

THE WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION
SOUTH DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS – Tuesday, April 23, 2019

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Committee members approved the Agenda of April 23, 2019, as distributed.

2. 2019/2020 FINAL BUDGET

Committee members 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.

Committee members were 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%. Committee members were informed that with only a 2% increase, there will not be any additions or any reductions to programs.

Committee members were 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.

3. PROVINCIAL K-12 EDUCATION REVIEW

Committee members were 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.

Committee members were 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.

SOUTH DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS – Tuesday, April 23, 2019

- 2 -

Committee members were 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?
- **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?

Committee members were 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.

Committee members were also informed that the Province is providing workshops for anyone who may be interested. The workshops will offer an informal and interactive way for Committee members 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. Committee members were informed that two online surveys are available; one for the public, the second survey for teachers.

In addition, Committee members were 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.

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

Committee members were 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. Committee members were also informed that amalgamation would be part of the review.

A Committee member 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.

Additional information on upcoming consultations, online survey and in-person meetings will also be added to the Division's website as information becomes available.

SOUTH DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE
SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS – Tuesday, April 23, 2019

- 3 -

4. FOR INFORMATION

4.1 District Advisory Reports and Summaries of Discussions

Committee members were informed that at a meeting held March 4, 2019, the Board of Trustees received the South District Advisory Committee Report and Summary of Discussions as information. The Summary of Discussions have been distributed to Committee members the week of March 4.

Once reviewed by the Board, District Advisory Committee Reports and Summaries of Discussions are posted on the Division's website under the Family and Community tab.

www.winnipegssd.ca/Parents/Parent%20Council/Pages/Default.aspx

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

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

Trustee

Trustee Jamie Dumont

Regrets

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