



BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting Monday, May 11, 2026

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

Trustees Present:

L. Ross, Chairperson	D. Ross, Vice-Chairperson
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:

K. Carr

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:15 p.m.

AGENDA

1.00 AGENDA/MINUTES:

1.01 Approval of Agenda

Senior Administration added two (2) items for In-Camera.

D. Ross – B. Sieklicki

That the agenda be approved.

Carried

1.02 Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting

- a) Regular Board Meeting – April 27, 2026
B. Sieklicki – D. Ross

That the minutes be approved as circulated.

Carried

J. Murray – K. Fallis

That the Board move into In-Camera session at 7:16 p.m.

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

Mr. Labossiere provided information on two (2) Board Operation Matters and received feedback from the Board.

B. Sieklicki – D. Ross

That the Board move out of In-Camera session at 7:29 p.m.

The Chairperson called the public portion of the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m., with a traditional heritage land acknowledgment.

3.00 PRESENTATIONS AND COMMUNICATIONS

3.01 Presentations for Information

3.02 Communications for Information

Correspondence was received from Honourable Tracy Schmidt, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Learning, regarding a letter of thanks to Mathew Gustafson, Superintendent/Chief Executive Officer, for his leadership of Brandon School Division.

3.03 Communications for Action

Correspondence was received from Caroline Mullins, Executive Assistant, Brandon Teachers' Association, April 24, 2026, addressed to Mr. Mathew Gustafson, Superintendent/CEO, advising that Ms. Sandra Thompson has been acclaimed as the President of the Brandon Teachers' Association (BTA) for the term beginning July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027. The BTA formally requests that Ms. Thompson be seconded full-time, with salary and benefits to be paid by the Association.

Refer to Motions.

Correspondence was received from Katia Guzzardi, Recording Secretary, CUPE Local 737, May 3, 2026, addressed to Mr. Denis Labossiere, Secretary-Treasurer, requesting permission

for Jamie Rose, School Bus Driver/Utility Maintenance Worker to continue with the secondment of three days per week for union business, from September 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027, in the school year 2026 – 2027.

Refer to Motions.

4.00 REPORT OF SENIOR ADMINISTRATION

Mr. Gustafson provided highlights from the following items from the May 11, 2026, Report of Senior Administration:

a) Administration Information:

➤ Celebrations:

- The annual Youth in Philanthropy Grant Gala took place on April 30, marking the 21st anniversary of the program. Youth in Philanthropy is an extracurricular high school student group funded through generous support from the Brandon Area Community Foundation and United Way West Central Manitoba.

Youth in Philanthropy provides an opportunity for high school students to learn more about philanthropy and community organizations that would benefit from additional support. This year, students from Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School, École secondaire Neelin High School, and Vincent Massey High School researched various organizations in order to determine how best to allocate the funds they received from the Brandon Area Community Foundation and United Way West Central Manitoba.

- The annual Middle Years Oratorical Event took place on May 5, 2026, at the School of Music at Brandon University. Approximately 60 students from 16 schools participated in this event. The winners and runners-up, were:

Grade 5-6 Winner Ryan K., J. R. Reid School

Grade 5-6 Runner-Up Gavin P., Linden Lanes School

Grade 7-8 Winner Mithika M., Maryland Park School

Grade 7-8 Runner-Up Daniela A. A., St. Augustine School

- Christopher Sarkonak, Teacher at Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School, has been awarded a National Science Teaching Association (NSTA) Robert E. Yager Award for Exemplary Teaching. The NSTA Awards program honours K-12 teachers, principals, professors, and other science education professionals for their outstanding work and achievement in science education.
- The Grade 3/4 choir from École New Era School was invited to perform at the Manitoba Legislative Building on May 4, 2026, in celebration of Music Month in Manitoba.
- The Crocus Plains/Neelin Community Band and the Vincent Massey Senior Jazz Band will perform in the Virden Arts Mosaic Concert on May 12, 2026.

- Information Items:
 - Correspondence was received from Honourable Tracy Schmidt, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Learning, proclaiming May 2026 as Music Month in Manitoba.
 - Correspondence was received from Honourable Tracy Schmidt, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Learning, proclaiming May 18 to 22, 2026 as Treaty Week in Manitoba.
 - Presentations:
 - Mr. Gustafson provided a presentation regarding the Brandon School Division's Community Lunch Program.
- 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 – J. Murray

That the May 11, 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 May 11, 2026, was circulated.

J. Murray – D. Ross

That the report be received and filed.

Carried

- b) Finance & Facilities Committee Meeting
The written report of the Finance & Facilities Committee meeting held on May 11, 2026, was circulated.

B. Sieklicki – C. Ekenna

That the report be received and filed.

Carried

- c) Personnel & Policy Committee Meeting
The written report of the Personnel & Policy Committee meeting held on May 11, 2026, was circulated.

L. McConnell – D. Ross

That the report be received and filed.

Carried

5.02 Delegations and Petitions (Max. 15 minutes)

5.03 Business Arising

- From Previous Delegation:

- From Board Agenda

- MSBA Issues

a) Trustee Elections – Candidate Webinars:

- Wednesday, May 27, 2026, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.
- Monday, June 1, 2026, 6:00 – 8:00 p.m.

b) E-News, May 6, 2026

5.04 Public Inquiries (Max. 15 Mins)

5.05 Motions:

37/2026

J. Murray – S. Mozdzen

That the request of the Brandon Teachers' Association, that the President of the Association, Ms. Sandra Thompson, be seconded from the Division from July 1, 2026 to June 30, 2027 on a full-time basis be approved, subject to the Division being reimbursed by the Association for all salary and benefit costs for the period of the secondment and that the terms and conditions of this leave of absence are in accordance with Article 7.16 of the Collective Bargaining Agreement.

Carried

38/2026

S. Mozdzen – J. Murray

That the request of CUPE Local 737, that the President of the Association, Mr. Jamie Rose, be seconded from the Division in the 2026-2027 school year for three (3) days per week from September 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027 for union purposes.

Carried

Late Motions:

39/2026

K. Fallis – S. Mozdzen

That the Quote from Restoration Manitoba in the amount of \$196,087.50 (including taxes) for the ceiling tile abatement and installation of new tiles at Riverheights School, funded through the Operating Fund Accumulated Surplus, be accepted.

Carried

5.06 Bylaws

2nd Reading:

D. Ross

That By-law 1/2026 being a by-law providing for the borrowing of monies upon the credit of the said School Division to meet current expenses for the fiscal year, July 1, 2026, to June 30, 2027, be now read for the second time.

5.07 Giving of Notice

5.08 Trustee Inquiries

6.00 ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a) Public Information Evening: New K-8 School in Brookwood – 6:30 p.m., Wednesday, May 20, 2026, at Vincent Massey High School Library.
- b) Next Regular Board Meeting – 7:30 p.m. (Public), Monday, May 25, 2026.
- c) Employee Long Service Event – 4:00 p.m. Thursday, May 28, 2026

7.00 ADJOURNMENT

D. Ross – J. Murray

That the Board do now adjourn at 8:06 p.m.

Carried

Chairperson (L. Ross)

Secretary-Treasurer (D. Labossiere)