

Beautiful Plains School Division

REGULAR BOARD MEETING

January 20, 2026

Present: Chairperson R. Manns, Vice Chairperson G. Hunter and Trustees L. Biehn
K. Guillas, S. Kohinski, J. McNeily, R. Toews

Also Present: J. Young, S. Bayes

Regrets: K. Reynolds

BPTA: L. Keller (Regular Meeting Only)

In Camera

1. Superintendent's Confidential Report
 - a) Request for maternity/parental leave
 - b) Request for parental leave
 - c) Request for leave
 - d) Superintendent Evaluation
2. Secretary-Treasurer's Confidential Report
 - a) Staffing Update
 - b) Leave Request
 - c) Budget 2026-27 Preparations
3. Board Chairs Meeting – Minister of Education spoke

The Business Meeting was called to order at 6:04 p.m.

1. The agenda was approved as circulated.
2. The minutes of the December 16, 2025 Regular Board Meeting were approved as circulated.
3. The accounts and payroll deposits for the month of November 2025 were approved.
4. Business Arising from the Previous Meeting
 - a) MSBA Survey follow-up – Trustees continue to review previous discussion and will bring back comments to the next regular board meeting.

5. Superintendent's Business Report

- a) Kim Walker was employed as a part-time term educational assistant effective January 5, 2026 to June 26, 2026 and assigned to J.M. Young School.
- b) Glenda Porwelos was employed as an educational assistant effective January 19, 2026 and assigned to Hazel M Kellington School.
- c) Joy Ann Rizal was employed as a part-time educational assistant effective January 19, 2026 and assigned to Hazel M Kellington School.
- d) Jinky Cayaban was employed as a term educational assistant effective January 19, 2026 to June 26, 2026 and assigned to Hazel M Kellington School.
- e) Arjane Madlao was employed as a part-time term educational assistant effective January 19, 2026 to June 26, 2026 and assigned to Hazel M Kellington School.
- f) Nora Heschuk was employed as a teacher on a full time limited term teacher general contract effective February 17, 2026 to June 30, 2026 and assigned to Neepawa Middle School.
- g) 2025/26 Substitute Teachers: Jaimie Walker, Michael Donais
- h) The request for maternity/parental leave from February 16, 2026 to April 2, 2027, as outlined in the Superintendent's Confidential Report item a) of this date was approved.
- i) The request for parental leave from February 17, 2026 to May 4, 2026 as outlined in the Superintendent's Confidential Report item b) of this date was approved.
- j) Resignation from Donna Clark, Educational Assistant at Hazel M Kellington School was accepted effective January 16, 2026.
- k) Resignation from Amanda Roels, Educational Assistant at J.M. Young School was accepted effective December 31, 2025.
- l) The out of division school of choice request from Willy Fuego who resides in Rolling River School Division for his daughter Abegail Narido Fuego to attend Grade 11 at Neepawa Area Collegiate effective January 13, 2026 was approved.
- m) The request for 6 days leave without pay, above and beyond the provisions provided in Policy G.C.C. as outlined in the Superintendent's Confidential Report item c) of this date was approved.

6. Secretary-Treasurer's Business Report

- a) The November 30, 2025 financial reports were approved.
- b) The rate per kilometer for use of a private vehicle for division work was set at 46 cents per kilometer effective January 1, 2026.

- c) Resignation from Arvin Gulles, Custodian at Neepawa Middle School was accepted effective January 13, 2026.
- d) Michelle Garin was employed as an Accounting Clerk effective February 1, 2026.
- e) The request for parental leave from March 16, 2026 to May 1, 2026 as outlined in the Secretary-Treasurer's Confidential Report item b) of this date was approved.

7. New Business & Correspondence for Action

New legislation, directives and a new provincial code of conduct has had an impact on our policies and has required some changes. Expanded definitions around bullying and cyberbullying along with school responsibilities, behavior interventions with consequences that defines what is deemed appropriate and a shift away from tracking of "attendance" to a more in-depth tracking of "engagement". The final changes reviewed focuses on the use of student suspensions only being used if an imminent safety risk is present as well as minimizing the uses of seclusion rooms if a physical danger exists.

- a) First Reading of Revised Policy JD-Code of Conduct –This policy was changed to include an overarching belief, add in a reference to the provincial code of conduct, include wording to reflect a rapidly changing technology environment and include specific wording for reporting bullying behavior regardless of time and place.
- b) First Reading of Revised Policy JL- Visitor Access – Changes reflect controlled access during and after school hours, visitor procedures, after-hours access processes and exceptions for events such as graduation and parent-teacher in-services.

8. Other Reports

- a) MSBA - e-News December 17, 2025 was reviewed and circulated.
- b) MSBA – e-News January 14, 2026 was reviewed and circulated.
- c) Minister Asagwara's response to Resolution FFM-01-25 – This letter was received in December and is in response from a 2025 convention resolution. The resolution was to request full funding for social and healthcare work that divisions provide. The response indicates continued work between Health & Education is required.
- d) MSBA Letter – Elimination of sick notes for short term absences – This letter from MSBA indicates that the province plans to eliminate short-term sick notes in 2026. This will have an impact on divisional processes.
- e) MSBA - March Annual Convention – Program, Registration and Guest room booking – The 2026 Annual Convention will be held March 19-20, 2026 with the business portion conducted on Thursday and the professional development on Friday. Registration is open. Trustees indicated their availability. Room reservations have been completed for trustees.

- f) MSBA Memo – Long Service Trustee Recognition Process – This recognition has now changed to include service up to October of the current year rather than March. With this change, a majority of BPSD trustees will be recognized at the 2026 Annual Convention.
- g) MSBA Memo to Board re Presidents' Council Award deadline extension Jan 2026 – Deadline has been extended to February 6, 2026 to accept nominations to recognize individuals for outstanding contributions to improving education and student outcomes within Manitoba's public education sector.
- h) MSBA Member Services Survey memo - Board Chairs – This memo explains MSBA is gathering feedback towards the end of trustee terms. This is a broad survey ranging from satisfaction with MSBA to confirmation that boards are aware of the services the MSBA provides. The survey requests trustees to complete this as a board. Trustees will discuss over the course of the next few regular board meetings.

9. Superintendent's Information and Correspondence

- a) Letter – Tracy Schmidt – Minister of Education and Early Childhood Learning - This letter was received in response to BPSD board letter requesting the Minister to consider how funding inequities create huge variances in the daily lived experience of children in our province. The response acknowledges these variances and the shortcomings of the current funding formula to address these variances, summarizes changes the province has made to close the gap and indicates the board's authority to address local needs through taxation.

10. Secretary-Treasurer's Information and Correspondence

- a) Neepawa Middle School Classroom Addition Update – Project timeline has been negatively impacted due to improper concrete curing during December. The extent of the impact has not yet been determined. Once remediation requirements are determined, schedule impacts will be communicated.

11. Open Forum

- a) Board quote was approved for circulation.
- b) Coming Events were circulated.
- c) Acadia – Trustee Convention – Acadia school will provide a raffle donation for MSBA Annual Convention.

Resolutions:

- 1. That the agenda be approved as circulated. *Carried*
- 2. That the minutes of the December 16, 2025 Regular Board Meeting be approved as circulated. *Carried*

3. That the November 30, 2025 expenditures be approved for a total of \$ 2,465,117.98.

Accounts Payable Cheques:

#53543 - #53772;	
#53773 - #53774 VOID;	
#53775 - #53814	\$ 1,155,764.92

Accounts Payable EFT Payments:	\$ -
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Payroll Direct Deposits:

#114164 - #114927	\$1,309,353.06	<i>Carried</i>
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4. That Kim Walker be employed as a part-time term educational assistant effective January 5, 2026 to June 26, 2026 and assigned to J.M. Young School. *Carried*
5. That Glenda Porwelos be employed as an educational assistant effective January 19, 2026 and assigned to Hazel M Kellington School. *Carried*
6. That Joy Ann Rizal be employed as a part-time educational assistant effective January 19, 2026 and assigned to Hazel M Kellington School. *Carried*
7. That Jinky Cayaban be employed as a term educational assistant effective January 19, 2026 to June 26, 2026 and assigned to Hazel M Kellington School. *Carried*
8. That Arjane Madlao be employed as a part-time term educational assistant effective January 19, 2026 to June 26, 2026 and assigned to Hazel M Kellington School. *Carried*
9. That Nora Heschuk be employed as a teacher on a full time limited term teacher general contract effective February 17, 2026 to June 30, 2026 and assigned to Neepawa Middle School. *Carried*
10. That the request for maternity/parental leave from February 16, 2026 to April 2, 2027, as outlined in the Superintendent's Confidential Report item a) of this date be approved. *Carried*
11. That the request for parental leave from February 17, 2026 to May 4, 2026 as outlined in the Superintendent's Confidential Report item b) of this date be approved. *Carried*
12. That the out of division school of choice request from Willy Fuego who resides in Rolling River School Division for his daughter Abegail Narido Fuego to attend Grade 11 at Neepawa Area Collegiate effective January 13, 2026 be approved. *Carried*
13. That the request for 6 days leave without pay, above and beyond the provisions provided in Policy G.C.C. as outlined in the Superintendent's Confidential Report item c) of this date be approved. *Carried*

January 20, 2026

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| 14. That the November 30th, 2025 financial reports be approved. | <i>Carried</i> |
| 15. That the rate per kilometer for use of a private vehicle for division work be set at 46 cents per kilometer effective January 1, 2026. | <i>Carried</i> |
| 16. That Michelle Garin be employed as an Accounting Clerk effective February 1, 2026. | <i>Carried</i> |
| 17. That the request for parental leave from March 16, 2026 to May 1, 2026 as outlined in the Secretary-Treasurer's Confidential Report item b) of this date be approved. | <i>Carried</i> |

Meeting adjourned at 7:13 p.m.

The next Regular Board Meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, February 3, 2026 at 5:00 p.m.

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