

**The Board of Education of the  
Good Spirit School Division No. 204 of Saskatchewan**

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**Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Good Spirit Board of Education  
Thursday, August 14, 2025  
Good Spirit Education Complex**

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**Board Members (P)Present (A)Absent**

P	Balyski, Chris
P	Johnson, Jaime – Chair
P	Makort, Cara
P	Palmer, Kelly
P	Jamie Smart-Sondergaard
P	Variyan, Steve

A	Brass, Jay-Cee
P	Leson, Shannon
P	Morrison, Jan
P	Pohl, Nicole – Vice Chair
P	Stav, Kendra

**Staff**

Quintin Robertson – Director of Education  
Keith Gervais – Chief Financial Officer  
Lauren Denysek – Communications Coordinator

**25-105**

Pohl:

**Call to order**

That this meeting now come to order at 9:01 a.m.

**Carried.**

Lisa Wotherspoon, Superintendent of Schools, entered the meeting at 9:01 am

**25-106**

Palmer:

**Adoption of agenda**

That the agenda be adopted as presented.

**Carried.**

Board Member Morrison entered the meeting at 9:02 am

**25-107**

Makort:

**Approval of June 12, 2025, regular minutes**

That the minutes of the June 12, 2025, Regular meeting be adopted as presented.

**Carried.**

**25-108**

Leson:

**Approval of August 13, 2025, special minutes**

That the minutes of the August 13, 2025, Special meeting be adopted as presented.

**Carried.**

**Business arising from the minutes**

None

**Conflict of Interest**

None

**Delegation**

None

**Accountability Report**

1. Early Literacy Partnership and Progress

**25-109**

**Accountability Report – Early Literacy Partnership and Progress**

Variyan: That the Board approve the accountability report on Fall Early Literacy Data and acknowledge the report met the requirements of QIs 2.1, 8.2, 8.3 and 11.1, based on the evidence within the report.  
**Carried.**

**Board Development**

1. Establishing and Maintaining Partnerships

**Closed Session Items**

1. Human Resources Report
2. Student Discipline Report
  - a. Student Discipline Report – 2053402
3. Transportation Committee
  - a. Milbrandt Family Request
4. 2025-26 Revised Budget

**25-110**

Balyski:

**Enter closed session**

That the Board enter closed session to receive and review agenda items.

**Carried.**

Lisa Alspach, Superintendent of Human Resources, entered the meeting at 9:57 am

**25-111**

Smart-Sondergaard:

**Exit closed session**

That the Board exit closed session and rise and report.

**Carried.**

Lunch

**Advocacy/Relationship Building**

None

**Action Items**

1. Items Arising from Closed Session
  - a. Student Discipline Report
    - i. Student Discipline Report – 2053402
  - b. Transportation Committee
    - a. Milbrandt Family Request
  - c. 2025-26 Revised Budget

**25-112**

Stav:

**Student Discipline**

That the Board approve the recommendation as outlined in Student Discipline Report – 2053402.

**Carried.**

**25-113**

Morrison:

**Milbrandt Family Request**

That the Board approve the recommendation of the Transportation Committee to approve the Milbrandt transportation request. This request will be reviewed, and likely removed, when/if there is no longer a student accessing transportation from the same residence within the correct attendance area.

**Carried.**

**25-114**

Pohl:

**2025-26 Revised Budget**

The Board of Education of the Good Spirit School Division approves the amended 2025-26 Budget as presented, pending Ministry of Education review and minor changes.

**Carried.**

**New Business**

1. Review results from the Board evaluation survey & develop a Positive Path Forward
2. Conduct school closure/grade discontinuance and boundary review
3. Policy Review
  - a. Policy 17 – School Review
  - b. Policy 18 – Community Partnerships
  - c. Policy 19 – Enterprise Risk Management
  - d. Policy 19 Appendix A – Enterprise Risk Management Framework
  - e. Policy 20 – Respect for Human Diversity
  - f. Policy 1 – Foundational Statements
  - g. Policy 2 Appendix A – Annual Work Plan (2024-25)
  - h. Policy 2 Appendix A - Annual Work Plan (2025-26)
  - i. Policy 8 – Committees of the Board
  - j. Policy 8 Appendix D – LINC Negotiating Committee Terms of Reference
  - k. Policy 8 Appendix E – Support Staff Negotiating Committee Terms of Reference

**25-115**

Palmer:

**Policy 17 – School Review**

That the Board approve Board Policy 17 School Review as presented.

**Carried.**

**25-116**

Makort:

**Policy 18 – Community Partnerships**

That the Board approve Board Policy 18 Community Partnerships as presented.

**Carried.**

**25-117**

Variyan:

**Policy 19 – Enterprise Risk Management**

That the Board approve Board Policy 19 Enterprise Risk Management as presented.

**Carried.**

**25-118**

Balyski:

**Policy 19 Appendix A – Enterprise Risk Management Framework**

That the Board approve Board Policy 19 Appendix A Enterprise Risk Management Framework as presented.

**Carried.**

**25-119**

Smart-Sondergaard:

**Policy 20 – Respect for Human Diversity**

That the Board approve Board Policy 20 Respect for Human Diversity as presented.

**Carried.**

**25-120**

Stav:

**Policy 1 – Foundational Statements**

That the Board approve Board Policy 1 Foundational Statements as presented.

**Carried.**

**25-121**

Morrison:

**Policy 2 Appendix A – Annual Work Plan (2024-25)**

That the Board approve Board Policy 2 Appendix A Annual Work Plan (2024-25) as presented.

**Carried.**

**25-122**

Pohl:

**Policy 2 Appendix A – Annual Work Plan (2025-26)**

That the Board approve Board Policy 2 Appendix A Annual Work Plan (2025-26) as presented with technical edits as necessary.

**25-123**

Palmer:

**Policy 8 – Committees of the Board**

That the Board approve Board Policy 8 Committees of the Board as presented.

**Carried.**

**25-124**

Makort:

**Policy 8 Appendix D – LINC Negotiating Committee Terms of Reference**

That the Board approve Board Policy 8 Appendix D LINC Negotiating Committee Terms of Reference as presented.

**Carried.**

**25-125**

Variyan:

**Policy 8 Appendix E – Support Staff Negotiating Committee Terms of Reference**

That the Board approve Board Policy 8 Appendix E Support Staff Negotiating Committee Terms of Reference as presented.

**Carried.**

**Board Chair turned the Chair over to the Director at the commencement of the organizational items.**

**25-126**

Robertson:

**Nominations for Board Chair**

That the nominations for Board Chair be opened.

**Carried.**

1<sup>st</sup> call – Morrison nominated Johnson

2<sup>nd</sup> call – No nominations

3<sup>rd</sup> call – No nominations

**25-127**

Morrison:

**Close of Nominations**

That nominations cease.

**Carried.**

**By acclamation – Jaime Johnson was declared Chair.**

**25-128**

Johnson:

**Nominations for Vice Chair**

That nominations for Board Vice Chair be opened.

**Carried.**

1<sup>st</sup> call – Stav nominated Pohl

2<sup>nd</sup> call – No nominations

3<sup>rd</sup> call – No nominations

**25-129**

Palmer:

**Close of Nominations**

That nominations cease.

**Carried.**

**By acclamation – Nicole Pohl was declared Vice Chair.**

**25-130**

Makort:

**Signatories of the Board**

That the signing officers be the Chair or Vice Chair and the Chief Financial Officer or the Accounting Manager.

**Carried.**

**25-131**

Variyan:

**Borrowing**

That the Chairperson and the Chief Financial Officer are authorized to borrow from the Bank of Montreal the sum of six million two hundred thousand (\$6,200,000) to meet the expenditures of the Board until the proceeds of taxes and legislative grants are available, and to pay or agree to pay interest on the moneys borrowed, either in advance or at maturity and in either case after maturity, at the rate of prime; and,

That the said loan shall be a first charge upon the uniform tax levy and legislative grants for the current year; and,

That the Chairperson and Chief Financial Officer be authorized to execute under the corporate seal of the Board, and deliver to the said Bank as security for the said

advance and interest thereon, the assignment of the legislative grants payable or to become payable to the Division; and,

That the said Bank shall not be restricted to the said taxes or the said legislative grants for the repayment of the said loan; and,

That the said loan may be secured by the promissory note or notes of the Chairperson and Chief Financial Officer, given on behalf of the Board, and the Chairperson and Chief Financial Officer are hereby authorized and empowered to execute and give such promissory note or notes on behalf of the said Board as may be required by the said Bank.

**Carried.**

**25-132**

Balyski:

**Meeting Schedule**

That the Board meet at the Good Spirit Education Complex in the RM of Orkney or via video conference call at 9:30 am according to the following schedule in 2025-2026:

- October 9, 2025
- November 6, 2025
- December 11, 2025
- January 29, 2026
- February 26, 2026
- March 26, 2026
- April 23, 2026
- June 11, 2026
- August 13, 2026

**Carried.**

**25-133**

Smart-Sondergaard:

**Board Executive Committee**

That Variyan serve with the Board Chair and Board Vice Chair as the Board representatives on the Board Executive Committee.

**Carried.**

**25-134**

Stav:

**Board Finance Committee**

That Smart-Sondergaard and Morrison along with one of the Chair or Vice-Chair serve as the Board representatives on the Board Finance Committee.

**Carried.**

**25-135**

Morrison:

**Indigenous Advisory Committee**

That Brass serve with the Board Chair or Board Vice Chair as the Board representatives on the Indigenous Advisory Committee.

**Carried.**

**25-136**

Palmer:

**LINC Negotiations Committee**

That Makort serve as the Board representative on the LINC Negotiations Committee and Smart-Sondergaard serve as the Alternate.

**Carried.**

**25-137**

Makort:

**Support Staff Negotiations Committee**

That Stav serve as the Board representative on the Support Staff Negotiations Committee and Pohl serve as the Alternate.

**Carried.**

**25-138**

Smart-Sondergaard:

**Board Transportation Committee**

That Balyski, Pohl, and Palmer serve as the Board representatives on the Board Transportation Committee.

**Carried.**

**25-139**

**Workplace Wellness Committee**

- Stav: That Brass serve as the Board representative on the Board Workplace Wellness Committee.  
**Carried.**
- 25-140**  
Morrison: **Melville Comprehensive School Governance Authority**  
That Stav serve as the board representative for the Melville Comprehensive School Governance Authority.  
**Carried.**
- 25-141**  
Palmer: **Public Section**  
That Morrison serve as the Board representative for the Public Boards Section and Johnson serve as the alternate.  
**Carried.**
- 25-142**  
Makort: **East Central District Athletic Association Representative Appointment**  
That Leson serve as the Board representative on the East Central District Athletic Association and Variyan serve as the alternate.  
**Carried.**
- 25-143**  
Leson: **SeaStars Awards**  
That Stav serve as the Board representative on the SeaStars Awards.  
**Carried.**
- 25-144**  
Palmer: **City of Yorkton's Planning and Infrastructure Commission**  
That Morrison serve as the Board representative on the City of Yorkton's Planning and Infrastructure Commission.  
**Carried.**
- 25-145**  
Balski: **School Community Councils**  
That the Board members represent the Board at the School Community Council meetings of the schools within their subdivisions. Further, that within Yorkton, Morrison attend Columbia, Makort attend Dr. Brass and MC Knoll, and Variyan attend Yorkton Regional High School. If unable to attend, then an alternate will be chosen from the other Yorkton at large trustees.  
**Carried.**
- 25-146**  
Morrison: **Indemnities - Board Meetings**  
That the indemnity meeting rate be \$300 for all Trustees. In the event of a Special Meeting, the hourly rate be \$75 per hour, in half hour increments, to a maximum of 4 hours per day, conducted through either audio conference, video conference or face-to-face.  
**Carried.**
- 25-147**  
Stav: **Indemnities – Supervision and Committees**  
That the hourly rates for Supervision and Committee representation be \$75 per hour, in half hour increments, to a maximum of 4 hours per day, conducted through either audio conference, video conference or face-to-face.  
**Carried.**
- 25-148**  
Smart-Sondergaard: **Indemnities – Conference**  
That the rate for board conference representation, conducted either through audio conference, video conference, or face-to-face, be \$300 per full day and at half these rates per half day (3 hours or less). Further, that the conference/convention rate is applied for 2 travel days for events held out of province, 1 day for events held in province when there is no organized activity on that day. If a Board member is unsure if able to attend, they will be registered late, and the \$100 late fee will be payable by the Board.  
**Carried.**

**25-149**

Palmer:

**Monthly Rates – Meeting Preparation**

That the Board member be recognized for meeting preparation in the amount of \$150 each month beginning September 1, 2025.

**Carried.**

**25-150**

Makort:

**Monthly Rates – Board Chair and Vice Chair**

That the Board Chair receive a monthly allowance of \$250 per month and the Board Vice Chair receive a monthly allowance of \$125 beginning September 1, 2025.

**Carried.**

**25-151**

Pohl:

**Expense Reimbursement Rates**

That the Board set the mileage rate in alignment with the April Saskatchewan Government rate at \$0.57 per kilometer; and,

That the Board set the travel time rate for board members at \$0.25 per kilometer for activities in the province; and,

That the Board set the meal rates in alignment with the April Saskatchewan Government rates at \$16 breakfast, \$23 lunch, and \$31 dinner; and,

That the Board, in lieu of commercial accommodations, provide reimbursement for private accommodation at a rate of fifty dollars (\$50.00) per night.

**Carried.**

**25-152**

Leson:

**Indemnity Approval**

That the Vice Chair review and approve all indemnity forms prior to payment for Trustees however, Board member Variyan will review and approve the indemnity forms of the Chair; and, the Chair will review and approve the indemnity forms of the Vice Chair.

**Carried.**

**25-153**

Variyan:

**Electrical Outlet Rental Fees**

That the Board set the electrical outlet rental fees at \$45 per year.

**Carried.**

Board Member Pohl exited the meeting at 2:00 pm

**Discussion Items presented by the Director of Education**

1. Board Chair Council Update
2. Update on City of Yorkton's Planning and Infrastructure Commission
3. Public Section Update

**Information Items presented by the Director of Education**

1. Thank you notes
2. Important Dates
3. Saskatchewan School Boards Association
4. GSSD Professional Development Opportunities
5. Student Incident Report
6. Financial Update
7. Governance Budget Update
8. Transportation Update
9. Administrative Procedures
  - a. AP 312 – Washroom and Changeroom Access
  - b. AP 203 – Academic Integrity
  - c. AP 121 – Review of Administrative Procedures
  - d. AP 121 Appendix A – Administrative Procedures Review Process
10. Correspondence

**Committee / Conference Reports**

1. SCC Meetings & Celebrations

**Future Business**

1. Meeting dates
  - a. October 9, 2025
  - b. November 6, 2025
  - c. December 11, 2025
  - d. January 29, 2026
  - e. February 26, 2026
  - f. March 26, 2026
  - g. April 23, 2026
  - h. May 21, 2026
  - i. June 11, 2026
  - j. August 13, 2026
2. Notice of Motion
3. Topics for Future Agenda
  - a. Accountability
    - i. Equitable Access to Technology
  - b. Board Development
    - i. Curriculum Development & Instructional Design
    - ii. Did You Know brief: Technology's role in improving literacy/numeracy outcomes
  - c. Director's Report
    - i. Review Public Friendly Strategic Plan Report
    - ii. Review Enrolment & Pupil Teacher Ratio Report based on September 30 Enrolment Levels
  - d. Board Business
    - i. Appoint Voting Delegations
    - ii. Allocate Votes for SSBA Fall General Assembly
    - iii. Review SSBA Position Statements & Resolutions for the Fall General Assembly
    - iv. Review Board Policy 2, Policy 2B, Policy 3, Policy 3A & Policy 3B
  - e. Relationship Building
    - i. Administrator Outreach – strengthening connections with school leaders.

**25-154**

Stav:

**Adjournment**

That we do adjourn at 3:10 pm.

**Carried.**

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**BOARD CHAIR – Johnson**

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**SECRETARY – Gervais**