

SOUTH DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 2-2019

To the Chair and Members
Winnipeg Public School Board:

April 23, 2019

The South District Advisory Committee reports as follows:

1. 2019/2020 Final Budget

The Committee received an overview of the budget for the 2019/2020 school year.

The final budget approved by the Board of Trustees includes expenditures of \$417,444,400 for the fiscal period July 1, 2019 to June 30, 2020.

Complying with Provincial government guidelines, the Board has approved a 2% increase to the special requirement resulting in a 2.45%, or \$35 a year, increase on property taxes for taxpayers within WSD boundaries. This is based on the average assessed value of \$214,200 on a home in WSD.

The Committee was informed that although there was a favorable response to increase to 2.9% amongst all advisory committees, due to direction from the Minister of Education, the Board agreed to comply with the direction to maintain the special requirement to 2%. The Committee was informed that with only a 2% increase, there will not be any additions or any reductions to programs.

The Committee was informed that the Board has made several attempts to communicate with the Province. The Board is dedicated to continue advocating on behalf of the Division and students to ensure education funding and the needs of our communities are sufficiently met.

The members of the Board appreciate all feedback in the development of the 2019/2020 budget.

2. Provincial K-12 Education Review

The Committee was informed that on January 23, 2019, the Province of Manitoba announced a New Commission on Kindergarten to Grade 12 Education. Nine Commissioners will guide a comprehensive, independent review of Manitoba's Education System.

The Manitoba Commission on Kindergarten to Grade 12 Education is requesting feedback on the future of the educational system in Manitoba.

The Committee was informed that the Commission will consult with students, parents, educators, school boards, academics, Indigenous organizations, la Francophonie, municipal councils, professional organizations, the business community and members of the public from across Manitoba.

The Committee was informed that throughout the review process, the Commission will focus on:

- A **long-term vision** – Given how rapidly the world is changing, what should our goals and purpose be for Kindergarten to Grade 12 education?
- **Student learning** – How do we help our students achieve excellence?
- **Teaching** – How can we help teachers and school leaders to achieve better outcomes?

South District Advisory Committee Report No. 2-2019

- **Accountability for student learning** – How do we develop a stronger sense of shared accountability for student learning and an understanding that every member of the education team (e.g., principals, teachers, maintenance staff, bus drivers, administration staff) has an important role to play?
- **Governance** – What governance structures do we need to put in place to make our education system more relevant and better coordinated?
- **Funding** – How do we ensure that our education system is sustainable, and that it provides equitable learning opportunities for students of all ages?

The Committee was encouraged to participate in the consultation process, which will run from February to May 2019, by submitting a written report, attending a public consultation, or filling out the online survey. Written submissions may be emailed to K12educationcommission@gov.mb.ca or via mail to Manitoba's Commission on Kindergarten to Grade 12 Education 470-800 Portage Avenue Winnipeg, Manitoba, R3G 0N4. The deadline for receipt of written submissions is May 30, 2019.

The Committee was also informed that the Province is providing workshops for anyone who may be interested. The workshops will offer an informal and interactive way for the Committee to share their thoughts. The Province has indicated that the feedback will help the commission develop its recommendations as part of a comprehensive, independent review of Manitoba's elementary and secondary education system. The Committee was informed that two online surveys are available; one for the public, the second survey for teachers.

In addition, the Committee was provided with information regarding the Local Voices, Local Choices campaign which was developed by the Manitoba School Board Association to assist parents/guardians in providing responses to the Education Review Commission.

The Committee was also informed that the Province is hosting a full-day student forum scheduled on May 3rd comprised of student representatives from around Manitoba.

The Committee was informed that the Commission was created by the Province of Manitoba after the Literacy and Numeracy Summit last year which indicated that Manitoba needed a larger review of the K-12 education. The Committee was also informed that amalgamation would be part of the review.

The Committee expressed concern that the co-chair of the Commission is from Alberta and not Manitoba and that the Commission has placed an outside consultant expert in a prominent position.

The Committee was informed that additional information on upcoming consultations, online survey and in-person meetings will also be added to the Division's website as information becomes available.

Respectfully Submitted,

JAMIE DUMONT
Trustee Representative

South District Advisory Committee Report No. 2-2019**IN ATTENDANCE****Voting Representatives**

Collège Churchill
Earl Grey School
Grant Park High School
Harrow School
École J.B. Mitchell School
École Kelvin High School
Queenston School
École River Heights School
École Robert H. Smith School
Rockwood School

Trustee

Trustee Jamie Dumont

Regrets

Trustee Mark Wasyliv
Carpathia School
Gladstone School
Grosvenor School
École LaVérendrye School
Montrose School
École Riverview School

Administration

Celia Caetano-Gomes, Superintendent, Education Services
Julie Millar, Director of Student Services
Susan Christiuk, Principal, Carpathia School
Evelyn Siddall, Principal, Harrow School
Camie Lawson, Principal, Grosvenor School
Maria Silva, Principal, École Kelvin High School
Jude Guzzi, Vice-Principal, École Riverview School
Matthew Couture, Vice-Principal, École Robert H. Smith School
Susan Drysdale, Vice-Principal, École River Heights School
Thérèse Deleurme, Recording Secretary, Board Office