline writing data, 58% of GSSD's Grade 4, 7 & 9 students are writing at or above grade level with 94% approaching (in the yellow zone) or above. Writing data is collected and submitted for all grades 4, 7, and 9 students using the provincial holistic writing rubric in June.

Teachers in Good Spirit are working on creating a writing culture in their classroom to motivate students to write authentically for real audiences. The goal of the Language Arts writing program is to have students view themselves as real writers whose stories and messages are important to tell. Sigmund Brouwer, an acclaimed author has been contracted as the Writer in Residence for schools within Good Spirit. He has presented to all Grades 1–6 teachers on August 29 and has taken his Rock 'n' Roll Literacy presentation, which motivates students to write was presented in every school in the division in September.

The Board Development document has been posted in the Board section of the website. Click <u>here</u> to review the 10 fast facts about Understanding the Writing Support Plan!

### September 30 Enrollment Update

Director/CEO Robertson led a discussion with the Board regarding the September enrollments across the Good Spirit School Division. Robertson shared that the current student enrollment in Good Spirit is 6,079 for Kindergarten – Grade 12.

Robertson shared information regarding enrollment fluctuations in various schools across the division committing to the Board to have Senior Administration develop mitigation strategies.

#### **Important Dates**

October 9 October 10-12 October 14-20 October 15 November 15-17 November 17 Truth & Reconciliation, 9 am – 3:30 pm, St. Mary's, Yorkton Employee Benefits Plan Seminar Education Week – A World of Learning for Every Student Deadline for Resolutions (for the AGM) Fall General Assembly and AGM Board Chairs Council Meeting



In recognition of Orange Shirt Day and Truth and Reconciliation, the Board of Education and the Good Spirit School Division honour the Indigenous Children and Families of Residential Schools.

#### **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 <u>Heather.Morris@gssd.ca.</u> Thanks for reading!

Next Board Meeting Scheduled for November 22, 2018

Location: Fairview Education Board Room

#### Contact Us

#### Good Spirit School Division #204

Fairview Education Center 63 King Street East Yorkton, Saskatchewan S3N 0T7

Phone: (306) 786-5500 Visit us online at <u>www.gssd.ca</u>