MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES, THE BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION, HELD IN THE J. L. MILNE BOARDROOM, ADMINISTRATION OFFICE, 1031 - 6TH STREET, BRANDON, MANITOBA, AT 7:00 P.M., MONDAY, NOVEMBER 23, 2009

PRESENT:
Mr. G. Buri, Chairperson, Mr. D. Karnes, Vice-Chairperson, Mr. P. Bartlette, Ms. R. Coey, Mrs. B. Jolly, Mr. B. Mayes (entered at 7:05 p.m.), Mr. J. Murray, Mr. M. Snelling.

Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. G. F. Barnes
Senior Administration: Dr. D. M. Michaels, Superintendent, Mr. G. Malazdrewicz, Associate Superintendent, Mr. K. Zabowski, Assistant Secretary-Treasurer.

REGRETS:
Dr. L. Ross

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:00 p.m. The Chairperson welcomed all visitors to the meeting and noted the art work from Alexander School placed on the walls. He advised that Trustee Ross sent her regrets as she was unable to attend the meeting.

AGENDA

1.00 AGENDA/MINUTES:

1.01 Reference to Statement of Board Operations

1.02 Approval of Agenda

Secretary-Treasurer, Mr. Barnes, requested the following amendments to the agenda:

a) 2:03 Delegations – The presentation by Mr. Jamie Freiheit, Teacher, Crocus Plains Regional Secondary High School regarding expanding the change rooms will be made at a future meeting.

b) 3.03 c) The Secretary-Treasurer advised that the November 30, 2009 Special Board Meeting would be held In-Camera.

Mr. Snelling – Mr. Bartlette
That the agenda be approved as amended.
Carried.

1.03 Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meetings

a) The Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting held November 9, 2009 were circulated.

Mrs. Jolly - Mr. Bartlette
That the Minutes be received and filed.
Carried.

2.0 GOVERNANCE MATTERS:

2.01 Presentations For Information

a) Shannon Graham, Eileen Agar, Brooke Williams, Peggy Hurd and Syndy Wright, HALEP teachers reported on the 32nd annual Confratute they attended at the University of Connecticut during the past summer. The teachers spoke about the purpose and history of the Confratute, the learning opportunities presented, a day in the life at the conference, the best practice of school wide planning and implementation of a gifted program and a summary of the gifted program in Brandon School Division. The Gifted Children Bill of Rights was referenced noting that students learn to increase their ability and that we have a responsibility to provide appropriate programming to individual gifted students. The presenters thanked the Board for the opportunity to attend this learning experience and hoped resources would be available for other teachers to attend a future Confratute. Trustee inquiries were responded to by the presenters. Chairperson Buri thanked the teachers for their presentation.

2.02 Reports of Committees

a) Divisional Futures & Liaison Committee Meeting

The written report of the Divisional Futures & Liaison Committee meeting was reviewed as circulated.

Mrs. Jolly – Mr. Bartlette
That the Minutes be received and filed.
Carried.

b) Education Committee Meeting

The written report of the Education Committee meeting was reviewed as circulated.
Trustee Jolly displayed the “Welcome to Kindergarten” program material. Trustees inquired regarding the various pre-kindergarten programs in the Division. This matter was discussed.

Mrs. Jolly – Mr. Snelling
That the Minutes be received and filed.
Carried.

c) Facilities/Transportation Committee Meeting

The written report of the Facilities/Transportation Committee meeting was reviewed as circulated. The Green Acres School Roof Update and the Fleming School Disposal Update were noted.

Mr. Karnes – Mr. Murray
That the Minutes be received and filed.
Carried.

d) Other – Meeting with Liberal Party Leader

Chairperson Buri reported on the meeting held with Dr. Jon Gerrard, Liberal Party leader noting his response to our various questions regarding education, noting the Liberal party supported 80/20 funding for operating purposes. It was also reported that Mr. Gerrard had taken a tour of Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School.

– EDI Conference
The Board was advised that Trustee Coey would report at a future meeting.

2.03 Delegations and Petitions

a) Mr. Howard Hoy provided an update regarding Neelin High School Off-Campus Scholarships. He noted being a strong supporter of the Neelin High School Off-Campus classroom referencing his involvement in facilitating the establishment of a number of scholarships for students who graduate from this highly successful program. It was reported that Murray Chevrolet Cadillac and Kelleher Ford Sales committed scholarship support to graduating students last year. Mr. Hoy advised the Board that both firms wished to continue their scholarships for the 2009-2010 school year.

Chairperson Buri thanked Mr. Hoy for his report and continued support of the Off-Campus program; Murray Chevrolet Cadillac and Kelleher Ford Sales for their 2009/2010 scholarship support.

b) Mr. Jamie Freiheit, Teacher, Crocus Plains Regional Secondary High School, regarding expanding the change rooms at Crocus Plains School was deferred to a future meeting.

c) Mr. Garry Demytrow, taxpayer, was not present to appear as a delegation regarding vandalism in the George Fitton area.

d) Mr. D. Hardy, President, Brandon Teachers' Association spoke to the Board regarding budget. He expressed appreciation to the Payroll Department for implementing the Blue Cross Compulsory Health Plan for the December 1, 2009 effective date. Trustees were thanked for meeting with members of the Brandon Teachers Association regarding input into the 2009/2010 and 2010/2011 budget preparations. He noted the earlier meeting date was considered beneficial. Mr. Hardy

stated the Association appreciated the opportunity to provide information on behalf of Brandon teachers regarding needs considered necessary in the system. The Board was wished the best in their deliberations noting the Brandon Teachers Association would likely be presenting again to the Board in March upon completion of the public budget process. Mr. Hardy also advised the Board that Ms. Alison Johnston would be acting BTA President during his absence.

Chairperson Buri thanked Mr. Hardy for his delegation and wished him the best during his leave.

2.04 Communications for Action

a) Yolande Dupuis, Chair, Nominating Committee, Manitoba School Boards Association, November 10, 2009, requesting member boards to submit names of potential candidates for the various positions of the MSBA Executive. An excerpt from By-Law #4 (7) Nominations for Executive Positions has been included. A second call will be made in January at the Regional Meetings and a third and final call to take place at the Convention. (Appendix "A").

Referred Business Arising.

2.05 BUSINESS ARISING

- From Previous Delegations

The delegation of Mrs. Sandra Koch Gensiorek, parent, speaking on behalf of the "Concerned Parents of George Fitton, Green Acres and Harrison School Community" regarding the Single Track French Immersion School proposed for Harrison in September 2010 was discussed. The Board requested a letter be forwarded to Mrs. Koch Gensiorek advising that the correspondence was being forwarded to the Single Track French Immersion Implementation Committee for information and thanking her for the delegation on behalf of the concerned parents.

- From Board Agenda

a) The correspondence from Yolande Dupuis, Chair, Nominating Committee, Manitoba School Boards Association, from Communications for Action 2.04a), requesting member boards to submit names of potential candidates for the various positions of the MSBA Executive was presented. Chairperson Buri asked if any Trustees were interested in being nominated for the MSBA executive positions identified. Trustees expressed no interest to be nominated for these positions.

- MSBA issues (last meeting of the month)

Dr. Michaels advised that the two workshop proposals on the Neelin Off-Campus High School and Aboriginal Education at Brandon School Division had been accepted for presentation at the 2010 MSBA Conference in March 2010.

- From Report of Senior Administration

a) School Reports

Alexander School

Ms. Barb Miller, Principal, presented a power point presentation on Alexander School. Specific programs noted were Pre-School Readiness Intervention, Literacy Intervention to Support Student Achievement, The Infusion of the Arts, Balanced Day and the new Alexander website. Ms. Miller responded to Trustee inquiries. The Chairperson thanked Ms. Miller for the presentation.

Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School

Mr. Terry Osiowy, Principal, presented a written report on Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School. The following items were identified – growing EAL population, administration team alignment, student management and program development teams, instructional planning process for program delivery, timetabling, school development and strategic planning, communication and networking, student standards and effective leadership that encourages school leadership. Trustee inquiries were responded to by Mr. Osiowy and Dr. Michaels. Mr. Buri thanked Mr. Osiowy for his presentation.

b) Learning Support Services Report - NIL

c) Items from Senior Administration Report
- Pension Participation Agreement – Referred to Motions.
- Proposal for Photocopier Equipment CPRSS – Referred to Motions.

2.06 Motions

185/2009 Mrs. Jolly – Mr. Snelling
That the Participation Agreement with The Manitoba School Boards Association for administration of the non-teaching employees pension plan be approved; and that the Chairperson and Secretary-Treasurer be authorized to affix their signatures thereto.
Carried.

186/2009 Mr. Bartlette – Mr. Karnes
That the low proposal of Gold Business Machines Brandon Ltd. for the supply, installation and service of photocopier equipment at Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School be accepted in the estimated amount of $62,220 for 3 Kyocera TASKalfa 820 photocopiers (one with 'booklet folder/stapler option') be accepted and approval be granted to enter into a 48-month lease in accordance with the proposal.
Carried.

187/2009 Mrs. Jolly – Mr. Snelling
That the Welcome to Kindergarten program be implemented as a pilot project for the 2010/2011 school year in a school to be selected by Senior Administration with costs covered by the Learning Partnership of Canada.
Carried.

188/2009 Mr. Bartlette – Mr. Karnes
That the request of the Brandon Career Symposium 2010 for financial support be approved in the amount of $2,000.
Carried.

189/2009 Mr. Snelling – Mrs. Jolly
That the Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School trip involving 19 male hockey students to Minneapolis, Minnesota from December 27, 2009 – January 1, 2010 be approved and carried out in accordance with Board Policy/Procedures 4001 Off-Site Activities.
Carried.

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2.07 Bylaws

2.08 Giving of Notice

2.09 Inquiries

2.09 a) Public Inquiries (last meeting of each month – max. 15 minutes)

Ms. Deb Arpin, President, CUPE Local 737 commented on support for Alexander School, inquired if CUPE staff would lose positions due to the implementation of the Single Track French Immersion Program at Harrison School and requested clarification from Trustee Coey regarding her comment at the previous Board meeting that there was no room for a Dual Track French Immersion school in the Brandon School Division.

Secretary-Treasurer, G. Barnes responded that no permanent CUPE employee would lose their job as a result of the establishment of the Single Track French Immersion Program at Harrison School. Trustee Coey provided clarification of her comments noting it was her opinion that there was no room to have a Dual Track French Immersion Program in an urban setting as she felt the Single Track French Immersion Program should be implemented being the more educationally strong program.

2.09b) Trustee Inquiries

Trustee inquiries were as follows:

a) Trustee Mayes inquired as to whether Senior Administration could provide the 2009/2010 allocation of the two music teacher positions previously approved by the Board?

b) Trustee Mayes inquired as to how many declared aboriginal students are presently in the Division?

c) Trustee Bartlette asked if Senior Administration had requested support from Westman Immigration Services to provide translation services required for parent/teacher interviews.

   Mr. Malazdrewicz, Associate Superintendent, advised of the process regarding the use of translators by the schools. Senior Administration reported that requests for support had not been submitted to Westman Immigration Services but such would be investigated.

d) Trustee Bartlette as to whether the large class sizes at Earl Oxford School, presented at the previous Board meeting had been followed up on.

   Dr. Michaels, Superintendent advised that adjustments had been made at the school level to address this concern.

e) Trustee Coey asked what contact there has been with the Nursery School Class at George Fitton School regarding their possible relocation.

   G. Barnes, Secretary-Treasurer reported that correspondence had been forwarded to 3-4-5- Nursery advising that it would be necessary for them to vacate George Fitton School and they would be considered for placement in another school should available space be identified during our facilities review.

f) Trustee Snelling asked if the 27 new EAL students were included in the total EAL enrollment.

   Dr. Michaels, Superintendent and G. Malazdrewicz, Associate Superintendent explained the EAL student numbers included in the Senior Administration Report

3.00 ADMINISTRATIVE INFORMATION:

3.01 Report of Senior Administration

Dr. Michaels spoke to the Early Years to Middle Years Transition Initiative that had been implemented at Betty Gibson, St. Augustine, Meadows and Valleyview. The Senior High Access Committee work being undertaken was reviewed with the Board. The on-going considerations regarding placement of the B. J. Hales Museum Collection was noted.

Ms. Coey – Mr. Bartlette
That the report be received and filed.

3.02 Communications for Information

a) Paul Birston, Manager of Architectural Services, Rick Dedi, Executive Director, Public Schools Finance Board, October 21, 2009, authorizing the Betty Gibson School Grooming Room project.

Ordered Filed.

b) Ron Lemieux, Minister of Intergovernmental Affairs, October 30, 2009, advising that royal assent has been given to Bill 4, *The Community Revitalization Tax Increment Financing Act*. He includes the key aspects of the Act which are of importance to school division boards. A copy of the legislation may be obtained from the Province's website at: http://23b2.gov.mb.ca/bills/39-3/pdf/b004.pdf.

Ordered Filed.

c) Honourable Peter Bjornson, Minister of Education, Citizenship and Youth, November 3, 2009, writing in response to the Board's letter regarding the Access Copyright retroactive charges emanating from the Copyright Board of Canada, June 2009 decision. The Manitoba Department of Education, Citizenship, and Youth does not have a budget for this charge nor is there a mechanism by which the charges to school division's could be deferred but still paid by the required October 31, 2009 and April 30, 2010 due dates. The Department is required to proceed with the recovery of the retroactive charges in order to meet the Access Copyright payment terms and avoid any further interest charges. Additional information on the recovery amounts and timing have been provided by the Schools' Finance Branch, a copy of which has been attached to the correspondence.

Ordered Filed.

d) Suzanne DesRochers, Acting Team Leader, Ministerial Correspondence Directorate, November 5, 2009 writing on behalf of the Honourable Chuck Strahl, Minister of Indian Affairs and Northern Development, Federal Interlocutor for Métis and Non-Status Indians and Minister of the Canadian Northern Economic Development Agency, acknowledging receipt of the Board's letter dated October 28, 2009 concerning support for tripartite efforts to address Aboriginal education noting the Board's letter will receive careful consideration.

Ordered Filed.

e) Ron R. Schuler, MLA Springfield, November 2, 2009 writing in response to the Board's letter outlining concerns regarding the timing of the Provincial funding announcement and assuring that he will share the concerns with Rick Borotsik, P. C. Financial Critic.

Ordered Filed.

f) Copy of a letter from Don Nichol, Board Chair, Sunrise School Division, September 21, 2009, to the Honourable Peter Bjornson, requesting his consideration for providing H1N1 emergent funding and asking if there are any provisions for financial support to School Divisions who have expended unallocated funds to ensure the safety and well being of their staff and children during this unprecedented and emergent situation.

Ordered Filed,

3.03 Announcements

a) Policy Review Committee Meeting, 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, November 24, 2009, Board Room.

b) Meeting with Hugh McFadyen and Rick Borotsik, Progressive Conservative Party, Wednesday, November 25, 2009, Board Room.

c) Support Personnel Labour Management Committee Meeting, 3:30 p.m., Wednesday, November 25, 2009, Conference Room.

d) Special Board Meeting (In Camera) – 7:00 p.m., Monday, November 30, 2009, Board Room.

e) Personnel Committee Meeting – 10:00 a.m., Tuesday, December 1, 2009, Board Room.

f) MSBA Resolutions Committee Meeting – 12:00 noon, Tuesday, December 1, 2009, Board Room.

g) Chamber/Division Ad-Hoc Committee Meeting – 11:30 a.m., Wednesday, December 2, 2009, Chamber Office.

h) Special Education Committee Meeting – 11:30 a.m., Thursday, December 3, 2009, Board Room.

i) Personnel Committee – Teacher Grievance Hearing – Monday, December 7, 2009, Winnipeg.

j) Facilities and Transportation Committee Meeting – 10:00 a.m., Thursday, December 10, 2009, Board Room.

k) NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING – 7:00 p.m., Monday, December 14, 2009, Board Room.

Mrs. Jolly – Mr. Karnes
That the Board do now resolve into Committee of the Whole In Camera.

Carried.

IN COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE IN CAMERA

4.00 IN CAMERA DISCUSSION:

4.01 Student Issues

- Reports

a) Confidential #2 and #3 on Student Instructional Matters were discussed at length. It was agreed this matter be considered at the next Finance Committee Meeting with a recommendation to be considered at the December 14, 2009 Regular Board Meeting.

- Trustee Inquiries

4.02 Personnel Matters

- Reports

a) Confidential #1 - Personnel Report was noted.
b) Confidential #4 an Out-of-Scope Personnel Matter was considered and referred to the Personnel Committee for recommendation.

- Trustee Inquiries

4.03 Property Matters/Tenders

- Reports

- Trustee Inquiries

4.04 Board Operations

- Reports

- Trustee Inquiries

Mr. Karnes – Mr. Bartlette
That the Committee of the Whole In Camera do now resolve into Board.
Carried.

5.00 ADJOURNMENT

Mr. Murray – Ms. Coey
That the meeting do now adjourn (10:40 p.m.)
Carried.

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer