

Beautiful Plains School Division

Regular Board Meeting

February 4, 2020

Present: Chairperson R. Manns, and Trustees K. Guillas, J. McNeily, L. Biehn, D. Major

Also Present: J. Young, K. Reynolds, S. Bayes

Regrets: Vice Chairperson G. Hunter and Trustee W. Menzies

BPTA: Kerry Turner (Regular meeting only)

In Camera

1. Superintendent's Confidential Report
 - a) Maternity Leave request
 - b) Parental Leave request
 - c) Planning for the Future
 - d) Round Table Discussions Summaries
 - e) Letter from Education Minister
2. Secretary Treasurer's Confidential Report
 - a) Budget
 - b) MSBA Convention
3. Senior Admin Expenses
4. Land Acknowledgement

The Business Meeting was called to order at 8:46 p.m.

1. The agenda was approved as amended.
2. The minutes of the January 21st, 2020 Regular Board Meeting were approved as circulated.
3. The accounts and payroll deposits for the month of December 2019 were approved.
4. Business Arising from the Previous Meeting

Policy J.G.F. – Alcohol and Drug Possession or use was amended
Policy J.G.I. – Search and Seizure was amended

5. Superintendent's Business Report
 - a) The request for maternity and parental leave as outlined in the Superintendent's Confidential Report Item a) was approved.
 - b) The request for parental leave as outlined in the Superintendent's Confidential Report Item b) was approved.

- c) The Within Division School of Choice request from Dana and Justin Menzies for their daughter Novalee Ashley Menzies to attend Kindergarten at J.M. Young School instead of Hazel M Kellington School was approved.

6. Secretary-Treasurer's Business Report

- a) The December 2019 financial reports were approved.

7. Other Reports

- a) MSBA Convention 2020 Program was reviewed. Very relevant keynote given our changing times.
- b) MSBA Memo - An advocacy letter has been forwarded to Minister Fielding concerning the provincial budget with 5 recommendations aimed at representing all school divisions in the Province. A second letter was a request for action sent to both Minister of Education and Minister of Health concerning vaccination rates of school-aged children.

8. Superintendent's Information and Correspondence

- a) Article - Improving education requires avoiding curriculum traps was circulated. Article focused on the fact that curriculum alone does not address all student needs and that teachers have greater ability to impact kids than curriculum.
- b) Grand Opening – Neepawa Middle School was very well organized and attended. Thank-you to those who organized.
- c) Brandon Sun article – Arbitration at Brandon School Division regarding teacher prep time and duty free lunch breaks.
- d) Westman this week feature article – Neepawa Middle School – Feature article highlights new school and Neepawa Middle School student comments.
- e) Technology skills continuum (2000) - Reviewed expected student outcomes for technology published in 2000. Provides a good example of the evolution a system goes through to make a change
- f) Out-of-Province Travel Expenses News Release – Reviewed both the release and the public document of the spending on travel for out-of-province conference and workshops. Reviewed the true costs to the divisional budget and paralleled teacher PD allowances.
- g) Executive Management Compensation & 15% Reduction Managerial Positions – Directive received from the Minister of Finance was reviewed. As part of the directive from the Minister of Education, our divisional organizational structure was reviewed. The levels of management (layers) as well as the types of positions (spans) were reviewed. Further clarity regarding the positions impacted will be provided to Divisions later this week. The board discussed preliminary reactions.

- h) Brandon Sun Article – School divisions forced to cut admin staff article was reviewed. Article also outlined the Education funding announcement along with the funding levels and provided the out-of-province spending broken down by school division.
 - i) Winnipeg Free Press Article - If there's money for junkets, Tories right to squeeze boards was provided. This article referenced the 15% reduction to management positions directive.
 - j) Winnipeg Free Press Article – School divisions ordered to cut was reviewed. This article detailed the Education funding announcement and the 15% reduction in managerial positions. Minister of Education indicated the layers of management impacted in the reduction would not affect Principals and that the reduction would be expected by April 1st. Discussed how this will affect our students and identified the need to think about potential approaches to achieve the reduction.
9. Secretary-Treasurer's Information and Correspondence
- a) Carberry Child Care Co-op & Seedz N' Sprouts Cost Calculation 2019-20 was reviewed.
 - b) 2018-19 Manitoba Schools Insurance Rebate was received.
 - c) Public Schools Finance Board (PSFB) has notified school divisions there will be a change in practice for long-term borrowing beginning April 1st, 2020. The payments for the capital project will be issued to school divisions at the beginning of the project rather than throughout construction. This will reduce school division borrowing costs.
 - d) Bus purchases - There are no plans to purchase school buses through the provincial tender process this year.
 - e) Public Information Session will be held February 13th in Carberry Collegiate at 7:00pm to provide information regarding the changes to school bus service in the Town of Carberry.
 - f) Education Funding Announcement 2020-21 Funding increases by percentages of each school division was reviewed. The Province has committed \$6.6 Million more to Education which is comprised of a \$4.4 million increase in operating support, \$10.4 million increase in capital support and a \$8.2 million reduction in the Tax Incentive Grant. Beautiful Plains School Division had an increase in enrolment of 8% (approximately 140 students) and will receive a 6.4% increase in funding for 2020-21. The Tax Incentive Grant and the General Support Grant have decreased. Divisions have been directed to limit increase to the taxpayer to 2%. In general, divisions with increasing enrolment will receive some amount of increase while those with decreasing enrolment will receive some form of reduction to a maximum of 2%.
10. Open Forum
- a) Board Quote was approved for circulation.

Resolutions:

1. That the agenda be approved as amended.

Carried

2. That the minutes of the January 21, 2020 Regular Board Meeting be approved as circulated. *Carried*

3. That the December 31, 2019 expenditures be approved for a total of \$1,615,097.03
Accounts Payable Cheques:
#37145 - #37147; #37177 - #37363 \$ 682,595.49

Payroll Direct Deposits: #69906 - #70559 \$ 932,501.54 *Carried*

4. That the following policies be amended as presented this date:
- J.G.F. – Alcohol and Drug Possession or use
- J.G.I. – Search and Seizure *Carried*

5. That the request for maternity/parental leave from February 17, 2020 to February 5, 2021 as outlined in the Superintendent’s Confidential Report item a) of this date be approved. *Carried*

6. That the request for parental leave from April 13, 2020 to May 15, 2020 as outlined in the Superintendent’s Confidential Report item b) of this date be approved. *Carried*

7. That the within division choice of school request from Dana and Justin Menzies for their daughter Novalee Ashley Menzies to attend Kindergarten at J.M. Young School instead of Hazel M Kellington School effective September 9, 2020 be approved. *Carried*

8. That the December 31st, 2019 financial reports be approved. *Carried*

Meeting adjourned at 9:58 p.m.

The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 18th, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.

*Minutes are available on the Division Web Site at www.beautifulplainssd.ca
This site also links to Division Schools.*