



Board of Education
Regular Meeting of the Board
Monday, June 14, 2021 – 1:00 p.m.

AGENDA

1.0 Welcome

- 1.1 Call to Order – Chair D. Boyko
 - 1.2 Land Acknowledgement
 - 1.3 Opening Prayer – Trustee H. Byblow
 - 1.4 Adoption of the Agenda
 - 1.5 Declaration of Conflict of Interest
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2.0 Approval of Minutes

Minutes of the May 17, 2021 Regular Meeting of the Board of Education

3.0 Delegations and Special Presentations

4.0 Post Meeting Assignments

5.0 Consent Items

The Chair will ask for a motion to receive the items, which are starred, and to approve all recommendations contained therein. Prior to approving the motion, any trustee may request a star(s) be removed.

6.0 Discussion/Decision

- 6.1 Pandemic Response Update
 - 6.1.1 Donation: MLT Aikins Saskatoon
 - 6.2 New Website Implementation
 - 6.3 Graduation 2021 Planning
-

7.0 Correspondence

- 7.1 Expressions of Gratitude – posted on Bulletin Board
 - 7.2 Reading File – copies circulated at meeting
 - Parent Correspondence to the Board of Education
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8.0 Reports and Good News

- 8.1 Report of the Director of Education
 - 8.2 Board Activity
 - 8.3 Board Linkage
 - 8.4 Board Linkage – Catholic School Community Councils
 - 8.5 Convention Reports
 - 8.6 Committee/Partnership Reports
 - Joint Operations – Trustees D. Berscheid and W. Stus
 - Together in Faith and Action – Trustees T. Jelinski and H. Byblow
 - Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools Foundation – Trustees S. Zakreski-Werbicki and B. Elliott
 - māmawohkamātowin/Saskatoon Tribal Council – Chair D. Boyko, Trustees S. Zakreski-Werbicki and D. Case
 - CUMFI and GSCS Educational Alliance – Chair D. Boyko, Trustees J. Carriere and W. Stus
 - 8.7 Saskatchewan Catholic School Boards Association – Trustee T. Jelinski
 - 8.8 Saskatchewan School Boards Association
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9.0 Committee of the Whole

10.0 Closing Prayer – Trustee H. Byblow

11.0 Adjournment

12.0 Sign of Peace

Minutes of a Regular Meeting of the Board of Education for St. Paul's RCSSD #20 held in the Boardroom/Microsoft Teams at 12:00 p.m. on Monday, May 17, 2021.

Present: Chair Boyko, Vice-chair Boechler, Trustees Berscheid, Byblow, Carriere, Case, Elliott, Jelinski, Stus, Zakreski-Werbicki

Also: Director of Education Chatlain
Superintendent of Education Bazylak (Secretary to the Board)

The meeting was called to order by Chair Boyko at 12:25 p.m. and began by acknowledging that we are on Treaty 6 Territory—traditional territories of First Nations including Cree, Dene, Nakota, Lakota, Dakota and Saulteaux—and homeland of the Métis Nation. We pay our respect to the First Nation and Métis ancestors of this place, and we reaffirm our relationship with one another in the spirit of Reconciliation.

The opening prayer was led by Trustee R. Boechler.

Adoption of Agenda

Motion: Moved by Trustees J. Carriere and D. Berscheid that the agenda be approved as circulated.

CARRIED

Approval of Minutes

Motion: Moved by Trustees W. Stus and S. Zakreski-Werbicki that the minutes of the regular meeting of April 19, 2021 be adopted as circulated.

CARRIED

Discussion/Decision

6.1 Promoting Stewardship Monitoring Report

Motion: Moved by Trustees B. Elliott and R. Boechler that the Board of Education receive the information as presented in the Promoting Stewardship Monitoring Report.

CARRIED

6.2 2021-2025 Preventative Maintenance and Renewal Plan

Motion: Moved by Trustees T. Jelinski and D. Case that the Board of Education receive the information as presented and approve the four-year 2021-2025 Preventative Maintenance and Renewal Plan.

CARRIED

6.3 Roof Replacement Contracts

Motion: Moved by Trustees W. Stus and J. Carriere that the Board of Education award the tender for the Bishop J. Mahoney High School roof replacement to Century Roofing and Sheet Metal Ltd. for the tendered price of \$416,875 plus applicable taxes.

CARRIED

Motion: Moved by Trustees B. Elliott and R. Boechler that the Board of Education award the tender for the Pope John Paul II roof replacement to Dunmac General Contractors Ltd. for the tendered price of \$1,463,000 plus applicable taxes.

CARRIED

Motion: Moved by Trustees D. Berscheid and S. Zakreski-Werbicki that the Board of Education award the tender for the St. Augustine School (Humboldt) roof replacement to Haid Roofing Ltd. for the tendered price of \$398,952 plus applicable taxes.

CARRIED

6.4 Father Robinson School: Building Envelope Repairs

Motion: Moved by Trustees W. Stus and D. Case that the Board of Education award the tender for Father Robinson School building envelope repairs to Dunmac General Contractors Ltd. for the tendered price of \$3,743,920 plus applicable taxes.

CARRIED

6.5 Financial Statements

Motion: Moved by Trustees D. Berscheid and J. Carriere that the Board of Education approve the accounts paid for the period March 1, 2021 to March 31, 2021 and April 1, 2021 to April 30, 2021 and receive the financial statements for the period ended April 30, 2021.

CARRIED

6.6 Transportation Monitoring Report

Motion: Moved by Trustees S. Zakreski-Werbicki and R. Boechler that the Board of Education receive the information as presented and approve the Transportation Monitoring Report.

CARRIED

6.7 Pandemic Response Update

Motion: Moved by Trustees R. Boechler and B. Elliott that the Board of Education receive the information as presented in the Pandemic Response Update.

CARRIED

[Motion: Moved by Trustee R. Boechler that the Board move into committee.]

CARRIED

[Motion: Moved by Trustee J. Carriere that the Board move out of committee.]

CARRIED

Adjournment

Motion: Moved by Trustee J. Carriere that the meeting be adjourned at 2:05 p.m.

CARRIED

Secretary

Chair

6.1 Pandemic Response Update

Board Priority:

- Promoting Stewardship

Presented by: Director G. Chatlain and Executive Council

Background Information:

14 months into this pandemic... and counting. While there are now some lights getting larger at the end of the tunnel, we remain in an important and challenging time. We need only to note that cases in our schools in May was near the high for the past 14 months to see that we are not out of the tunnel yet and protocols remain important.

The bulk of our work since the last report has revolved around the following areas:

Online School Opportunities:

Generally speaking, more students are engaging in face-to-face classes and reduced numbers accessing online courses, particularly in elementary grades. We have begun the process of surveying families regarding their plans for the fall. We will use some of this data to help us prepare. However, there will be another round of connections with families in August.

Rapid Testing:

We have finalized our documentation locally and are poised to move forward should it be needed. Our local Medical Health Officer (MHO) and the Saskatchewan Health Authority (SHA) have indicated that they also have capacity for some mobile testing should it be deemed necessary.

The regulations governing the use of this type of medical test was changed recently. This change will make it very easy now for staff, for example, to self-test using the supplies we have. Two weeks ago, schools received an initial supply of rapid test kits that may be used for example when a COVID case has been identified within the school community. Staff can self-administer a test once a day for up to a week after the communicable date of the positive case. Thus far, staff have appreciated having this opportunity.

Vaccinations for Youth Aged 12+:

With the expansion of vaccinations to include this age group, SHA and the government have embarked upon a campaign to allow for the vaccination of this population prior to the end of school. This initiative comes with numerous challenges that we have worked through with SHA and our local health officials. A few of the challenges include: ensuring in the SHA process that parents are well informed about this opportunity and are in a position to make their decisions related to their child's health interventions; ensuring that our staff, as educators, are not involved in the process in a way that compromises any confidentiality, freedom or role; and ensure the process supports family access through multiple avenues should they choose. Note that many of these options will be available off school hours and families will be encouraged to use these opportunities as well. With more than 100 schools in our area, school-by-school clinics are not manageable in the short timeline.

Reopen Saskatchewan Roadmap:

Saskatchewan reached the threshold recently that would allow for moving to Stage 2 in the Reopen Plan. Stage 2 is set to begin on June 20th (Stage 1 began on May 30th). For our operations, the main change of significance at the commencement of Stage 2 on June 20th is the opportunity to host public indoor gatherings to a maximum of 150 people. With only a few days left in the school year at that point, plus some ambiguity as that is a target date that could be impacted if case rates do not remain reasonable, it is difficult to do much solid planning at the school level. However, it is good to have some measured approach to lifting of some of the restrictions.

Preparations for the fall continue although much remains unknown at this time. Both at the provincial and local level, the status of restrictions is the main focus: what will be required in high schools, assuming most of the student population is vaccinated, and what will be required in elementary schools. Additionally, we continue to discuss with the local MHO the status of current restrictions between now and the end of the school year such as masking outdoors. With the prevalence of the variants in our community now, combined with the relatively high daily case rate in the Saskatoon area, our local MHO remains concerned about the potential for a spike in cases in our area.

In conclusion, the past 14 months have taught us a great deal with the main lesson being that of unpredictability. As we head into this final stretch of the school year, we remain vigilant and ready for that unpredictability while hoping for the best. The fall will come, and we will be prepared for what that brings.

Recommendation:

That the Board of Education receive the information as presented in the Pandemic Response Update.

6.1 Pandemic Response Update (cont'd)

6.1.1 Donation: MLT Aikins Saskatoon

The pandemic has surfaced challenges in every aspect of our communities – one very glaring challenge that surfaced early on was the inequitable access to technological hardware and internet access. When we were thrust into the “supplemental learning” period and then following into the fall when many families, for many reasons, accessed online learning for their children, the barriers to equitable access were apparent. In addition, throughout this year, teachers managed much of their curricular content through a Learning Management System. Each classroom needed to be prepared to make the switch to online learning should the class or school need to deal with cases of COVID-19. Therefore, even in situations where a family was accessing education through a face-to-face classroom, the need for hardware and access were very important.

Into this context stepped MLT Aikins Saskatoon. With the greater emphasis for online learning due to the pandemic, the firm’s Saskatoon partners identified a need among students who have challenges accessing technology. While many families could quickly adapt to virtual learning, not all students had access to a computer. The Saskatoon office set out to raise a total of \$40,000 for the Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools Foundation for the purchase of 131 Chromebooks to be loaned to students in greatest need. Please see the story at the following link:

https://www.mltaikins.com/newsitem/mlt-aikins-donates-80000-to-saskatoon-schools-to-support-virtual-learning/?utm_content=169105023&utm_medium=social&utm_source=twitter&hss_channel=tw-778674039640514560

We offer our sincere thanks to MLT Aikins Saskatoon for their generous gift and support. This gift has made a huge difference in the lives of many students and families in our division.

Recommendation:

That the Board of Education receive the information as presented in the Donation: MLT Aikins Saskatoon report.

6.2 New Website Implementation

Board Priority:

- Promoting Stewardship

Presented by: Communications Consultant D. Kunz and Director G. Chatlain

Background Information:

In today's world, our communities access information in so many ways; however, almost all of them involve a technological base. For our school communities and our division, the core of our communication is rooted in our website platform. Modern platforms allow for increased flexibility, greater simplicity for users, strong capacities for integrating other communication platforms, etc. Within this context, the division has been preparing for a renewal of our website platform and content. We are at the stage, now, where we are ready to move forward.

We have been working with SchoolBundle to have a new, clean, modern looking and responsive website. Our new website will go live on the morning of Friday, June 18. The website may be unavailable for a short period of time as we make the transition.

As this platform is connected to many in our division, orientation and support is vital. Training of staff who will be using the new content management system (CMS) is underway.

Even though a lot of work has been put into updating and revising content, we anticipate there may be a few typos, errors or glitches. We will work diligently through the clean up process in the days that follow. We appreciate when folks let us know about a problem so it can be rectified. Additionally, we will continue to add and change content as required.

It has been a big project to get us to this stage. Our appreciation goes out to the many staff who have had a hand in the preparations. We expect a good implementation and ultimately, a much better user experience.

Recommendation:

That the Board of Education receive the information as presented in the New Website Implementation report.

6.3 Graduation 2021 Planning

Board Priority:

- Improving Student Learning and Achievement
- Building Relationships and Partnerships

Presented by: Superintendent S. Gay

Background Information:

The fluid nature of the progress of the pandemic and related operational changes has made planning anything over this past year very challenging – particularly anything complex that requires significant planning well in advance. For example, graduation ceremonies.

This report is intended to update the board on the preparations for the 2021 Graduation ceremonies in Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools.

Until June 20th, restrictions do not allow more than 30 people present for a graduation which does not allow the opportunity for parents to be present for the presentation of graduation certificates. In order to complete the Virtual Graduation, the timeline to begin and complete the work required close to three weeks. So, for example, gowns were ordered and plans developed to film the presentation of certificates prior to the June 20th date in order to have our ceremony ready for accessing on June 23 and 24. The schedule for the virtual graduation preparations is as follows:

Virtual Graduation:

- One June 1, 2, and 3 all speeches and transitions were recorded by Versa films.
 - Board Chair, Director, and Bishop Greetings
 - Salutatorian, Valedictorian, and Prayers
 - O' Canada and Honour Songs
- June 7-11 all Graduates were recorded receiving Graduation Certificates and photos were taken wearing Caps and Gowns.
- On June 8 Bishop Mark celebrated a Graduation mass that was recorded with students participating from each high school
- June 14-18 all videos are being edited by school staff and Versa Films to also include the Graduation Award winners for each school.
- June 18-23 final products are to be developed and finalized and uploaded.
- June 23 the Graduation Mass will be shared with all graduates and families via link.
- June 24 at 11 a.m. the video for each school will be shared with families via link and students and families will be able to view and download it. This is our Graduation day.

With the pace of vaccinations and the subsequent implementations of the steps to reduce restrictions in the community, the opportunity to have a larger indoor gathering is now possible after June 20th.

June 24 In Person Opportunity:

Given the current public health orders and assuming there will be no deviation to the plan, the change to restrictions on June 20, 2021 will allow groups of up to 150 people indoors or outdoors. Given this reality, Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools' high schools will be able to provide an opportunity for graduating students to book a time to come to the school with up to eight (8) guests to see the student cross the stage and have their name announced with family present. This will not be a required activity for graduates, but rather an opportunity for those interested.

Recommendation:

That the Board of Education receive the information as presented and provide feedback on the Graduation 2021 Planning report.

Director's Report

June 14, 2021

Learning Leader Initiative: As has been shared with the board in the past, the Learning Leaders process in our division, supporting our school-based leaders in their instructional leadership responsibilities, has been an on-going and important area of focus. Despite the many restrictions and challenges that the pandemic has had on our operations, we have found ways to keep this work moving forward in the division. We have not been able to keep the same meeting structure and face-to-face work; however, we have found ways to still support and move forward. Our last meeting of the year took place on May 26 at which time we began some of the preparations for the fall. Special thanks to our Learning Leader planning committee for their wonderful leadership despite the many challenges.

Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools Foundation Annual General Meeting: The Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools Foundation hosted their annual general meeting (virtually) on June 9. It was a good opportunity to review the work of the Foundation and discuss plans for the future. There are many new initiatives underway and we look forward to what next year holds. As part of the renewal within the Foundation, a space on the board was allocated to a representative of senior administration. We will make that appointment prior to the fall. Special thanks to Chair L. Karwacki, administrator J. Nepjuk, and the many volunteer board members and event volunteers that so generously give of their time in support of our Foundation and Catholic schools.

Catholic Connections Network-Saskatoon: The final meeting of this academic year took place on June 11. The agenda reflected the interests of the group including the planning for needs as we emerge from the pandemic, member updates and Responses to the Truth and Reconciliation Commission (TRC).

Passing of Fr. Ron Beechinor: it is with profound sadness that we celebrated the funeral mass for Fr. Ron on June 1st. Fr. Ron was a major support for the division and many staff and families over his five decades long career, both as part of the division and as part of the Diocese. We hold him up in prayer and thanksgiving for his ministry. May he rest in eternal peace.

Greater Saskatoon Catholic Schools' Annual Pow Wow: Among the many division celebrations that have been impacted by COVID-19, we can add our annual pow wow to the list. Thanks to the creativity of our team, we were able to host a virtual pow wow on June 11. While this celebration is certainly not the same as it usually is, it was still a good celebration and opportunity to get together to share music and dance. We sincerely look forward to this celebration next spring and hope for the opportunity to get together in person.