



BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION

October 9, 2026

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN OF THE REGULAR MEETING
OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES

TO BE HELD TUESDAY, OCTOBER 13, 2026
7:30 P.M. (Public)

J. L. MILNE BOARDROOM, ADMINISTRATION OFFICE

1031 - 6TH STREET, BRANDON, MANITOBA

D. Labossiere
Secretary-Treasurer

AGENDA

1.00 AGENDA/MINUTES:

1.01 Approval of Agenda

1.02 Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meetings

- a) Regular Board Meeting – September 28, 2026
Adopt

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

Ms. Heather Ewasiuk, Senior Election Official, presenting information on the voting opportunities available in the upcoming municipal and school board elections in October 2026.

3.02 Communications for Information

3.03 Communications for Action

4.00 REPORT OF SENIOR ADMINISTRATION

- From Report of Senior Administration

- a) Review Report of Senior Administration – October 13, 2026

5.00 GOVERNANCE MATTERS

5.01 Reports of Committees

- a) Committee of the Whole:

Education and Community Relations	C. Ekenna
Finance and Facilities	B. Sieklicki
Personnel and Policy	L. McConnell

5.02 Delegations and Petitions (Max. 15 minutes)

5.03 Business Arising

- From Previous Delegation
- From Board Agenda
- MSBA Issues

- a) E-News, October 7, 2026
- b) MSBA Fall General & Regional Meetings – November 26-27, 2026

5.04 Public Inquiries (Max. 15 Mins)

5.05 Motions:

- 61/2026 That the proposed budget dates for the 2027-2028 Budget be as follows, subject to receiving the Provincial funding announcement by February 10, 2027:

Wednesday, February 24, 2027 - Budget Presentation and Deliberations
Monday, March 1, 2027 - Public Budget Consultation
Monday, March 8, 2027 - Final Budget Approval

5.06 Bylaws

5.07 Giving of Notice

5.08 Trustee Inquiries

6.00 ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a) Next Board Committee Meetings – 6:00 p.m., Monday, October 26, 2026
- b) Next Regular Board Meeting – 7:30 p.m., Monday, October 26, 2026
- c) Trustee Election – October 28, 2026

Additional Information:

- Members of the public wishing to make a presentation, a delegation or a petition are asked to contact the office of the Secretary-Treasurer, by email: delegations@bsd.ca, or by phone at (204) 729-3114, no later than 12:00 p.m. on the Tuesday prior to the Board meeting.
- For all other inquiries related to Board matters, please email: trusteeinfo@bsd.ca.
- We invite everyone to watch live streaming of the Board meetings on our website: <https://www.bsd.ca/page/8192/board-meeting-dates-live-streaming>.

7.00 ADJOURNMENT



BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION

Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting Monday, September 28, 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 (by phone)
K. Fallis	L. McConnell
S. Mozdzen	J. Murray
B. Sieklicki	

Also Present:

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

The Chairperson called the meeting to order at 7:17 p.m.

AGENDA

1.00 AGENDA/MINUTES:

1.01 Approval of Agenda

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

B. Sieklicki – K. Fallis

That the agenda be approved.

Carried

1.02 Adoption of Minutes of Previous Meeting

- a) Special Board Meeting – September 14, 2026
D. Ross – S. Mozdzen

That the minutes be approved as circulated.

Carried

- b) Regular Board Meeting – September 14, 2026
K. Fallis – D. Ross

That the minutes be approved as circulated.

Carried

K. Fallis – S. Mozdzen

That the Board move into In-Camera session at 7:18 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. Zilkey provided information on a Board Operations Matter and answered Trustee questions.

The second in-camera item was deferred.

D. Ross – K. Carr

That the Board move out of In-Camera session at 7:32 p.m.

The Chairperson called the public portion of the meeting to order at 7:38 p.m., with a traditional heritage land acknowledgment.

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. Zilkey provided highlights from the following items from the September 28, 2026, Report of Senior Administration:

- a) Administrative Information:
 - Information Items:

- Correspondence was received from Honourable Tracy Schmidt, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Learning, proclaiming September 21 to 25, 2026, as School Support Staff Recognition Week.
- Correspondence was received from Honourable Tracy Schmidt, Minister of Education and Early Childhood Learning, proclaiming October 2026, as Dyslexia Awareness Month.
- Truth and Reconciliation Week – September 28 – October 4, 2026. Brandon School Division students will participate in a variety of activities during this week.
- Crocus Plains Regional Secondary School, Off-Site Activity - Boys Hockey Team, trip to Niagara, Ontario.

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 September 28, 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 September 14, 2026, was circulated.

S. Mozdzen – K. Fallis

That the report be received and filed.

Carried

b) Finance & Facilities Committee Meeting

The written report of the Finance & Facilities Committee meeting held on September 14, 2026, was circulated.

K. Carr - 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 September 14, 2026, was circulated.

L. McConnell – K. Carr

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) E-News, September 23, 2026

5.04 Public Inquiries (Max. 15 Mins)

5.05 Motions:

Late Motion:

60/2026 B. Sieklicki – K. Carr

That the amount of \$1,100,000 from the Operating Fund Accumulated Surplus be allocated to the School Bus Capital Reserve Fund for future replacement of the school bus fleet.

Carried

5.06 Bylaws

2/2026 D. Ross - K. Carr

That Bylaw 2/2026 being a bylaw to authorize religious instruction at St. Augustine School for the remainder of the 2026-2027 school year, be now read for the second time, having been first read on September 14, 2026.

2/2026 D. Ross - K. Carr

That the rules be suspended and Bylaw 2/2026 be now read for a third and final time, and taken as read, finally passed.

Carried

5.07 Giving of Notice

5.08 Trustee Inquiries

Trustee D. Ross inquired how he made a previous Trustee Inquiry regarding code of conduct and media discussions. Mr. Zilkey indicated Senior Administration would investigate this and follow up accordingly.

6.00 ANNOUNCEMENTS

- a) Next Board Committee Meetings – 6:00 p.m., Tuesday, October 13, 2026
- b) Next Regular Board Meeting – 7:30 p.m., Tuesday, October 13, 2026
- c) Trustee Election – October 28, 2026

7.00 ADJOURNMENT

J. Murray – S. Mozdzen

That the Board do now adjourn at 7:55 p.m.

Carried

Chairperson (L. Ross)

Secretary-Treasurer (D. Labossiere)



BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION

Report of Senior Administration to the Board of Trustees

October 13, 2026

A. Administrative Information

I. CELEBRATIONS

1. **WORLD TEACHERS' DAY**

World Teachers' Day is celebrated annually on October 5th as an opportunity to recognize the incredible dedication, skill, and compassion of teachers who inspire students every day. Teachers foster lifelong learning and are at the heart of student success. We thank all BSD teachers for their commitment to students and fostering supportive environments for all students to learn.

II. SUSPENSIONS

Below are the number of suspensions from September 22, 2026 to October 5, 2026.

<u>Grade Level</u>	<u>Number of Students Suspended</u>	<u>Category: Inappropriate Behaviour</u>	<u>Category: Assaultive Behaviour</u>	<u>Category: Drugs and Alcohol</u>
K-8 In-School	0	-	-	-
K-8 Out-of-School	4	3	2	0
Total Suspensions K-8	4	3	2	0

Accepting the Challenge

<u>Grade Level</u>	<u>Number of Students Suspended</u>	<u>Category: Inappropriate Behaviour</u>	<u>Category: Assaultive Behaviour</u>	<u>Category: Drugs and Alcohol</u>
9-12 In-School	0	-	-	-
9-12 Out-of-School	6	4	1	2
Total Suspensions 9-12	6	4	1	2
All Schools Total	10	7	3	2
		possession of weapons – 0	use of weapons – 0	

Note: A suspension may involve more than one category.

III. COMMUNITY CONNECTIONS AND SCHOOL VISITS

The following community connections and school visits were made by Senior Administration:

- September 24, 2026 – Better Together Forum: What We've Learned Navigating Difficult Challenges – Jon Zilkey, Susan Gilleshammer
- September 24, 2026 – Brandon Urban Aboriginal Peoples' Council (BUAPC) – Jon Zilkey
- September 28, 2026 – Earl Oxford School staff meeting – Jon Zilkey
- September 28, 2026 - Cynamon Mychasiw, CEO and Janis Evens, Director of Events and Community Investments, United Way West Central Manitoba – Susan Gilleshammer
- September 28, 2026 – Maryland Park School – Susan Gilleshammer
- October 1, 2026 – Truth and Reconciliation Week events, Riverbank Discovery Centre – Michelle Sawa
- October 2, 2026 – Manitoba School Boards Association – Human Resources Liaison meeting – Michelle Sawa
- October 5, 2026 – Alexander School staff meeting – Jon Zilkey
- October 5, 2026 – Spring Valley Colony School staff meeting – Jon Zilkey, Susan Gilleshammer
- October 6, 2026 – Prairie Hope High School staff meeting – Jon Zilkey
- October 6, 2026 – BSD Trustee Candidate Forum – Jon Zilkey, Denis Labossiere

IV. INFORMATION ITEMS

1. CORRESPONDENCE FROM MANITOBA EDUCATION AND EARLY CHILDHOOD LEARNING

MANITOBA'S EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION AWARDS

For Information J. Zilkey

The 2026/2027 Manitoba's Excellence in Education Awards provide an opportunity to recognize outstanding teachers, school leaders and school nutrition champions whose contributions have a lasting impact on the well-being, achievement, and engagement of Manitoba students. Awards will be presented in the following categories, with each recipient receiving a certificate of recognition and a \$500 award:

- Teaching Excellence
- Outstanding New Teacher
- Outstanding Team Collaboration
- Outstanding School Leader
- Premier's Award for Excellence in Education
- Nello Altomare Award for Excellence in School Nutrition

Nominations must be submitted by December 6, 2026. Nomination forms and detailed criteria are available at the following link: www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/excellence. Please see Appendix A.

2. PRIME MINISTER'S AWARDS

For Information J. Zilkey

Nominations are now open for the 2027 Prime Minister's Awards. The Prime Minister's Awards honour exceptional educators and celebrate the impact they have on their students and communities. Any person or group with direct knowledge of the nominee's contribution, such as students, parents of students, colleagues, school principal or supervisor, and community leaders may nominate educators in three different categories:

- Teaching Excellence
- Teaching Excellence in Science, Technology, Engineering and Mathematics (STEM)
- Excellence in Early Childhood Education

The Teaching Excellence category recognizes elementary and secondary school teachers in all disciplines for their remarkable achievements in education and their commitment to preparing youth for a digital and innovation-based economy.

The Teaching Excellence in STEM category celebrates outstanding science, technology, engineering and mathematics (STEM) teachers.

The Excellence in Early Childhood Education category honours early childhood educators for their leadership, exemplary early childhood education practices and commitment to helping build the foundation children need to make the best possible start in life.

More information is available at the following link: [Prime Minister's Awards](#). The nomination deadline is January 13, 2027 (11:59 p.m. Pacific Time).

3. TRUTH AND RECONCILIATION WEEK – SEPTEMBER 28 - OCTOBER 4, 2026

For Information M. Sawa

Brandon School Division schools incorporated activities that teach about the history of residential schools, honour the resilience of residential school Survivors, and address the Truth and Reconciliation Commission of Canada's Calls to Action.

The following is an overview of Truth and Reconciliation Week in Brandon School Division:

- A moment of silence was to be observed in all schools on September 29th at 2:15 p.m.
- A dialogue provided by the Province was read.

Each school organized its own events and activities for the week of September 28th – October 2nd. Activities included:

- Schools were encouraged to create authentic actions to support learning of, and ways to support the resurgence of Indigenous culture.
- Schools had access to free educational programming throughout the week from The National Centre for Truth and Reconciliation. Other resources were suggested for use in classrooms.
- Many schools held assemblies to honour children who attended residential school.
- Many schools welcomed Indigenous speakers and presenters to discuss residential school experiences and the continual effect of residential schools, and to demonstrate culture that was prohibited during this time – showcasing resilience.

Participation in events:

- BSD Indigenous Education Learning Specialist worked to coordinate two days of student programming for BSD students in Grades 4 – 6. Seventeen of our twenty K-8 schools participated in activities at the

Riverbank Discovery Centre on September 29th and October 1st. Approximately 900 BSD students attended.

- Students gathered to meet with a residential school Survivor; following that, each group visited three stations.
- Teachings were focused on the theme of HEALING. Each presenter communicated how their topic heals their Indigenous community, or themselves personally. Topics included:
 - Sacred Fire Teaching
 - Hunting and Harvesting
 - Song and Drum
 - Métis Culture
 - Connection to Mother Earth
 - Dance
 - Dakota Culture
 - Inuit Culture
 - Michif Language
 - Cedar and Nibi (water) as Medicine
 - Calls To Action – art compilation
 - Indigenous Role Models (game)
- Chez Angela and Manitoba Métis Federation provided bannock for visitors onsite, including students
- Reconnecting To Our Culture (Brandon Friendship Centre) arranged for an onsite demonstration of the fleshing and preparation of an elk hide.

Supporters of Community:

- BSD contributed funds to the Truth and Reconciliation Week Committee for honorariums to Elders and Knowledge Carriers during the school day visits.
- Approximately 50 students in Grades 4 and 6 from Sioux Valley Dakota Nation Education attended on October 1st.
- Students from Rolling River School Division and Southwest Horizon School Division attended on October 2nd. Approximately 200 students from each division attended.

V. PRESENTATIONS

1. CLASSROOM UTILIZATION BY SCHOOL – SEPTEMBER 2026

For Information J. Zilkey

Classroom Utilization by School – September 2026

School	# of classrooms created	# of classrooms in facility	# of surplus classrooms
Alexander	6	7	1
Betty Gibson	18	15	-3
Earl Oxford	19	17	-2
Harrison	15	15	0
George Fitton	22	25	3
Green Acres	13	12	-1
J.R. Reid	12	16	4
King George	13	16	3
Kirkcaldy Heights	22	20	-2
Linden Lanes	22.5	19	-3.5
Maryland Park	33	34	1
Meadows	28	23	-5
New Era	26	29	3
O'Kelly	9.5	13	3.5
Riverheights	25	21	-4
Riverview	10	13	3
St. Augustine	11	11	0
Valleyview	12	10	-2
Waverly Park	22	20	-2
total	339	336	-3

- The number of classrooms in the facility includes spaces designed as classrooms, science rooms, kindergarten rooms and modulares.
- Older buildings may have used classroom space as art rooms, staff rooms, or music rooms. When a school enrolment requires the addition of a classroom, these spaces are converted back into classrooms resulting in the loss of the art room, music room, or staff room.
- 9 schools have more classrooms than classroom spaces. This means the schools are using non-classroom spaces as classrooms, including libraries, music rooms, art rooms, staff rooms, applied technology rooms, human ecology rooms, band rooms, and common areas.
- The surplus classroom in Alexander School is a music room.
- Maryland Park School was the biggest change from -10 to +1
- 2 surplus classrooms in École New Era School are used for Indigenous Education and the Settlement Workers in Schools program.

- George Fitton School has had two development areas added to its catchment and is expecting future growth.
- Wildfire evacuee classrooms accounted for 7 classroom spaces last year which also impacted the data.
- The modular at Meadows School added 1 classroom space.
- The Division has limited ability to address new development population growth through catchment assignment.
- The new school will impact Linden Lanes School and Meadows School primarily, with a smaller impact likely for Riverheights School, depending on catchment allocation for the new school.

B. Business Arising for Board Action

I. INFORMATION FOR DISCUSSION AND CORRESPONDENCE

1. STAFFING ACTIVITY REPORT

For Information M. Sawa

Included in the agenda package for the Board of Trustees is the Staffing Activity Report (Confidential No. 1), a listing of resignations and employment approved by the Superintendent/Chief Executive Officer and Secretary-Treasurer since the last meeting.

Senior Administration respectfully submits this report for your consideration, action, and information.

**Jon Zilkey
Superintendent/Chief Executive Officer**



26

MANITOBA'S
EXCELLENCE
IN EDUCATION
AWARDS

27

DO YOU KNOW OUTSTANDING TEACHERS, SCHOOL LEADERS OR SCHOOL NUTRITION CHAMPIONS?

Nominations are now being accepted for Manitoba's Excellence in Education Awards, recognizing outstanding achievement in the following award categories:

TEACHING EXCELLENCE

OUTSTANDING NEW TEACHER

OUTSTANDING TEAM COLLABORATION

OUTSTANDING SCHOOL LEADER

PREMIER'S AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN EDUCATION

NELLO ALTOMARE AWARD FOR EXCELLENCE IN SCHOOL NUTRITION



For complete information on selection criteria
and the nomination process, visit:
www.edu.gov.mb.ca/k12/excellence/

FOR MORE INFORMATION:
Phone: 204-945-6263 • Email: excellence@gov.mb.ca

SUBMISSION DEADLINE:
December 6, 2026





BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION

EDUCATION AND COMMUNITY RELATIONS COMMITTEE MINUTES

Monday, September 28, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.

Boardroom, Administration Office

Trustees Present: L. Ross D. Ross
K. Carr C. Ekenna (By phone)
K. Fallis L. McConnell
S. Mozdzen J. Murray
B. Sieklicki

Also Present: D. Labossiere, Secretary-Treasurer
J. Zilkey, Superintendent/CEO
M. Sawa, Assistant Superintendent – Curriculum and HR
S. Gilleshammer, Assistant Superintendent – Student Services
J. McBeth, Executive Assistant

1. OPERATIONS INFORMATION

A. CORRESPONDENCE:

- Ms. Sawa spoke to the correspondence received from Rhonda Shaw, Executive Director, Learning and Outcomes Branch; and Kassy Assié, Executive Director, Bureau de l'éducation française, regarding the renewed provincial report card policy. She indicated the policy has been updated, and Senior Administration will be supporting teachers through the transition. Ms. Sawa answered Trustee questions for clarification.
- Mr. Zilkey indicated the Brandon School Division was invited to attend and present at the second Better Together Forum, co-sponsored by The Manitoba School Boards Association and Winnipeg School Division. The topic of this forum (the second of three planned forums) was *What We've Learned Navigating Difficult Challenges*. Mr. Zilkey answered Trustee questions for clarification.
- Ms. Gilleshammer reviewed the correspondence received from Allan Hawkins, Director, Inclusion Support Branch, Manitoba Education and Early Childhood Learning, regarding the continuation of suspension and expulsion data collection in 2026/2027.
- Ms. Gilleshammer spoke to the correspondence received from Allan Hawkins, Director, Inclusion Support Branch, Manitoba Education and Early Childhood Learning, regarding Train the Trainer: Supporting Appropriate Educational Programming in Schools. She indicated that Senior Administration has asked for additional training spots.

Respectfully submitted,

C. Ekenna



BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION

FINANCE AND FACILITIES COMMITTEE MINUTES

Monday, September 28, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.

Boardroom, Administration Office

Trustees Present: L. Ross D. Ross
K. Carr C. Ekenna (By phone)
K. Fallis L. McConnell
S. Mozdzen J. Murray
B. Sieklicki

Also Present: D. Labossiere, Secretary-Treasurer
J. Zilkey, Superintendent/CEO
M. Sawa, Assistant Superintendent – Curriculum and HR
S. Gilleshammer, Assistant Superintendent – Student Services
J. McBeth, Executive Assistant

1. **COMMITTEE ITEMS**

A. REVIEW OF FINANCIAL REPORTS

Forecasted Variances:

Mr. Labossiere reviewed the Summary of Forecasted Variances for 2025-2026. He indicated that the Division is still waiting on further information on some matters in order to finalize the Financial Statements, however he did not anticipate any significant changes to the operating variances. The audited financial statements will be presented to the Board on October 26, 2026.

Accumulated Surplus:

Mr. Labossiere reviewed the Projected Accumulated Surplus – Operating Fund as of June 30, 2026.

Capital Reserves:

Mr. Labossiere reviewed the Capital Reserves Report. He noted that the Bus Capital Reserve is currently at \$1,586,224 and that the projected balance for June 30, 2027, is \$630,571 after the purchase of 4 buses for 2026-2027. He recommended that \$1,100,000 be transferred from the Operating Fund Accumulated Surplus to the School Bus Capital Reserve for future replacement of school buses. Mr. Labossiere answered Trustee questions for clarification.

The Committee agreed to bring forth the following recommendation as a late motion to the Regular Board Meeting, September 28, 2026.

Recommendation:

That the amount of \$1,100,000 from the Operating Fund Accumulated Surplus be allocated to the School Bus Capital Reserve Fund for future replacement of the school bus fleet.

B. 2027-2028 BUDGET SCHEDULE

Mr. Labossiere reviewed the proposed Budget schedule for the upcoming 2027-2028 Budget. He indicated the proposed dates could be subject to change dependent on the funding announcement from the Province. He recommended to the Committee that once the new Board is selected, Policy #5 – Annual Planning Cycle should be reviewed and updated to reflect current practices. Mr. Labossiere answered Trustee questions for clarification.

The Committee agreed to bring forth the following recommendation as a motion to the Regular Board Meeting, October 13, 2026.

Recommendation:

That the proposed budget dates for the 2027-2028 Budget be as follows, subject to receiving the Provincial funding announcement by February 10, 2027:

Wednesday, February 24, 2027 - Budget Presentation and Deliberations

Monday, March 1, 2027 - Public Budget Consultation

Monday, March 8, 2027 - Final Budget Approval

The Committee discussed stakeholder feedback, and set the date of November 16, 2026, to meet with the Parent Councils. Mr. Zilkey added that he will share the 5-Year Capital Plan at this meeting.

C. PROPERTY MATTER

Mr. Zilkey provided information on a confidential Property Matter. He answered Trustee questions and received direction from the Committee.

2. **OPERATIONS INFORMATION**

A. CORRESPONDENCE:

- Mr. Labossiere spoke to the letter received from the Education Funding Branch regarding Meadows School – Roofing Replacement – RFP (Tender) Award and Project Support.

B. FACILITY PROJECT UPDATES:

- Mr. Labossiere spoke to three (3) confidential Property Matters and answered Trustee questions for clarification.

Respectfully submitted,

B. Sieklicki



BRANDON SCHOOL DIVISION

PERSONNEL AND POLICY COMMITTEE MINUTES

Monday, September 28, 2026 – 6:00 p.m.

Boardroom, Administration Office

Trustees Present: L. Ross D. Ross
K. Carr C. Ekenna (By phone)
K. Fallis L. McConnell
S. Mozdzen J. Murray
B. Sieklicki

Also Present: D. Labossiere, Secretary-Treasurer
J. Zilkey, Superintendent/CEO
M. Sawa, Assistant Superintendent – Curriculum and HR
S. Gilleshammer, Assistant Superintendent – Student Services
J. McBeth, Executive Assistant

1. OPERATIONS INFORMATION

A. MSBA – COLLECTIVE BARGAINING UPDATE/SALARY BULLETINS:

- Salary Bulletin:
 - Mr. Labossiere reviewed the Kelsey School Division and CUPE – Local 1596 (All Support) – Ratified Agreement.

B. MSBA – CPI, UNEMPLOYMENT RATE, REGIONAL TRENDS UPDATE:

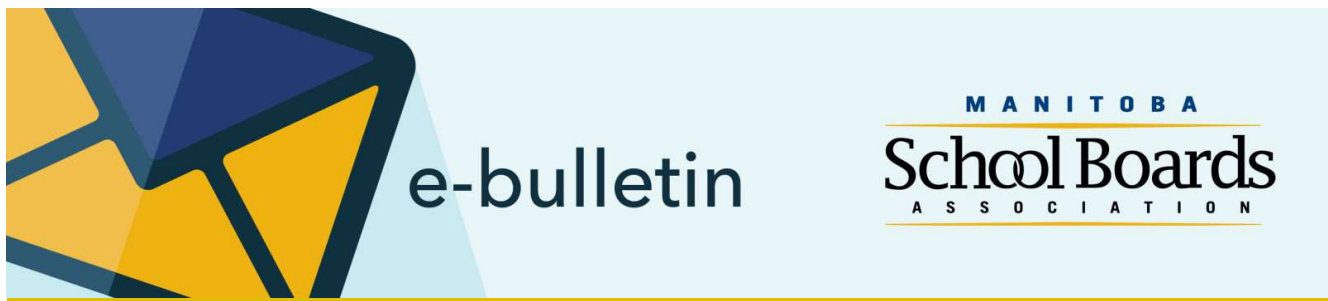
- August 2026, data was reviewed.

C. CORRESPONDENCE:

- Mr. Zilkey reviewed the correspondence received from Jordan Bighorn, Acting Assistant Deputy Minister, Indigenous Excellence in Education, regarding the 2026/2027 Indigenous Teacher Data Collection Initiative. This request was shared with all BSD teachers; 744 teachers responded. Of those, 55 teachers self-declared as Indigenous. The breakdown is as follows: First Nations: 16; Red River Métis: 39; Inuit: 0. He added that these numbers have slightly increased since the spring.

Respectfully submitted,

L. McConnell



October 7, 2026

The banner has a dark teal background. On the left, the text "ON OCTOBER 28" is in white, and "VOTE" is in large, bold, yellow capital letters. Below "VOTE", the text "for your local school trustee" is in white. On the right side of the banner, there is the Manitoba School Boards Association logo and a smaller logo that says "2026 Manitoba School Trustee Elections" with a yellow diamond containing "2026". Below these logos, the website "elect2026.ca" is written in a large, bold, black sans-serif font.

2026 TRUSTEE ELECTIONS: STRONG INTEREST ACROSS MANITOBA

Preliminary nomination data from Manitoba school divisions as of September 28, 2026, points to encouraging levels of engagement in this year's school trustee elections. Across the province, the number of vacant trustee seats requiring appointment has notably decreased since nominations closed. More than 80 percent of school divisions reported no vacant seats, and all but two divisions saw fewer vacancies than in the 2022 election.

Interest in serving as a school trustee also appears to be rising. Approximately 60 percent of divisions reported fewer acclamations than in 2022, suggesting stronger candidate participation in both urban and rural communities.

Several divisions reported noteworthy information on electoral activity:

- The Winnipeg School Division saw five trustee seats filled by acclamation, compared to none in 2022.
- Northern Manitoba saw increased engagement, with elections in both Thompson and The Pas after no contests were held in those communities in 2022.
- Increased interest in divisions such as Hanover, Mountain View, and Lord Selkirk resulted in more trustee positions being contested through elections.
- At the same time, some divisions, including Pembina Trails, Louis Riel, and Sunrise, reported election activity that was similar to or lower than previous election cycles.

To support voter awareness and participation, MSBA has undertaken an extensive province-wide election awareness campaign. Efforts have included billboard advertising, newspaper advertisements, social media outreach, radio advertising, Folklorama and additional summer festival advertising, and promotional placements at Winnipeg Blue Bombers and Jets games. Together, these initiatives are helping increase public awareness of the important role school trustees play in public education and encouraging Manitobans to vote on October 28.

Overall, the nomination results and strong public awareness efforts reflect healthy community interest in school board governance and a growing commitment to democratic participation in public education across Manitoba.

As Election Day approaches, voters are encouraged to learn about local candidates, make a plan to vote, and help shape the future of public education in their communities.



REGISTRATION IS OPEN!

Registration is now open for MSBA's Fall General and Regional Meetings, being held November 26–27. Join us for two days of learning, collaboration, and Association business in downtown Winnipeg at the [Delta Hotel](#).



AN EVENING OF LEADERSHIP, COURAGE AND UNITY

Join **Jody Wilson-Raybould** and **Roshan Danesh** **tomorrow evening, Thursday, October 8, at 7:00 p.m.** in the Atrium at McNally Robinson Booksellers, Grant Park Mall in Winnipeg for a thought-provoking conversation about their new book, *The Inbetween Leader: Cultivating Courage and Unity in a Complex World*. Hosted by **Jordan Bighorn**, the evening will explore a fresh approach to leadership in an increasingly polarized world, drawing on Indigenous wisdom, personal experience, and lessons from government, reconciliation, and peacebuilding. A book signing will follow the presentation.

In *The Inbetween Leader*, Wilson-Raybould and Danesh challenge traditional leadership models rooted in competition and hierarchy, offering practical strategies to foster connection, collaboration, and unity while respecting diverse perspectives. The book provides valuable insights for leaders in workplaces, communities, and families seeking to build more inclusive and effective environments.



MCNALLY
ROBINSON

Please note that **this event will not be livestreamed or recorded. Those interested in hearing the discussion are encouraged to attend in person.** Copies of *The Inbetween Leader* will be available for purchase at the event. **Click here** to learn more.



SAVE THE DATES: CSBA CONGRESS 2027!

School trustees are encouraged to mark their calendars for the National Trustee Gathering on Education, Innovation and Reconciliation and CSBA Congress 2027, taking place **July 6-8, 2027, in Regina, Saskatchewan**, and hosted by the Saskatchewan School Boards Association (SSBA). The 2027 theme, ***Seeding Innovation and Growing Success Together***, reflects the event's focus on collaboration, leadership, and the future of public education.

The program is already shaping up to be inspiring, with confirmed speakers including **Tyler Smith**, Humboldt Broncos survivor and mental health advocate; **Cadmus Delorme**, former Chief of Cowessess First Nation and Chancellor of the University of Regina; and **Matthew Corkum**, an award-winning disability advocate and champion for inclusion and accessibility. Their presentations will explore resilience, leadership, reconciliation, mental health, and how to create environments where all learners can thrive.

The gathering promises valuable professional learning opportunities, engaging discussions, and meaningful connections with trustee colleagues from across Canada.

Watch for registration details and additional program announcements in the months ahead.



Captain Leona Ahn speaking to a group as part of the National Veterans' Week Speakers Program
Photo: Government of Canada

BRING VETERANS' WEEK TO LIFE WITH A CAF SPEAKER

School boards and trustees play an important role in fostering learning, citizenship, and remembrance. This Veterans' Week (November -11), consider sharing the National Veterans' Week Speakers Program with schools across your division.

The program connects classrooms and school communities with active members of the [Canadian Armed Forces \(CAF\)](#) who can share personal experiences of service, leadership, and sacrifice. Available at no cost, presentations can be delivered in person or virtually and provide students with a meaningful opportunity to engage directly with those who serve Canada.

In addition to the speaker program, educators can access a wide range of free bilingual resources from [Veterans Affairs Canada](#), including lesson plans, videos, classroom activities, and Veterans' Week materials that support curriculum-connected learning and help students deepen their understanding of remembrance, military service, and Canadian history.

Schools interested in hosting a CAF speaker for Veterans' Week or Remembrance Day activities are encouraged to **submit a request online** by **October 19, 2026**. Because speaker availability is limited, we recommend registering early.

By bringing these stories into our schools, we help ensure the values of service, sacrifice, and remembrance continue to resonate with future generations.

If you have questions about this year's program, please contact the national coordinator, **Mélodie Gratton**, at **1-833-223-8322** or by email at DNDRemembrance.SouvenirMDN@forces.gc.ca.



MEDIA LITERACY WEEK 2026: HELPING STUDENTS NAVIGATE A DIGITAL WORLD

As artificial intelligence, social media, online misinformation, and digital citizenship continue to shape students' daily lives, **Media Literacy Week 2026** offers schools an opportunity to strengthen the critical thinking and digital literacy skills young people need to succeed. Hosted by Media Literacy Week and led by MediaSmarts, Canada's centre for digital media literacy, the national awareness week will take place **October 26-30, 2026**.

This year's theme, ***Wait... What?***, encourages students and educators to explore how to navigate an increasingly complex online environment, including the impacts of artificial intelligence, misinformation, online hate, and digital citizenship. Activities and events take place in schools, libraries, museums, and community organizations across Canada.

School boards and trustees can support participation by sharing resources with educators and encouraging classroom discussions about online safety, media awareness, and responsible digital engagement.

MediaSmarts offers free teaching materials, lesson plans, activities, and promotional resources, making it easy for schools to incorporate digital media literacy into existing curriculum and learning opportunities.

The week also includes **Digital Citizen Day on October 28, 2026**, an annual event that promotes respectful, responsible participation in online spaces.

For resources and ways to get involved, visit <https://mediasmarts.ca/media-literacy-week>.

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