

**INNER CITY DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 3-2015**

To the Chair and Members  
Winnipeg Public School Board:

November 18, 2015

Your Inner City District Advisory Committee reports as follows:

**1. Election of Committee Chair**

Your Committee was informed that at the Inaugural meeting of the Board held on September 14, 2015, Trustee Lisa Naylor was appointed as the Board's representative and Trustee Cathy Collins was appointed as the Board's alternate representative to this Committee.

The parent representative from Pinkham and William Whyte School volunteered to co-Chair the Inner City District Advisory Committee for the 2015/2016 term.

**2. 2016/2017 Budget Development**

The Secretary-Treasurer was in attendance to provide your Committee with an overview of the 2016/2017 Budget Development.

Your Committee was informed that the Board is seeking input during the development of the Budget. In early February, after the Provincial Funding announcement, Trustees will meet with all District Advisory Committees as well as have an open meeting for residents in the Division to present the draft budget and receive feedback.

Your Committee was informed that the budget was developed on the following Guiding Principles: Leading Education and Innovation; Providing High Quality Education; Employing Qualified, Caring and Competent Staff; Educating the Whole Child; Building stronger children, families and communities; Practicing Sustainable Development; Ensuring Safe Learning Environments in Schools; Managing Tax Dollars Responsibly.

Your Committee was informed of some of the challenges facing the Board which include the unknown provincial funding level until announced by the Minister of Education in January 2016, costs required for continuation of programs and services, costs to maintain buildings, infrastructure and equipment, addressing local needs, the importance of maintaining taxing authority, property reassessment and communication. Your Committee was also informed of required changes in rates or costs such as negotiated salary changes, salary scale increments, changes in benefits, employer rates for employment insurance, Canada pension plan and payroll tax, costs for supplies, paper, books, equipment, rates changes for utilities and ongoing investments required to maintain and repair school facilities.

Your Committee was informed of provincial mandates that affect the Division's budget which include a class size initiative, report cards, Appropriate Educational Programming (Bill 13) Standards for Student Services, accessibility guidelines and transportation requirements.

A survey was distributed to your Committee with respect to the development of the 2016/2017 Budget Development. Your Committee was informed that feedback will be compiled and given to Trustees for consideration.

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Your Committee discussed the questions outlined in the survey and felt that overall there is support to maintain existing programs and services for students. Your Committee recognized that school property taxes could not be reduced without decreasing supports to students; therefore reducing property taxes would not be a priority.

Your Committee felt the survey was not well worded and would like to have seen the ability to prioritize programs.

Your Committee also discussed the importance of using school tax dollars to support programs that would help new immigrant children in schools including English language training, on-line resources, Special Education, extracurricular clubs, cultural and language programs and additional Education Assistants.

Your Committee discussed the importance of providing supports to children with special needs including those that don't display behavioural difficulties. Your Committee expressed concern that these students often lack supports as they are not regarded as higher needs due to behaviour concerns.

Your Committee recommended that Aboriginal Academic Achievement was an important component to education.

Your Committee commented that there should be less importance placed on offering full day kindergarten programs. Your Committee felt that transportation was not a critical component with the exception of Special Needs transportation.

Your Committee discussed what supports or services for students should be included in the 2016/2017 budget. Your Committee discussed the importance of providing trauma counseling in schools, additional language programs, increased supports in transportation for middle years, lunch program supervision, subsidizing lunches and language programs for parents.

In response to an enquiry on language programming, Your Committee was informed that the Division does provide language programs for adults in conjunction with the Province of Manitoba.

### **3. 2016/2017 Budget Process and Timelines**

Your Committee was informed that a Special Board Meeting will be held on February 22, 2016 to receive delegations on the Budget. The deadline to receive feedback regarding the budget will be received by the Board until February 26, 2016. All feedback will be considered by the Finance/Personnel Committee. The Board of Trustees will approve the budget at its meeting to be held March 7, 2016. The Board must finalize the budget by March 15, 2016, as required by legislation.

#### 4. **2015/2016 Advisory Committee Dates**

Your Committee was informed that at a meeting held November 2, 2015, the Board of Trustees approved the following recommendation: That the following tentative schedule of the District Advisory Committees for the 2015/2016 school year be approved and that on a regular basis the Board of Trustees identify topics for discussion at the District Advisory Meetings.

##### Central District Advisory Committee

Thursday, November 26, 2015  
Wednesday, February 3, 2016  
Wednesday, May 4, 2016

##### Inner City District Advisory Committee

Wednesday, November 18, 2015  
Wednesday, February 10, 2016  
Wednesday, April 27, 2016

##### North District Advisory Committee

Tuesday, November 17, 2015  
Thursday, February 4, 2016  
Tuesday, May 10, 2016

##### South District Advisory Committee

Tuesday, November 24, 2015  
Tuesday, February 9, 2016  
Tuesday, April 26, 2016

##### French Immersion Advisory Committee

~~Wednesday, December 2, 2015~~  
Thursday, February 18, 2016  
Thursday, May 19, 2016

##### Student Advisory Committee

Wednesday, December 9, 2015  
Wednesday, February 24, 2016  
Thursday, May 12, 2016

#### 5. **Parent Run Lunch Programs**

Your Committee was informed that at a Central District Advisory Committee meeting last year, your Committee discussed concerns and challenges on the operation of the parent group lunch programs as some schools have many challenges with staff retention, collection of fees, and staff training.

Your Committee was informed that a meeting was held in October to discuss Parent-Run Lunch programs.

Your Committee held a breakout session to discuss Parent-Run Lunch program concerns. Your Committee was informed that feedback will be compiled and given to Trustees for consideration.

Your Committee discussed what training has been provided for Lunch program co-ordinator. Your Committee expressed a need for training in food handling, CPR & First Aid, Educational Assistant training and child behaviour.

Your Committee discussed whether there was sufficient space provided and what suggestions can be forwarded to improve the area. Your Committee expressed concerns with space limitations, while other schools had plenty of space.

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Your Committee discussed what was found to be helpful in collection of fees and who assists in the process. Your Committee discussed what was found to be helpful such as mailing out reminders of late payments, principal or staff involvement, focus on pre-payment, payment incentives, opportunities to receive discount for volunteering and multiple children enrolment.

## **6. Recording of District Advisory Meetings**

Your Committee was informed that the recording of District Advisory Committee meetings was being added to the agenda for discussion to determine whether there was an interest from parents to livestream meetings.

Your Committee expressed concern that parents would not be comfortable attending meetings and would be reluctant to speak openly and share information. Your Committee also expressed concern related to confidentiality.

Respectfully Submitted,

LISA NAYLOR  
Trustee Representative

### **IN ATTENDANCE:**

#### **Voting Representatives:**

Katherine Thomas, Children of the Earth School  
 Tammy Charlotte, David Livingstone School  
 Alexa Rosentreter, David Livingstone School  
 Cindy Marin, Fort Rouge School  
 Mel Whitesell, Gordon Bell High School  
 Mary Chuol, Hugh John Macdonald School  
 Crystal Dalke, John M. King School  
 Kristi Degenhardt, Mulvey School  
 Corinna Cardamone, Mulvey School  
 Dolly Daniels, Niji Mahkwa School  
 Charlene Meekis, Norquay School  
 Shauntel Ozuk, Pinkham School  
 Lee Jenks, Victoria-Albert School  
 Dixie Halladay, Wellington School  
 Cathy Bird, William Whyte School

#### **Regrets:**

Dufferin School  
 General Wolfe School  
 King Edward School  
 Machray School  
 Sister MacNamara School  
 Strathcona School

#### **Trustees:**

Lisa Naylor  
 Cathy Collins

#### **Administration:**

Karin Seiler, Superintendent  
 René Appelmans, Secretary-Treasurer  
 Brad Corbett, Director, Enrichment & Science  
 Pat Graham, Principal, Argyle Alternative High School  
 Jackie Connell, Principal, Children of the Earth High School  
 Tim Cox, Principal, David Livingstone School  
 Terri Warner, Principal, Fort Rouge School  
 Gwen McLean, Principal, General Wolfe School  
 Vinh Huynh, Principal, Hugh John Macdonald  
 Aaron Benarroch, Principal, King Edward School  
 Peter Correia, Principal, Mulvey School  
 Stacie Edgar, Vice-Principal, Mulvey School  
 Debbie Gould, Vice-Principal, Niji Mahkwa School  
 Leslie Last, Principal, Norquay School  
 Tricia Penner, Vice-Principal, Norquay School  
 Bev Wahl, Principal, R.B. Russell School  
 Tanis Westdal, Vice-Principal, R.B. Russell School  
 Alice Williams, Vice Principal, Sister MacNamara School  
 Lloyd Rana, Vice-Principal, Strathcona School  
 Nelia Husack, Principal, Ecole Victoria-Albert School  
 Kathleen Palay, Vice-Principal, Ecole Victoria-Albert School  
 Brenda Langton, Principal, Wellington School  
 Cinzia Caputo, Vice-Principal, William Whyte School  
 Helena Tessier, Recording Secretary

#### **Non-Voting/Resource Members:**

Ursula Rousseau, John M. King, Community Support Worker  
 Nadine Fontaine, Mulvey, Community Support Worker  
 Fred Boulanger, Niji Mahkwa, Community Support Worker  
 Marlene Wood, Norquay, Community Support Worker  
 Sherrie Houle, Pinkham School, Community Support Worker  
 Debbie Capitano, R.B. Russell School, Community Support Worker  
 Alexis Brown, Sister MacNamara, Community Support Worker  
 Lee Tavares, Strathcona School, Community Support Worker