

NORTH DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 1-2018

To the Chair and Members
Winnipeg Public School Board:

November 27, 2018

The North District Advisory Committee reports as follows:

1. Election of Committee Chair

Trustee Chris Broughton welcomed everyone to the first North District Advisory Committee meeting for the 2018/2019 school year. At the Inaugural meeting of the Board held on November 5, 2018, Trustee Betty Edel was appointed as the Board's representative and Trustee Linda Schatkowsky was appointed as the Board's alternate representative to this Committee.

The parent representative from Champlain School volunteered to Chair the North District Advisory Committee for the 2018/2019 school year.

2. Approval Of Agenda

The Committee agreed to add the topic of a community-voting member to the agenda.

The Committee agreed by majority vote to include a community member as a voting member of the North District Advisory Committee.

The Committee approved the amended Agenda of November 27, 2018.

3. Provincial 2019 Pre-Budget Consultation

The Committee was provided with a copy of Manitoba News Release dated October 1, 2018 regarding the 2019 Pre-Budget Consultations. Manitobans are invited to provide feedback to the Minister of Finance on an online survey which includes questions on the following topics:

- Reduce the number of school divisions
- Reduce senior management positions in school divisions
- Reduce the number of unionized education bargaining units
- Control the rate of overall education spending growth
- Ensure value for money in education spending

The Committee was provided with a WSD fact sheet to assist parents in completing the Provincial Survey. The Committee was informed WSD continues to operate as one of the leanest administration teams in the Province, while providing direction, support and service to the largest school division. WSD administrative costs equal 2.7% of total spending, below the 3.0% mandated limit for all large urban school divisions in the province. The Committee was informed of the effects the Province's proposals would have on education.

The Committee was provided with contact information to voice concerns on the 2019 Provincial Budget proposals.

4. WSD 2019/2020 Budget Consultation

The Committee received an overview on the Budget Consultation for the 2018/2019 school year.

The Committee was informed that the Board is committed to obtaining feedback from school communities, parent councils, residents and staff groups for the 2018/2019 school budget. The District Advisory meetings will provide parent representatives with an opportunity to share feedback, ideas and questions with the trustees in their local area.

The Committee received a survey to facilitate discussions on the 2019/2020 Budget which identified 3 main topics for feedback on programs, mental health and property taxes.

The Committee discussed programs which have most impacted their schools/children. The Committee discussed the importance of the Breakfast Program, Speech & Therapy Program, Reading Program, Walking School Bus, Book Buddies, Special Needs Program, Autism Support Programs, School Resource Officers and programs that support Indigenous Studies.

The Committee agreed that WSD provides many supports for students' mental health issues. The Committee also discussed the need for more counsellors in schools and Anxiety Management Programs.

The Committee discussed the provincially suggested 2% property tax limit. The Committee agreed it would be acceptable to have more than 2% if it maintains or enhances programs and services for students.

The Committee also discussed the lunch program and whether the Division would operate these programs. The Committee was informed that the cost to operate lunch programs in the Division would be significant, however parents were encouraged to provide written feedback to the Board for consideration.

The Committee was informed that it is anticipated that the Provincial funding announcement will be made in late January/early February. Once the announcement is received, the Finance/Personnel Committee of the Board will prepare final recommendations for approval by the Board of Trustees. Budget information will be distributed to all schools, parent councils, student councils, advisory committees, employee groups and others on request, and posted on Division's website.

The Committee was informed that District Advisory Committee meetings will be scheduled in February to provide an opportunity for dialogue and discussion about the draft budget. A Public Meeting regarding the draft budget will be held on February 25, 2019. The deadline to receive feedback regarding the budget will be received by the Board until March 4, 2019. All feedback will be considered by Finance/Personnel Committee. The Board of Trustees will approve the budget at its meeting to be held March 11, 2019. The Board must finalize the budget by March 15, 2019, as required by legislation.

5. Manitoba Association of Parent Councils (MAPC)

The Committee was reminded to contact the Board and Community Services Office if they wish to become a member of the Manitoba Association of Parent Councils for the 2018/2019 school year.

6. 2018/2019 District Advisory Committee Dates

The Committee was informed of the following schedule of the District Advisory Committees for the 2018/2019 school year:

Central District Advisory Committee
7:00 p.m.

Thursday, November 29, 2018
Wednesday, February 20, 2019
Thursday, April 25, 2019

Inner City District Advisory Committee
6:30 p.m.

Wednesday, November 28, 2018
Wednesday, February 13, 2019
Wednesday, April 17, 2019

North District Advisory Committee
7:00 p.m.

Tuesday, November 27, 2018
Tuesday, February 19, 2019
Tuesday, April 30, 2019

South District Advisory Committee
7:00 p.m.

Wednesday, December 5, 2018
Tuesday, February 12, 2019
Tuesday, April 23, 2019

French Immersion Advisory Committee
7:00 p.m.

Thursday, December 6, 2018
Thursday, February 21, 2019
Thursday, May 2, 2019

Student Advisory Committee
4:00 p.m.

Tuesday, December 4, 2018
Wednesday, February 20, 2019
Wednesday, May 1, 2019

Respectfully Submitted,

LINDA SCHATKOWSKY
Trustee Representative

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IN ATTENDANCE:

Voting Representatives:

Andrew Mynarski School
Champlain School
Faraday School
Garden Grove School
Inkster School
Isaac Newton School
Meadows West School
Ralph Brown School
St. John's High School
Shaughnessy Park School
Sisler High School
Tyndall Park School
Sharon Machinski – Community member

Non-Voting/Resource Members:

Community Support Worker, Shaughnessy Park School

Trustees:

Trustee Linda Schatkowsky
Trustee Chris Broughton

Administration:

Fatima Mota, Superintendent of Education Services
Chris Rhodes, Director, Career Education
Lisa Hasselfield, Principal, Champlain School
Dino DiFabrizio, Principal, Inkster School
Mohammad Rezai, Principal, Isaac Newton School
Rosanna Guzzi, Principal, Ralph Brown School
Joan Fransen, Vice-Principal, St. John's High School
Pat Graham, Principal, Shaughnessy Park School
Angela Perez, Vice-Principal, Shaughnessy Park School
Madalynne Iannone, Vice-Principal, Sisler High School
Paul Krowiak, Vice-Principal, Sisler High School
Gisele Mospanchuk, Principal, Tyndall Park School
Therese Deleurme, Recording Secretary
Helena Tessier, Recording Secretary

Regrets:

Trustee Betty Edel
Lansdowne School
Lord Nelson School
Prairie Rose School
Stanley Knowles School