

# THE WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION

## SOUTH DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS – Tuesday, April 14, 2015

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#### 1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Committee members agreed to add Enrolment and Spacing Requirements in the South District French Immersion schools to the Agenda of April 14, 2015.

#### 2. STRUCTURE OF DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEES

Committee members were informed that at a meeting held November 3, 2014, the Board of Trustees adopted a motion to establish a Special Committee to Review the Existing Structure of the District Advisory Committees to improve participation and communication between the Board of Trustees, School Parent Councils and the community.

The purpose of the Special Committee is to review the existing structure of the District Advisory Committees and to improve participation and communication between the Board of Trustees, School Parent Councils and the community.

Committee members were informed that as a result of discussions regarding the importance of parental involvement within the Winnipeg School Division, a survey has been developed to obtain feedback from parents/parent councils, District Advisory Committee members and community members to improve communication with the Board of Trustees.

Committee members were informed that the Public Relations/Communications Committee has recommended that an area on the Division's website be developed for parent councils. This survey will also be posted on the Division's website under the newly created *Parent Council* subsection under the *Family & Community* tab.

[www.winnipegsd.ca/FAMILY%20COMMUNITY/Parent%20Council/Pages/default.aspx](http://www.winnipegsd.ca/FAMILY%20COMMUNITY/Parent%20Council/Pages/default.aspx)

Committee members were asked to share this information with their respective parent councils and include this information and link to the survey in the upcoming May newsletter.

Committee members were informed that feedback will be compiled and given to Trustees for consideration.

In response to a parent representative, Committee members were informed that the Board is currently reviewing the feasibility of recording and live streaming board meetings. Committee members were informed that the recording of the District Advisory Committee meetings is also a possibility.

Committee members were informed that the current structure of the District Advisory Committees could change in multiple ways including based around the nine wards.

Committee members indicated that succession planning plays an important role and that it would be beneficial for new members of the District Advisory Committee to be provided an orientation in order to improve participation.

Committee members also suggested that emailing agendas and links to summaries may be helpful as well as using social media such as twitter or syner voice to communicate information. Committee members were informed that the Board has had discussions on utilizing social media and is currently reviewing this option.

**3. ENROLMENT AND SPACING REQUIREMENTS IN THE SOUTH DISTRICT FRENCH IMMERSION SCHOOLS**

At the request of the parent representative from École Robert H. Smith School, enrolment and spacing requirements in the South District French Immersion schools was added to the agenda for discussion.

Committee members were informed that due to the overcrowding of French Immersion programs in the South District, in particular École LaVérendrye, the Board identified possible options and retained Prairie Research Associates to assist in the process.

Committee members were informed that Prairie Research Associates was to conduct surveys with École LaVérendrye, Earl Grey School, École Robert H. Smith School and the Sir William Osler community as well as daycares attached to these schools. Prairie Research Associates will also be meeting with focus groups to discuss possible options.

Committee members were informed that the consultation process is still on going and results will be provided to the community once the process is complete. Committee members were informed that there will be town hall meetings at each school where the results will be presented to the community.

In response to an enquiry, Committee members were assured that advance notice would be given by Prairie Research Associates to optimize participation.

Committee members were informed that it is anticipated that the recommendations and any additional suggestions approved by the Board will be shared with parents/communities in May.

Committee members were informed that trustees are available and willing to meet with parent councils to discuss or provide information.

**4. NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting of the South District Advisory Committee will be held Tuesday, June 9, 2015 at École Robert H. Smith School.

SOUTH DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
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**IN ATTENDANCE:**

**Voting Representatives:**

Sara McIvor-Prouty, Carpathia School  
Laura Bishop, Collège Churchill  
Andrea Villeneuve, Grant Park High School  
Lisa Smit-Beiko, Harrow School  
Matthew Cosway, École LaVérendrye  
Christine Hollingshead, École River Heights School  
Dayna Distasio, École Riverview School

**Alternate Representatives**

École Robert H. Smith School  
Cara Brown, École LaVérendrye

**Trustees:**

Sherri Rollins  
Chris Broughton  
Mark Wasyliw

**Administration:**

Julie Millar, Director of Student Support Services  
Ara Morris, Principal, Brock Corydon School  
Holly Mackie, Principal, Carpathia School  
Donna Miller, Principal, Churchill High School  
Andrea Powell, Principal, Grosvenor School  
Claudette Warnke, Principal, École LaVérendrye  
Maria Silva, Principal, Lord Roberts School  
Wade Gregg, Principal, Queenston School  
Chantelle Deslaurier, Principal, École River Heights School  
Grant Bridgeman, Principal, École Riverview School  
Lise Bjarnason, Vice-Principal, École Riverview School  
Tom Rossi, Principal, École Robert H. Smith School  
Sharon Labossière, Vice-Principal, École Robert H. Smith School  
Helena Tessier, Recording Secretary

**Regrets:**

Gladstone School  
Grosvenor School  
École J.B. Mitchell School  
Lord Roberts School  
Montrose School  
Queenston School