



BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting Monday, November 10, 2025

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

Trustees Present:

L. Ross, Chairperson	D. Ross, Vice-Chairperson
K. Carr	C. Ekenna (by phone)
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

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 6:42 p.m.

AGENDA

1.00 AGENDA/MINUTES:

1.01 Approval of Agenda

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

K. Fallis – D. Ross

That the agenda be approved.

Carried

1.02 Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting

- a) Special Board Meeting – October 27, 2025
K. Fallis – K. Carr

That the minutes be approved as circulated.

Carried

- b) Regular Board Meeting – October 27, 2025
K. Carr – B. Sieklicki

That the minutes be approved as circulated.

Carried

D. Ross – B. Sieklicki

That the Board move into In-Camera session at 6:43 p.m.

2.00 IN-CAMERA DISCUSSION

2.01 Student Issues

- Reports
- Trustee Inquiries

2.02 Personnel Matters

Mr. Gustafson provided information on a Personnel Matter.

2.03 Property Matters/Tenders

- Reports
- Trustee Inquiries

2.04 Board Operations

Mr. Labossiere provided information on a Board Operations Matter and received direction from the Board.

K. Carr - D. Ross

That the Board move out of In-Camera session at 7:15 p.m.

The Chairperson called the public portion of the meeting to order at 7:30 p.m.

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 November 10, 2025, Report of Senior Administration:

- a) Administration Information:
- Celebrations:

- No Stone Left Alone – On November 6, 2025, approximately 800 students attended the annual Remembrance Day ceremony, No Stone Left Alone, to pay their respects to veterans and place poppies on the gravesites of veterans.
- National Indigenous Veterans Day and Remembrance Day – National Indigenous Veterans Day is a Canadian Memorial Day observed annually on November 8. It is dedicated to the contributions of Indigenous Canadians to military service.
- Major Production – Vincent Massey High School is pleased to present Once Upon a One More Time from November 20–22, 2025, at the Western Manitoba Centennial Auditorium.
- Information Items:
 - Correspondence was received from Honourable Tracy Schmidt, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Learning, proclaiming November 2025, as Financial Literacy Month.
 - Correspondence was received from Honourable Tracy Schmidt, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Learning, proclaiming November 9-15, 2025, as Bullying Awareness and Prevention Week.
 - Prime Minister's Awards – Nominations are now open for the 2026 Prime Minister's Awards. The Prime Minister's Awards are a chance to celebrate educators for their leadership and exemplary education practices. Any person or group can nominate educators in the three different categories: Teaching Excellence, Teaching Excellence in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM), and Excellence in Early Education. The deadline for applications is January 14, 2026. More information is available at the following link <https://ised-isde.canada.ca/site/ised/en/programs-and-initiatives/prime-ministers-awards/how-nominate>
 - Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School and École Secondaire Neelin High School Off-Site Activity, Band and Choir students, trip to Banff.
- Presentations:
 - Mr. Gustafson and Mr. Labossiere presented information regarding the 2026-2027 Preliminary Budget.
 - Mr. Gustafson provided a presentation regarding Five-Year Substitute Teacher Analysis and answered Trustee questions for clarification.

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 November 10, 2025, 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 October 27, 2025, was circulated.

K. Fallis – 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 October 27, 2025, 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 October 27, 2025, was circulated.

L. McConnell – B. Sieklicki

That the report be received and filed.

Carried

5.02 Delegations and Petitions (Max. 15 minutes)

Ms. Shelley Kokorudz, Associate Professor at Brandon University, spoke to the Board about the possibility of piloting a nature-based learning approach within the Division and answered Trustee questions.

5.03 Business Arising

- From Previous Delegation:

Ms. Heidi Howarth, BCC Chair, presented on behalf of the Brandon Conservatory Chorale in reference to their annual school tour. The Board expressed their gratitude to Ms. Howarth for her presentation and information surrounding the Brandon Conservatory Chorale and indicated her request will be deferred to Committee of the Whole for further discussion.

Mr. Justin Venema, Brandon Citizen, advocated for the transformation of schoolyards within BSD, proposing the use of native plants and biodiversity in place of traditional monocultural lawns and answered Trustee questions. The Board thanked Mr. Venema for his presentation and indicated his request will be deferred to Committee of the Whole for further discussion. The Board also suggested to Mr. Venema to share his ideas with the City of Brandon.

- From Board Agenda

- MSBA Issues –

a) E-News – November 5, 2025

5.04 Public Inquiries (Max. 15 Mins)

During the October 27, 2025, Regular Board meeting, Mr. James Epp, Brandon Citizen, inquired when will the auditor's report be available to the public and will the report be available in person, online and in accessible forms? Mr. Labossiere indicated that the Audited Financial Statements were posted on the Brandon School Division website on October 31, 2025. He further indicated financial statements are posted on the Division's website after the Board approves the draft financial statements and the Division receives the final Auditor's Report.

Mr. James Epp, Brandon Citizen, inquired the following:

1. How do we increase voter turnout and give politicians from other levels of government the incentive to recognize that our representatives truly represent the needs of their constituents, and the wants, and the desires and the demands of their constituents?
2. Was the Brandon School Division Board of Trustees consulted when the City of Brandon was developing their recent City plan?
3. Would the BSD Board of Trustees consider showing up as a delegation to the City of Brandon Council some time and advocate for making four-unit residential dwellings as of right, in residential low density zoned areas in the City?

5.05 Motions

5.06 Bylaws

5.07 Giving of Notice

5.08 Trustee Inquiries

Trustee Carr indicated that he wanted to recognize the Neelin students who participated in the Major Production, School of Rock. He indicated the show was amazing, and that he is looking forward to attending the Vincent Massey Major Production.

6.00 ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a) NEXT REGULAR BOARD MEETING – 7:30 p.m. (public), Monday, November 24, 2025

7.00 ADJOURNMENT

D. Ross – B. Sieklicki

That the Board do now adjourn at 9:23 p.m.

Carried

Chairperson (L. Ross)

Secretary-Treasurer (D. Labossiere)