

FOR FURTHER INFORMATION REGARDING THESE MINUTES PLEASE EMAIL THE BOARD OFFICE AT board@wsd1.org

Minutes of Regular Meeting
of the
Board of Trustees
of
The Winnipeg School Division

**APPROVED BY THE
BOARD ON
APRIL 13, 2015**

Board Room, Administration Building,
Winnipeg, March 16, 2015.

The Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of The Winnipeg School Division was held this day at 7:00 p.m.

CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL

Present: Trustees M. Wasyliw, S. Rollins, C. Broughton, L. Naylor,
K. Freedman, C. Collins, A. Beach, M. Babinsky, D. Koshelanyk

In Attendance: P. Clarke, R. Appelmans, K. Seiler, C. Caetano-Gomes,
R. Chartrand, F. Mota, G. Heath, B. Lapointe, R. Carter,
E. Barnaby

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

- Naylor-Beach That the Agenda for the regular meeting of the School Board to be held this evening, March 16, 2015, be approved.
- Collins-Koshelanyk That a Finance/Personnel Committee Minority Report be added to the Agenda as 5.4.
- Collins-Beach That an in Camera Item be added to the Agenda in accordance with Procedural By-Law No. 1203.
- Beach-Rollins That a Policy/Program Committee Verbal Report be added to the Agenda as 5.5.
- Freedman-Naylor The Agenda as amended was voted on and declared. – Carried.

READING AND CONFIRMING OF MINUTES

A copy of the minutes to be considered had previously been distributed to the Trustees. A motion was now adopted for these minutes to be taken as read, and approved as follows:

- Beach-Babinsky Regular Meeting – March 2, 2015
- Beach-Babinsky Special Meeting – March 9, 2015 5:00 p.m.
- Beach-Babinsky Special Meeting – March 9, 2015 7:00 p.m.
- Beach-Babinsky Special Meeting – March 11, 2015

READING OF COMMUNICATIONS AND PETITIONS

The following correspondence was dealt with as indicated:

- OC08-15 From Brenda J. Hanson, National Director of Education, Child Evangelism Fellowship

Regarding the refusal of the Board to consider the petition for Discovery Time Religious Instruction at Greenway School.

Rollins-Beach That this correspondence be referred to the Policy/Program Committee for discussion and consideration in the development of guidelines for religious instruction.

Collins-Babinsky That a By-Law be prepared to pass the 3 readings.

(Trustee Collins withdrew her motion)

Babinsky-Collins That the Board of Trustees reverse the decision made February 2, 2015, denying the petition submitted by Discovery Time requesting religious instruction

Collins-Babinsky That a recorded vote be taken– Carried.

The motion was voted on and declared – defeated, the vote being recorded as follows:

Nays: Trustees Broughton, Rollins, Naylor, Koshelanyk, Freedman, Wasyliw - 6
Ayes: Trustees Collins, Babinsky, Beach - 3

Babinsky-Collins That the petition submitted by Discovery Time be sent to the Minister of Education to request a ruling on whether the petition meets the provincial requirements.

Collins-Babinsky That a recorded vote be taken– Carried.

The motion was voted on and declared – defeated, the vote being recorded as follows:

Nays: Trustees Beach, Broughton, Rollins, Naylor, Koshelanyk, Freedman, Wasyliw - 7
Ayes: Trustees Collins, Babinsky - 2

Rollins-Beach That correspondence from Discovery Time be referred to the Policy/Program Committee for discussion and consideration in the development of guidelines for religious instruction.

Collins-Babinsky That a recorded vote be taken– Carried.

The motion was voted on and declared – carried, the vote being recorded as follows:

Ayes: Trustees Naylor, Beach, Broughton, Rollins, Koshelanyk, Freedman, Wasyliw - 7
Nays: Trustees Babinsky, Collins - 2

OC09-15 From C. Flather, P. Eng. Transportation Division, Public Works Department-City of Winnipeg

Regarding a request to reduce speed limit on King Edward between Inkster & Jefferson.

Koshelanyk-Broughton That this correspondence be received as information- Carried.

OC10-15 From Claudia Sarbit, Chair, Board of Trustees, Seven Oaks School Division

Regarding the issue of wind chill and bus cancellations and advising that the Seven Oaks School Division is satisfied that the system in place is adequate.

Broughton-Collins That this correspondence be received as information- Carried.

OC11-15 From Gerald Farthing, Deputy Minister, Education and Advanced Learning
Regarding the Winnipeg School Division 4% accumulated surplus limit.

Rollins-Beach That this correspondence be received as information- Carried.

PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

The following reports were considered:

Superintendent's Report No. 4-2015	Dated March 16, 2015
Children's Heritage Fund Committee Report No. 1-2015	Dated February 5, 2015
Pension Committee Report No. 2-2015	Dated March 11, 2015
Finance/Personnel Committee Minority Report No. 1-2015	Dated March 16, 2015
Policy/Program Committee Verbal Report No. 1-2015	Dated March 16, 2015

Superintendent's Report No.4-2015

Rollins-Beach That Clause No. 1a (That the list of Salaries and Wages paid during the month of February 2015, as summarized on Account Listing 2015-02) be approved. – Carried.

Rollins-Beach That Clause No. 1b (February 2015 list of payment of accounts) be approved. – Carried.

Rollins Collins That Clause No. 2 (Hugh John Macdonald School – Steam Heating System Replacement) be approved. – Carried.

Rollins-Beach That Clause No. 3 (Technical Vocational High School – Heating Piping System Replacement – Phase 1) be approved. – Carried.

Rollins-Collins That Clause No. 4 (Technical Vocational High School – Window Replacement 2015) be approved. – Carried.

Rollins-Collins That Clause No. 5 (Annual Servicing of Air Conditioning Equipment at Various Schools) be approved. – Carried.

Rollins-Beach That Clause No. 6 (Kelvin High School – Electrical Upgrade 2015) be approved. – Carried.

Children's Heritage Fund Committee Report No. 1-2015

Freedman-Collins That the Children's Heritage Fund Committee Report No. 1-2015 be received. – Carried.

Pension Committee Report No. 2-2015

Collins-Koshelanyk That the Pension Committee Report No. 2-2015 be received.- Carried.

Finance/Personnel Committee Minority Report

Collins-Koshelanyk That the Personnel Minority Report be received.- Carried.

Policy/Program Committee Report No.1-2015 Verbal Report

Beach-Rollins That the Policy/Program Committee Verbal Report be received.- Carried.

Beach-Freedman That the administration submit to the Board of Trustees a template of request for proposal on Strategic planning by March 30th 2015.- Carried.

Beach-Naylor That the matter of Strategic Planning be referred to the Governance Committee – Carried.

Beach-Collins That Policy GBK – Smoke Free Environment, be approved as revised. - Carried.

ENQUIRIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS158 - Manitoba Future 40 under 40

Trustee Rollins wished to congratulate Trustee Freedman on being nominated for CBC Manitoba the Province's new generation of leaders, builders and change-makers under the age of 40 for his community leadership, social activism and volunteerism.

159 - Meeting with the Minister of Education and Advanced Learning

Trustee Wasyliv informed trustees that on March 4, 2015, he attended a meeting with Honourable Bjornson, Minister of Education and Advanced Learning at the Legislative Building along with Trustee Rollins, Chief Superintendent and Director of Student Support Services. The meeting was to discuss concerns regarding the funding supports for students with special needs, and in particular the process for accessing Level 2 and 3 funding. The Division contributes over 71% of funds required for the special needs programming. As a result of the efforts of the administration and lobbying with the Province, the government has committed to working with the Division and establish a task force to analyze the existing special needs funding model in Manitoba and make recommendations to the Minister regarding potential changes, improvements or alternative modes. Trustee Wasyliv was pleased to have the opportunity to advocate for special needs students on behalf of the Board the Trustees.

160 - Literacy Conference

Trustee Wasyliv informed trustees that on March 13, 2015, he attended the Physical Literacy Conference at the Victoria Inn Hotel and Convention Centre along with the Director of Buildings. The vision is to have every school on the same booking agent and minimize fees and by working together with the City. Partners and stakeholders would work collaboratively towards a common vision for sport in Winnipeg. The knowledge and expertise of all partners and stakeholders would guide the future direction and development of sport, a shared knowledge and understanding of the various roles of Winnipeg's sport partners in the delivery of sport/active living. The Division could benefit from maximizing use of facilities and minimizing the duplication of facilities/maintenance and if possible shared maintenance.

161 - Loran Scholar Award

Trustee Freedman wished to congratulate Hannah Lank, a grade 12 student at École secondaire Kelvin High school for being awarded the Loran Scholar Award. Each Loran Scholar recipient receives an award valued at up to \$100,000 for their undergraduate studies. Hannah

was chosen for the award for her work with food allergy awareness,. Hannah is student council president, she ran the school newspaper for three years, she's in cross country and basketball, and she's active in the community. Trustee Freedman informed trustees that he and Trustee Naylor had the pleasure to work with her in the Student Advisory Committee Meetings.

NEW BUSINESS

162 - Condolences

That the Board's sympathy be recorded, with regret, in the bereavement of the following:

On January 22, 2015, Dale Canada, Assistant Caretaker, a member of our staff for 14 years;

On February 17, 2015, Detlef Borede, Educational Assistant, a member of our staff for 14 years;

On March 11, 2015, Susan Livingston, Teacher, a member of our staff for 21, years;

On March 6, 2015, Retired Clerk, Carol Klawuhn, a member of our staff for 29 years;

and that this motion be adopted by a silent standing vote. - Carried

163 - By-Law 1233 – First Reading Debenture Borrowing - \$2,289,400.00

Rollins-Collins That By-Law 1233, a by-law of the Winnipeg School Division for the purpose of borrowing TWO MILLION TWO HUNDRED AND EIGHTY NINE THOUSAND FOUR HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$2,289,400.00) for certain building projects be introduced and read a first time in short.

By-Law No. 1233 then read accordingly.

164 - By-Law 1234 – First Reading Borrowing Law

Rollins-Collins That By-Law No. 1234, a by-law of The Winnipeg School Division to authorize the borrowing of monies from any bank or credit union, upon credit of The Winnipeg School Division for the year 2015, be now introduced and read a first time in short."

By-Law No. 1234 then read accordingly.

165 - By-Law No. 1235 To Amend Procedural By-Law No. 1203

Koshelanyk-Babinsky a) That By-Law No. 1235, a By-Law of the Winnipeg School Division for the purpose of amending Procedural By-Law 1203, be now introduced and read a first time in short. - Carried

By-Law No. 1235 then read accordingly.

Koshelanyk-Babinsky b) That the rules be suspended in order for By-Law No. 1235 to be read a second time in short. - Carried

Koshelanyk-Babinsky c) That By-Law No. 1235 be now read a second time in short. – Carried.

By-Law No. 1235 then read accordingly.

Koshelanyk-Babinsky d) That the rules be suspended in order for By-Law No. 1235 to be read a third time in short.- Carried.

Koshelanyk-Babinsky That By-Law No. 1235 be now read a third time in short and passed. –Carried.

By-Law No. 1235 then read accordingly.

166 -Children's Heritage Fund Committee

Collins-Freedman That former Trustee Rita Hildahl be named as a representative of the Children's Heritage Fund for the remainder of the term ending December 2015.- Carried.

167 -Transportation Services for Junior High Students

Naylor-Rollins That the Budget Presentation received from a parent requesting transportation services for Junior High School students on February 23, 2015, be referred to the Policy/Program Committee for review and consideration. – Carried.

168 - Full Day Kindergarten

Babinsky-Koshelanyk That the Correspondence received from Division resident regarding Full Day Kindergarten be received as information. – Carried.

AGENDA INFORMATION ITEMS

Broughton-Freedman That Information Correspondence No. IC18-15- IC21-15 be received as information - Carried.

Rollins-Beach That Superintendent's Information Report No. 2-2015 be received as information.-Carried.

BUSINESS MATTERS AS DEFINED IN RULE 42.7

Committee of the Whole

Collins-Beach That the Board recess in Committee of the Whole in camera at this time. – Carried.

The Board then recessed into Committee of the Whole in camera at 8:32 p.m. with Trustee Collins in the Chair.

Upon the Board resuming in public session at 9:55 p.m. Trustee Collins, the Chair of the Committee of the Whole presented the following recommendations of that Committee:

169 - Suspension Report September 2014 – February 2015

Collins-Babinsky That the Suspension Report September 2014 – February 2015 be received as information. – Carried.

170 - Negotiations With The Executive Assistant Group (EAG) (non-union)

Collins-Rollins That the agreement with the Executive Assistant Group for the period of July 6, 2014 to July 1, 2017 be approved.-Carried.

Trustee Collins, the Chair of the Committee of the Whole reported that there were discussions regarding Negotiations with the Winnipeg Teachers’ Association, Prairie Research Associates, Ellen Douglass property and (Trustee Broughton withdrew from the meeting during discussion of this item in accordance with Section 38(1) [Conflict of Interest] of the Public Schools Act.) Personnel Matters.

Notice of Motion

The following Notice of Motion was presented during the meeting by Trustee Beach:

“That the motion passed at a meeting of the Board held on March 11, 2015 for a restructuring of the WSD and an elimination of a District Superintendent be held in abeyance until such time as a proper and transparent examination of the WSDs administrative structure is undertaken, which shall include a consultation with the community and parents within WSD, and its affected employee groups.”

The meeting adjourned at 9:57 p.m.

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT NO. 4-2015

To the Chair and Members
Winnipeg School Board

March 16, 2015

1. Accounts List/Summaries of Salaries and Wages

Summaries of salaries and wages paid during the month of February 2015, and Accounts List for the month of February 2015 have been provided to the trustees.

Recommendations:

- (a) That the list of Salaries and Wages paid during the month of February 2015, as summarized on Accounts List 2015-02 be approved and confirmed.
- (b) That the February 2015 list of payment of accounts be approved and confirmed.

2. Hugh John Macdonald School – Steam Heating System Replacement

In a letter dated January 14, 2015, the Public Schools Finance Board authorized the Division to proceed to tender the Steam Heating System Replacement at Hugh John Macdonald School.

Tenders were advertised for the project. The following is a tabulation of the bids received:

<u>Firm</u>	<u>Total Price</u>
Derksen Plumbing & Heating (1984) Ltd.	\$1,332,440.33
Ambassador Mechanical Corp.	1,435,241.28
ABCO Supply & Service Ltd.	1,654,502.68

Recommendation:

That, subject to Public Schools Finance Board approval, the tender of Derksen Plumbing & Heating (1984) Ltd. to supply all material and perform all work in connection with the Steam Heating System Replacement project at Hugh John Macdonald School be accepted, in accordance with the plans and specifications therefor, for the total amount of \$1,332,440.33, being the tender price, including Provincial Sales Tax excluding Goods & Services Tax, and that the proper officers of the Division be authorized to enter into a contract with Derksen Plumbing & Heating (1984) Ltd. for the carrying out of the work.

Superintendent's Report No. 4-2015

3. Technical Vocational High School – Heating Piping System Replacement – Phase 1

In a letter dated January 12, 2015, the Public Schools Finance Board authorized the Division to proceed to tender the Heating Piping System Replacement – Phase 1 at Technical Vocational High School.

Tenders were advertised for the project. The following is a tabulation of the bids received:

<u>Firm</u>	<u>Total Price</u>
Westwood Mechanical Inc.	<u>\$ 2,255,847.00</u>
Wes-Man Mechanical	2,427,892.00

Recommendation:

That, subject to Public Schools Finance Board approval, the tender of Westwood Mechanical Inc. to supply all material and perform all work in connection with the Heating Piping System Replacement Phase 1 project at Technical Vocational High School be accepted, in accordance with the plans and specifications therefor, for the total amount of \$2,255,847.00, being the tender price, including Provincial Sales Tax excluding Goods & Services Tax, and that the proper officers of the Division be authorized to enter into a contract with Westwood Mechanical Inc. for the carrying out of the work.

4. Technical Vocational High School – Window Replacement 2015

At a meeting held March 17, 2014, the Board of Trustees approved a motion to establish a capital reserve for various building maintenance projects utilizing the proceeds from the sale of the Sir John Franklin property. The Tec Voc window replacement 2015 is one of the projects to be funded from this reserve.

Tenders were advertised for the project. The following is a tabulation of the bids received:

<u>Firm</u>	<u>Total Price</u>
WinnPro Construction Ltd.	<u>\$ 324,568.00</u>
Marrbeck Construction Ltd.	339,800.00
KDR Design Builders (Commercial) Inc.	346,000.00
Horizon Builders Ltd.	395,250.00

Recommendation:

That the tender of WinnPro Construction Ltd. to supply all material and perform all work in connection with the Technical Vocational High School Window Replacement 2015 project be accepted, in accordance with the plans and specifications therefor, for the total amount of \$324,568.00, being the tender price, including Provincial Sales Tax excluding Goods & Services Tax, and that the proper officers of the Division be authorized to enter into a contract with WinnPro Construction Ltd. for the carrying out of the work.

Superintendent's Report No. 4-2015

5. Annual Servicing of Air Conditioning Equipment at Various Schools

The Division operates over 290 pieces of air conditioning equipment located in 67 Division buildings.

Tenders were advertised for the servicing of air conditioning equipment at various schools for a three-year term.

The following is a tabulation of the tenders received:

<u>Firm</u>	<u>1st Year</u> <u>May 1, 2015 to</u> <u>April 30, 2016</u>	<u>2nd Year *</u> <u>May 1, 2016 to</u> <u>April 30, 2017</u>	<u>3rd Year *</u> <u>May 1, 2017 to</u> <u>April 30, 2018</u>	<u>Total Price</u>
ABCO Supply & Service Ltd.	\$94,625.00	\$98,147.00	\$101,726.00	\$294,498.00
Global Mechanical Inc.	92,714.00	98,757.60	106,423.20	297,895.20
NRG	106,470.00	106,470.00	106,470.00	331,476.00
Prairie HVAC	114,134.00	111,417.00	117,667.00	343,218.00
A and B Mechanical	225,918.81	225,918.81	226,078.54	667,916.16
*Ice Age Mechanical	150,545.00	155,130.00	158,800.00	465,475.00
*National Refrigeration	166,312.00	169,632.00	173,019.00	580,963.00
*Johnson Controls L.P.	191,686.00	197,437.00	203,360.00	592,483.00
*Thor Plumbing & Heating Ltd.	210,173.00	210,173.00	221,646.75	641,992.75

* Note: Does not meet Specifications.

All tenders have been reviewed as to price, quality and service. The lowest acceptable tender is being recommended.

Recommendation:

That the tender of ABCO Supply & Service Ltd. to supply all material and perform all work in connection with annual servicing of air conditioning equipment at various schools be accepted, in accordance with the plans and specifications therefor, for the total amount of \$294,498.00, being the tender price for a three year term, including Provincial Sales Tax excluding Goods & Services Tax, and that the proper officers of the Division be authorized to enter into a contract with ABCO Supply & Service Ltd. for the carrying out of the work.

Superintendent's Report No. 4-20156. Kelvin High School – Electrical Upgrade 2015

At a meeting held March 17, 2014, the Board of Trustees approved a motion to establish a capital reserve for various building maintenance projects utilizing the proceeds from the sale of the Sir John Franklin property. The Kelvin High School electrical upgrade is one of the projects to be funded from this reserve.

Tenders were advertised for the project. The following is a tabulation of the bids received:

<u>Firm</u>	<u>Total Price</u>
More-Lite Electric Ltd.	<u>\$227,656.96</u>
Nor-Tec Group	271,610.68
G. Mallin Electric Ltd.	370,201.32

Recommendation:

That the tender of More-Lite Electric Ltd. to supply all material and perform all work in connection with the Electrical Upgrade project at Kelvin High School be accepted, in accordance with the plans and specifications therefor, for the total amount of \$227,656.96, being the tender price, including Provincial Sales Tax excluding Goods & Services Tax, and that the proper officers of the Division be authorized to enter into a contract with More-Lite Electric Ltd. for the carrying out of the work.

Respectfully submitted,

P.E. CLARKE
Chief Superintendent

Children's Heritage Fund Committee Report No. 1-2015

In Attendance:

Members: C. Collins, K. Freedman, R. Yereniuk

Administration: F. Mota, T. Bobby, S. Tole

Absent: S. Prevost-Derbecker

PUBLIC RELATIONS/COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 2-2015

To the Chair and Members
Winnipeg Public School Board

March 23, 2015

Your Public Relations/Communications Committee reports as follows:

1. Communications & Cost Analysis

Your Committee was informed that at a meeting held December 15, 2014, the Board of Trustees adopted a motion that the Public Relations/Communications Committee report back to the Board regarding current communications and community engagement practices. Your Committee was also informed that at a previous meeting your Committee requested a cost analysis on recommendations approved by the Committee. To date, the Committee has had discussion regarding Our Schools newsletters; Social Media; Division's website; Improving communications with parents, residents and community stakeholders and WSD Branding. Your Committee was informed that once the Committee has determined whether any additional communication tools are required, the administration will prepare a cost analysis on any additional measures taken by the Committee.

2. Communication Strategy – Media Communications

Your Committee discussed the importance of preparing a communication strategy due to the media attention that is generated from motions that are on Board meeting agendas. Your Committee discussed the need to be proactive and that the Public Relations Officer prepare a media brief prior to Board meetings so that if issues arise, trustees would be prepared to deal with them immediately. Your Committee also requested that trustees be prepared for interviews and that background information be readily available on the topic of discussion. Your Committee also suggested that trustees be reminded that the Chair and Vice-Chair are the official spokesperson of the Board of Trustees in order to ensure a clear message is provided to the public that reflects the view of the Board. Your Committee requested that the communication guidelines be updated and provided to trustees to review and be included in the report for reference (attached). Your Committee was advised that at a previous Public Relations/Communications meeting, Committee members discussed the importance of connecting with parents and members of the community through social media, such as Facebook, Twitter, Instagram and YouTube. Committee members also discussed the feasibility of having an interactive forum for parents on the Division's website for posting comments, asking questions or discussing school topics. Your Committee noted that although the Division's Policy JFCBA – Appropriate Use of Communication Devices and On-line Information Resources includes provisions for appropriate conduct related to social media, it is recommended that a social media policy be developed prior to implementation of social media. Your Committee was given a sample of a social media policy developed by Manitoba Ombudsman for consideration. It is recommended that the administration draft a social media policy which would be in alignment with the Province of Manitoba Ombudsman for consideration at the next meeting.

Your Committee also discussed the importance of being invited to events organized by schools, Government announcements, graduation ceremonies and other special events. Your Committee was informed that due to the large amount of events that take place in schools, criteria would be helpful to create a better understanding between trustees/school activities where trustees could be invited. Your Committee was informed

Public Relations/Communications Committee Report No. 2-2015

that the protocol/guidelines will be updated to provide clarification for schools (attached). Your Committee was reminded that the Division's website includes a divisional calendar. Your Committee was advised that principals are reminded annually each year to invite trustees to their school events. The administration will remind schools to enter their events on the Divisional calendar and to invite trustees to various events. Your Committee also expressed concern that with the new ward structure, trustees may not have an opportunity to attend a high school graduation. Your Committee was advised that the Board Office can coordinate graduations to ensure that all trustees have an opportunity to attend an elementary, junior and high school graduation.

Your Committee also suggested that the administration contact the Manitoba School Boards Association and advise trustees of any professional development sessions related to media training that trustees may be interested in attending.

3. **School Division Branding**

Your Committee discussed possible measures to improve public perception. Your Committee was advised that the Committee could invite marketing communication teams to present ideas on branding. In response to an enquiry, your Committee was informed that due to changes regarding Bill 14, The Public Schools Modernization Act, at a meeting held June 24, 2002, The Winnipeg School Division No. 1 name was changed to The Winnipeg School Division to be in compliance with the Act. Therefore, the Division was required to strike out the number from official correspondence. Your Committee requested that the trustees be provided with the history on changing the name of the Division.

4. **Our Schools Printing and Distribution**

Your Committee was advised that during the previous fiscal year 2013/14, four issues of Our Schools were published and distributed. The total cost was \$13,938.75. Normal practice is to publish five issues.

To date, for the 2014/15 fiscal year, three issues of Our Schools have been published and distributed. The cost is \$10,921.05. Two additional issues are planned prior to June 30th.

Your Committee agreed to proceed with the printing of Our Schools, for April and June 2015.

5. **Website**

Your Committee agreed to defer the topic on Website to the next Public Relations/Communications meeting for discussion.

Respectfully submitted

KEVIN FREEDMAN
Committee Chair

In Attendance:

Trustees:	K. Freedman, L. Naylor
Administration:	P. Clarke, R. Appelmans, C. Caetano-Gomes, K. Seiler, R. Carter, B. Lapointe, K. Stuart
Regrets :	C. Broughton

This report is submitted to the Winnipeg School Division Board of Trustees in accordance with policy

44.0 Minority Reports:

The minority of any committee may bring in a minority report which shall be signed by such minority and shall be presented in the same manner as a majority report is presented.

It is my view that the Winnipeg School Division's 2015-2016 budget development process neither reflects the basic tenets of good governance nor meets the expectations of our communities for openness and transparency.

The Finance/Personnel Committee was discharged of its duties by the Chair of the Board in a disrespectful manner and without notice and violated the Board's Procedural By-Law and the terms of reference for this committee. As well, select trustees were disrespectful towards administration and other trustees on many different occasions. I question whether these meetings can be considered as official meetings called by the Chair. As often reiterated by select trustees, these discussions/decisions were based on politics and campaign promises rather than what is in the best long term interest of parents and residents.

Meetings among select trustees have been held outside of official board and committee meetings with items have been walked on to meeting agendas and motions introduced in violation of the notice provisions required by divisional by-laws and policy. Meetings regarding funding were held behind closed doors with the Minister of Education and along with two trustees. Trustees to this date have still not been informed of the discussions with the Minister.

Effective governance and responsible stewardship dictate that in developing the annual divisional budget, the Board of Trustees adhere to established divisional policies and procedures with regard to committee and board meetings, that budget decisions be supported by appropriate information and data duly shared with all trustees, that decisions take into consideration the longer term impacts for students, staff and communities within the division and that the rationale for budget decisions be clearly and accurately communicated to the public whom the division serves.

Therefore, I would like to present an alternate budget to ensure sustainability of programs and services in the Winnipeg School Division, being mindful of the board's stewardship role with regard to the local education property taxation and the expenditure of public dollars for education in the schools of the Winnipeg School Division.

To illustrate: the strategic plan of any organisation generally drives the budget process. There is no strategic plan as such in the Winnipeg School Division and major changes in programs, services and divisional administrative structure have been approved for the 2015-2106 fiscal year absent full and detailed information for all trustees about the longer term implications and costing of these and their compounding effects on property tax levels for 2016-2017 and beyond. Particularly concerning is the expansion of divisional pilot

programs whose value and impacts have yet to be fully assessed by divisional leadership at the staff and board levels.

Communications to the public have been both incomplete and in some cases, misleading. The public was not afforded information indicating what the 2015 property tax levy would have been without the late addition to the budget of some high cost items nor was it made clear that under the approved budget divisional administration costs will increase rather than decrease in spite of the reduction of one superintendent position.

Finally, items that had been identified by administration as needed for student safety and required by board policy were removed from the budget to make allowance for other items added to the budget late in the process and without in-depth analysis of their merits.

For all of these reasons, I am compelled to voice my objection to both the 2015-2106 budget deliberation process and the outcomes of that process in this school division. I fear that the budget as presented has the potential to adversely affect existing programs and initiatives, to be demoralising to staff and to distract attention from the work of improving student learning outcomes and ultimately to undermine public confidence in the Winnipeg School Division and its leadership.

Alternative Budget Proposal

The alternate budget that I am proposing in this report is guided by the following considerations:

1. It provides the necessary resources to maintain existing programs and services in the WSD.
2. The implementation of any new program is delayed pending development of a divisional strategic plan.
3. Decisions about future programming and service enhancements/additions are to be based on consideration and analysis of comprehensive data and information about potential options.
4. Decisions are to be accompanied by a multi-year plan to manage property taxation levels.
5. The Winnipeg School Division Board of Trustees will ensure that the community is fully informed about options under examination and will give due consideration to all public feedback from public meetings and survey tools.

Expenditures incorporated in this alternative budget proposal include those items identified by administration as "required due to changes in rates or costs", "required to maintain buildings and equipment", and "required due to enrolment and service level changes" as well as "budget reductions, savings and cost control items". These expenditures would result in a base budget of: \$384,820,200.00

The following enhancements are proposed as they represent a logical continuation of existing programs that are required for students:

Enhanced supports for Emotional Behaviour Disordered (EBD) Students	\$175,900.00
Fetal Alcohol Spectrum Disorder – high School Program	\$237,600.00
Sistema Music Program (incremental addition over two budget years)	\$88,400.00

The Autism Spectrum Disorder – Junior High School Program would be approved for addition to the 2016-2017 budget.

Finance/Personnel Committee Minority Report No. 1-2015

The following enhancements are recommended to be added to the budget with administration tasked to find savings within the current expenditures to address them:

International Baccalaureate Expansion	\$13,300.00
Steam Enrichment Classrooms	\$25,000.00
Enrichment and Innovation Program	\$40,000.00

Potential savings identified by administration could include Immunization Program for staff, Province-wide Benefit Plan, cost savings in utilities and central print services totalling - \$180,000.00

Under additional recommendations, the 20K3 Class Size Initiative would be added to the budget but recognising that it is offset by revenues from the Province: \$720,000.00

This alternative proposal as presented would bring divisional operating expenditures for the 2015-2016 school year to \$385,840,100.00 and that the tax levy could then be set accordingly.

The result would be a sustainable budget that:

- provides the necessary resources required to maintain existing programs
- provides for some enhancements recommended by administration for special education students only where these are based on proven information and data about program outcomes for students
- provides for some minor enhancements that will be offset by savings
- keeps administrative costs low by not adding a policy analyst and parent liaison positions and
- is responsive to residents and taxpayers feedback about property taxation, resulting in a tax increase in the 2% range rather than over 3% for 2015 and thereby reducing the compounding effect for the 2016 taxes.

In addition, the alternate budget would allow time for the development of a strategic plan to prioritize program and service needs and form the basis for the 2016-2017 budget.

Recommendation:

- a) That the operating Budget expenditures of \$385,840,100.00 for the fiscal period July 1, 2015 to June 30, 2016 be approved and that in accordance with Section 187 of the Public Schools Act and City of Winnipeg be required to raise by special levy for the calendar year ending December 31, 2015, be set accordingly.

And that the Chief Superintendent be tasked with finding additional potential savings by November 1, 2015, for considered for the 2016-2017 budget year.

- b) Regarding to the utilisation of reserve funds, I recommend the following:

Full day Kindergarten	\$225,000.00
Dream box	\$173,000.00
Microsoft Sharepoint Web Management	\$139,600.00

Finance/Personnel Committee Minority Report No. 1-2015

Audio Recording Software (no video) repairs/upgrades to existing system up to	\$20,000.00
Board meeting software	\$50,000.00
Data Storage	\$220,000.00
Network Management Software(Firewall)	\$265,000.00
Washroom renovations	\$500,000.00
Clinical Support Services	\$600,000.00
Wi-Fi Initiative	\$1,200,000.00

The total approved from reserve monies would be \$4,592,600.00.

Administration would be directed to provide a report on the benefits of the Wi-Fi for student learning, a report on the additional costs for Waterford Green, an interim report on full-day kindergarten results, and a plan to stay under the 4% reserve holdings cap as directed by the Minister of Education and Advanced Learning.