



BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting Monday, March 23, 2026

J. L. Milne Boardroom
Administration Office
1031 - 6th Street, Brandon, Manitoba

Trustees Present:

L. Ross, Chairperson	D. Ross, Vice-Chairperson
K. Carr	C. Ekenna
K. Fallis	L. McConnell
S. Mozdzen	J. Murray
B. Sieklicki	

Also Present:

D. Labossiere, Secretary-Treasurer
M. Gustafson, Superintendent/CEO
S. Gilleshammer, Assistant Superintendent – Student Services
J. Zilkey, Assistant Superintendent – Curriculum and HR
J. McBeth, Executive Assistant
V. DeVlieger, Executive Secretary
T. Curtis, Communications Coordinator

The Chairperson called the public portion of the meeting to order at 7:32 p.m., with a traditional heritage land acknowledgment.

AGENDA

1.00 AGENDA/MINUTES:

1.01 Approval of Agenda

K. Fallis – J. Murray
That the agenda be approved.
Carried

1.02 Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting

- a) Regular Board Meeting – March 9, 2026
K. Carr – C. Ekenna
- That the minutes be approved as circulated.
Carried

2.00 IN-CAMERA DISCUSSION

2.01 Student Issues

- Reports

- Trustee Inquiries

2.02 Personnel Matters

- Reports
- Trustee Inquiries

2.03 Property Matters/Tenders

- Reports
- Trustee Inquiries

2.04 Board Operations

- Reports
- Trustee Inquiries

3.00 PRESENTATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

3.01 Presentations for Information

3.02 Communications for Information

3.03 Communications for Action

4.00 REPORT OF SENIOR ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Gustafson provided highlights from the following items from the March 23, 2026, Report of Senior Administration:

a) Administration Information:

- Celebrations:
 - Vincent Massey High School students and staff take pride in celebrating the many cultures represented in the school community. This year's Culturama event is scheduled for March 23/24, 2026, and will feature student performances and food representing over 20 countries.
- Information Items:
 - Earl Oxford School and Waverly Park School, Off-Site Activity, band trip to Moose Jaw, Saskatchewan.
 - Mr. Labossiere reviewed the Scholarship Agreement additions, changes and completed/withdrawn for the 2025-2026 School Year.
- Presentations:
 - Students and Staff from École secondaire Neelin High School and Vincent Massey High School shared their highlights and perspectives from the One Manitoba Youth Summit: Safe and Healthy Futures, hosted by Manitoba Education and Early Childhood Learning on February 27, 2026.

- b) Business Arising for Board Action:
 - Information for Discussion and Correspondence:
 - The Staffing Activity Report was distributed to the Board as Confidential No. 1.

D. Ross – L. McConnell

That the March 23, 2026, Report of Senior Administration be received and filed.

Carried

5.00 GOVERNANCE MATTERS

5.01 Reports of Committees

- a) Education & Community Relations Committee Meeting
The written report of the Education & Community Relations Committee meeting held on March 9, 2026, was circulated.

C. Ekenna – J. Murray

That the report be received and filed.

Carried

- b) Finance & Facilities Committee Meeting
The written report of the Finance & Facilities Committee meeting held on March 9, 2026, was circulated.

B. Sieklicki – D. Ross

That the report be received and filed.

Carried

- c) Personnel & Policy Committee Meeting
The written report of the Personnel & Policy Committee meeting held on March 9, 2026, was circulated.

L. McConnell – K. Carr

That the report be received and filed.

Carried

5.02 Delegations and Petitions (Max. 15 minutes)

Kat Hunkin and Tana Janzen of the Brandon School Division have partnered with Smiley Worms, and presented an idea for a progressive, proactive, low-risk budget shift that would make the Brandon School Division a leader in Manitoba in terms of environmental education. Trustees asked questions for clarification.

Ketan Patel, Citizen of Brandon, provided a presentation on Anti-Islamophobia Action Plan introduced by the Manitoba government and how initiatives connected to this plan may be implemented within public schools. Trustees asked questions for clarification.

5.03 Business Arising

- From Previous Delegation:

Michelle and Andy Depner, representatives of Caregiver Advocates for Literacy Equity, presented on Universal Screening for Reading Difficulties and answered Trustee questions for clarification. The Board thanked Michelle and Andy for their presentation and indicated they will take their information under advisement.

- From Board Agenda

- MSBA Issues –

a) E-News – March 11, 2026

5.04 Public Inquiries (Max. 15 Mins)

During the March 9, 2026, Regular Board Meeting, Mr. James Epp, resident of Brandon, had an inquiry surrounding the budget process and stated *“to help me make my 8 decisions come October, is this the standard operating procedure of the Brandon School Division? If so, how long has this been the process and have there been prior attempts to correct it?”*

The Chairperson indicated that several people within the Division engaged in a great deal of work and put together a couple of very important documents. One document indicates where budget items and discussions occurred at Regular Board meetings throughout the year. The other document is a breakdown of when announcements and news surrounding the 2026-2027 budget preparation were posted publicly on the Division’s social media. Both of these documents are available to the public and Mr. Epp. The Chairperson thanked Mr. Epp for his inquiry and indicated that when collecting this information, the Division discovered a few items and procedures that could be changed to help the Division communicate more effectively with the public.

5.05 Motions:

18/2026 L. McConnell – J. Murray
That the research request from Shannon Howell, PhD, Senior Research Consultant, CCI Resources/CCI Research Inc., for the inclusion of five additional schools in the project: 2025-2026 Canadian Student Alcohol and Drugs Survey, be approved.

Carried

19/2026 L. McConnell – J. Murray
That the purchase of three (3) Blue Bird propane school buses and one (1) Blue Bird gas school bus for the 2026-2027 school year in the amount of \$988,122.14 (including taxes) be funded by the School Bus Capital Reserve, be approved.

Carried

Late Motions:

20/2026 K. Fallis – S. Mozdzen
That the 2026-2027 School Year Calendar be established, as proposed.

Carried

21/2026 J. Murray – S. Mozdzen
Whereas the vendor, Powerland, has advised the Division that they can no longer honor their tender pricing and product specification for 900 laptop computers due to AI disturbance, component availability, and escalating prices, be it resolved that Motion 9/2026 be rescinded.

Carried

22/2026 J. Murray – S. Mozdzen
That the Quote from Powerland in the amount of \$630,800.00 (plus applicable taxes) for the supply of 800 laptop computers, funded from the 2025-2026 Operating Budget, be accepted.

Carried

23/2026 S. Mozdzen – J. Murray
That the Tender from Con-Restor Technologies in the amount of \$76,915 (excluding GST) for Concrete Stair Repairs at Ecole New Era School and Vincent Massey High School, funded through the 2026-2027 Operating Budget, be accepted.

Carried

24/2026 S. Mozdzen – J. Murray
That the Promissory Note LTPS0865 for the purpose of borrowing the sum of Three Hundred Eighteen Thousand Seven Hundred Dollars (\$318,700) to meet partial costs of the following:

<u>School:</u> Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School	<u>Project:</u> MUA Replacement
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be approved.

Carried

25/2026 K. Fallis – S. Mozdzen
That the Promissory Note LTPS0882 for the purpose of borrowing the sum of Thirty One Thousand One Hundred Dollars (\$31,100) to meet partial costs of the following:

<u>School:</u> Meadows School	<u>Project:</u> Roof Replacement Design
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be approved.

Carried

26/2026 D. Ross – B. Sieklicki
That the Memorandum of Agreement between Prairie Mountain Health and Brandon School Division for the purchase of Occupational Therapy services effective April 1, 2026, be approved; and that the Chairperson and Secretary-Treasurer be and are hereby authorized to affix their signatures and the seal of the Division thereto.

Carried

27/2026 K. Carr – B. Sieklicki
That the Service Purchase Agreement between Prairie Mountain Health and Brandon School Division for the purchase of Speech Language services effective April 1, 2026, be approved; and that the Chairperson and Secretary-Treasurer be and are hereby authorized to affix their signatures and the seal of the Division thereto.

Carried

28/2026 C. Ekenna – K. Carr
That Confidential No. 2 and the recommendations therein be approved.

Carried

29/2026 B. Sieklicki – K. Carr
That Confidential No. 3 and the recommendations therein be approved.

Carried

30/2026 B. Sieklicki – K. Carr
That Confidential No. 4 and the recommendations therein be approved.

Carried

5.06 Bylaws

5.07 Giving of Notice

5.08 Trustee Inquiries

6.00 ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a) NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING – 7:30 p.m. (public), Monday, April 13, 2026.

7.00 ADJOURNMENT

K. Fallis – S. Mozdzen
That the Board do now adjourn at 9:09 p.m.

Carried

Chairperson (L. Ross)

Secretary-Treasurer (D. Labossiere)