



# BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION

## Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting Monday, March 9, 2026

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

### Trustees Present:

L. Ross, 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  
T. Curtis, Communications Coordinator

### Regrets:

D. Ross, Vice-Chairperson

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The Chairperson called the public portion of the meeting to order at 7:34 p.m., with a traditional heritage land acknowledgment.

## AGENDA

### 1.00 AGENDA/MINUTES:

#### 1.01 Approval of Agenda

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

#### 1.02 Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting

- a) Regular Board Meeting – February 23, 2026  
K. Carr – B. Sieklicki

That the minutes be approved as circulated.  
Carried

- b) Budget Deliberations – February 25, 2026  
S. Mozdzen – K. Fallis

That the minutes be approved as circulated.  
Carried

- c) Public Budget Presentation & Consultation – March 2, 2026  
K. Carr – B. Sieklicki

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**

A letter was received from Heidi Howarth, Chair of the Brandon Conservatory Chorale (BCC). The Board decided to refer the letter to Committee of the Whole for further discussion.

## **4.00 REPORT OF SENIOR ADMINISTRATION**

Mr. Gustafson provided highlights from the following items from the March 9, 2026, Report of Senior Administration:

a) Administration Information:

➤ Celebrations:

- Brandon School Division students will participate in the Brandon University Jazz Festival on March 12-14, 2026:
  - Brandon Grade 8 Jazz Ensemble – March 13
  - Crocus Plains Neelin Jazz Combo - March 13

- Crocus Plains Neelin Grades 10-12 Jazz Band – March 13
- Crocus Plains Neelin Grade 9 Jazz Band - March 14
- Vincent Massey Junior Jazz Band – March 12
- Vincent Massey Intermediate Jazz Band – March 13
- Vincent Massey Senior Jazz Band – March 12

➤ Information Items:

- Correspondence was received from Honourable Ron Kostyshyn, Minister of Agriculture, and Honourable Tracy Schmidt, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Learning, proclaiming March 2026 as Canadian Agriculture Literacy Month in Manitoba.
- Mr. Gustafson provided an update on Substitute Teacher availability.
- Administrative Procedure (AP) 5130 – Respectful Workplace has been updated to align with amendments to The Workplace Safety and Health Act.

b) Business Arising for Board Action:

➤ Information for Discussion and Correspondence:

- The Staffing Activity Report was distributed to the Board as Confidential No. 1.
- Mr. Labossiere provided highlights regarding the 2026-2027 Financial Budget and 2026 Special Levy. Refer to motions.

B. Sieklicki – J. Murray

That the March 9, 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 February 23, 2026, was circulated.

K. Fallis – K. Carr

That the report be received and filed.

Carried

b) Finance & Facilities Committee Meeting

The written report of the Finance & Facilities Committee meeting held on February 23, 2026, was circulated.

B. Sieklicki – K. Fallis

That the report be received and filed.

Carried

c) Personnel & Policy Committee Meeting

The written report of the Personnel & Policy Committee meeting held on February 23, 2026, was circulated.

S. Mozdzen - J. Murray  
That the report be received and filed.  
Carried

**5.02 Delegations and Petitions (Max. 15 minutes)**

Michelle and Andy Depner, representatives of Caregiver Advocates for Literacy Equity, presented on Universal Screening for Reading Difficulties and answered Trustee questions for clarification.

**5.03 Business Arising**

**- From Previous Delegation:**

Rana Wilkinson, spokesperson for the Brandon Parent Council Collective, presented on the topic of Lunch Supervision. The Board agreed to refer the matter of Lunch Supervision to Committee of the Whole for further discussion.

**- From Board Agenda**

**- MSBA Issues –**

- a) MSBA Annual Convention – March 19-20, 2026
- b) E-News – February 26, 2026

**5.04 Public Inquiries (Max. 15 Mins)**

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?”*

**5.05 Motions:**

15/2026 B. Sieklicki – C. Ekenna  
That the Final Budget for 2026-2027 and the 2026 Special Levy be approved as follows:

Total Operating Expenses	\$ 149,682,900
Transfers to Capital Fund	<u>\$ 153,500</u>
Total Operating Expenses and Transfers	<u>\$ 149,836,400</u>
2026-2027 Special Requirement	<u>\$ 64,261,527</u>
2026 Special Levy to be raised from Municipalities	<u>\$ 59,274,200</u>

Carried

**Late Motions:**

16/2026 L. McConnell – J. Murray  
Whereas the Middle East Conflict poses increased risk to the safety of students from Vincent Massey High School traveling to Germany, Switzerland and Austria from March 26 to April 3, 2026, be it resolved that Motion 41/2024 be rescinded.  
Carried

17/2026 J. Murray – S. Mozdzen  
Whereas the Middle East Conflict poses increased risk to the safety of students from Ecole Secondaire Neelin High School traveling to Greece from March 26 to April 3, 2026, be it resolved that Motion 42/2024 and Motion 61/2025 be rescinded.  
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, March 23, 2026.

**7.00 ADJOURNMENT**

K. Fallis – L. McConnell  
That the Board do now adjourn at 8:57 p.m.  
Carried

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Chairperson (L. Ross)

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Secretary-Treasurer (D. Labossiere)