

## School Board Trusteeship

Are you interested in trusteeship with the Beautiful Plains School Division? School board elections are held every four years at the same time as municipal elections. This year is election year and even though October 22<sup>nd</sup> may seem like a long time away, there is a lot of information available to individuals who may be considering a role in this vital part of education in our community and province.

The trustees who make up the board for the Beautiful Plains School Division are elected by the voters of the two wards of the division. Effective school board members maintain an open mind, and engage in give-and-take discussions to arrive at a board decision. The authority of a school board is the board as a whole, not as individual trustees. Trustees come from all walks of life but share a strong desire to serve youth and their community.

The school division welcomes any interested individuals wanting more information regarding school board trusteeship. There is a magnitude of information regarding qualifications, duties and roles on the school division website [www.beautifulplainssd.ca](http://www.beautifulplainssd.ca). These can be found on the Home Page under School Board Information, or under the top tab Governance, Policies, and Section B. This information can also be obtained at the school division office and the current school board trustees are willing to help answer any questions that individuals may have regarding the election or the amount of time spent on school board business. School board meetings are open to the public (except for confidential matters), and minutes of our meetings are also posted on the division's website.

This election year the Manitoba School Boards Association (MSBA) is offering free candidate information sessions. There will be one held on Monday, June 9, 2014 at the Victoria Inn in Brandon, MB at 7:00 pm. There will also be a webinar at 7:00 pm on Tuesday June 17, 2014 and the links can be obtained by contacting Janis Arnold at [JArnold@mbschoolboards.ca](mailto:JArnold@mbschoolboards.ca). This webinar will be recorded and posted on the MSBA website after this date.

The mission statement of the Beautiful Plains School Division is that we will strive to provide quality educational opportunities within a safe and caring environment that will enable students to become lifelong learners; and to become responsible, productive, contributing citizens in a changing society.

Being a school board trustee can be a very rewarding role.

Submitted by Board of Trustees of Beautiful Plains School Division

May 2014