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

**APPROVED BY THE
BOARD ON
SEPTEMBER 23, 2013**

Board Room, Administration Building,
Winnipeg, September 16, 2013.

A Special meeting of the Board of Trustees of The Winnipeg School Division was held this day at 7:02 p.m.

The Secretary-Treasurer called the meeting to order.

Present: Trustees M. Wasyliw, A. Ramos, K. Barr, D. Bautista, M. Babinsky, R. Hildahl, J. Sneesby, C. Collins

In Attendance: P. Clarke, R. Appelmans, K. Seiler, C. Caetano-Gomes, R. Chartrand, D. Persaud, E. Barnaby, V. Georges, B. Lapointe

Regrets: Trustee S. Hrynyk (Chair)

This Special meeting had been called to consider the items on the appended Agenda.

APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Hildahl-Ramos That the Agenda for the Special meeting of the School Board to be held this evening, September 16, 2013 be approved. - Carried.

DELEGATION

**38 – Alexander Tivoli and Hannah Lank, Students Kelvin High School
Hopeful Aware Students Taking Action (HASTA)**

Alexander Tivoli and Hannah Lank, students from Kelvin High School representing HASTA appeared before the Board to request support from the Division to ban the sale of bottled water

39 – Hannah Lank, Student Kelvin High School

Hannah Lank, student from Kelvin High School appeared before the Board to request the Division's consideration to link her blog on the food allergy awareness to the School Division's website.

Babinsky-Hildahl That this matter be referred to administration for consideration.
– Carried.

PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

The following reports were considered:

Building/Transportation Committee Report No. 3-2013

Dated September 12, 2013

Building/Transportation Committee Report No. 3-2013

Bautista-Babinsky

That the Building/Transportation Committee Report No. 3-2013 be received. - Carried

Bautista-Babinsky

That Clause No. 1 (Building Department Facility) be approved. - Carried.

Bautista-Babinsky

That Clause No. 2 (Sir John Franklin) be approved.

Bautista-Babinsky

That this matter be referred to Business Matters as Defined in Rule 42.7 for discussion. - Carried.

The Board then recessed into Committee of the Whole in Camera at 7:40 p.m. with Trustee Barr in the Chair.

Upon the Board resuming in public session at 8:25 p.m. Trustee Barr, the Acting Vice-Chair of the Committee of the Whole presented the following recommendations of that Committee.

Bautista-Babinsky

That Clause No. 2 (Sir John Franklin) be approved. - deferred

Bautista-Collins

That Clause No. 3 (French Immersion Program) be approved. - Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:26 p.m.

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer

BUILDING/TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 3-2013

To the Chair and Members
Winnipeg Public School Board:

September 12, 2013

Your Building/Transportation Committee reports as follows:

1. Building Department Facility

Your Committee was informed that at a meeting held March 7, 2011, the Board of Trustees approved the extension of the lease at 1395/97 Spruce Street. In accordance with the general direction, objectives and strategy, administration continued to explore other properties that could house the Building Department operations as well as options for the construction of a facility. In July, 2012, administration was also able to ascertain the selling price, required by the owner of the Spruce Street site.

Your Committee was informed that a commercial real estate agent was engaged to assist in the on-going search for alternative sites. Nine properties located within Division boundaries were assessed to determine their suitability to the Division's needs and six locations were visited by administration. The criteria applied in assessing the suitability of the site included the overall size, location, loading/parking space, layout, building condition and price.

Your Committee was informed that with the assistance of commercial building experts, administration also reviewed the alternative of construction of a new 39,000 square foot facility.

Your Committee was informed that commercial property appraisers were also engaged to provide independent valuations of the current site on Spruce Street.

Your Committee was informed that administration is recommending that the Board provide authority to enter into negotiations with the owner of Spruce Street. Concurrent with the negotiations, administration will also have an expression of interest conducted for the construction of a Building Department facility which will serve to exhaust all possible current options.

Recommendation:

That administration be authorized to proceed to secure a facility to house the Building Department in accordance with the Building Department Facility report dated September 12, 2013.

2. Sir John Franklin

Your Committee was informed that at a meeting held June 13, 2013, the Building/Transportation Committee received an update of the disposition process for the Sir John Franklin Property.

Your Committee was informed that in accordance with the Disposition Guidelines, the availability of the property was advertised and proposals/offers submitted by interested parties for the purchase of the Sir John Franklin property were opened on August 22, 2013.

Your Committee was informed that the proposals were assessed using the criteria of proposed use for the property in relation to the priorities expressed at public meetings by the local residents as well as monetary value. The priorities for disposition were as follows:

- To the City of Winnipeg to maintain as green space in keeping with the community character, for multi-use recreational purposes.
- To a community use recreational facility with public green space in keeping with the community character.
- To single-family detached dwellings (caveat to include the maintenance of some public green space in keeping with community character).
- To a community use facility such as a day care or senior centre/housing (caveat to include adequate parking and the maintenance of some public green space in keeping with community character).

Your Committee was advised that agreement to a legal caveat limiting the use of the property to the priorities identified at the public community meeting is in place. The specific plan submitted by the purchaser will also be subject to community hearings by the City on rezoning.

Your Committee agreed that the offer from 6745394 Manitoba Ltd. be accepted.

Recommendation:

That the offer from 6745394 Manitoba Ltd. be accepted for the Sir John Franklin property subject to approval of the Public Schools Finance Board. - ***deferred***

NOTE: *At a meeting held September 16, 2013, the Board of Trustees deferred this matter pending additional information.*

3. French Immersion Program

Your Committee was informed that at a meeting held May 16, 2011, the Board of Trustees reviewed the catchment areas for French Immersion program due to increase in enrolment over the past several years. At the same meeting, the Board adopted a motion that effective September, 2011 the French Dual Track Catchment Area for both École J.B. Mitchell School and École Robert H. Smith School include the area bounded by Corydon Avenue, Ash Street, Grosvenor Avenue and Cambridge Street. The Board of Trustees also reviewed the French Immersion program at École Laura Secord and the need to provide an additional French Immersion program in the vicinity. The Board adopted a motion to establish a Dual Track French Immersion program at Victoria-Albert School for the 2012-2013 school year beginning with Kindergarten. It was noted that additional grades would be added to the program on an incremental basis to Grade 6 for the 2018-2019 school year.

Your Committee was informed that in fall 2011, the provincial government made a commitment to reduce class sizes in Kindergarten to Grade 3 classrooms in school divisions across Manitoba.

Your Committee was informed that in June 2012, the Province identified the expectation that by September 2017, 90% of Kindergarten – Grade 3 classrooms would be required to have a maximum enrolment of 20 students. Although, 10% of K to 3 classrooms will be permitted to exceed the 20 pupil cap; K to 3 class size will not be permitted to exceed a class size of 23 pupils. Where Grade 3 students are combined with students in higher grades, those classrooms will be subject to a 23 student class size cap. School divisions have five years to fully implement the initiative. The Division is required to be in compliance by September 2017.

Your Committee was informed that the government has committed up to \$20 million dollars to make it possible for divisions to meet their staffing needs in K-3 classrooms and up to \$85 million for additional classroom spaces.

Your Committee was informed In June 2013, the Province announced that in order to assist school divisions in meeting the requirements, additional funding for staff and capital projects to support the implementation of this initiative would be provided. To date, the Winnipeg School Division has received funding for 18 additional teachers and approval has been given for 12 additional classrooms. In addition, confirmation has been received for the construction of a new gymnasium at École LaVérendrye.

Your Committee was informed that the administration regularly monitors student enrolment and building capacities for all programs in the Division, including the French Immersion Programs. Due to an increase in enrolment for French Immersion Programs at some schools within the Division, it is recommended that enrolment and building capacities be referred to the French Immersion Advisory Committee for discussion.

Recommendation:

That enrolment and building capacities for the French Immersion Program be referred to the French Immersion Advisory Committee for discussion.

Respectfully submitted

DARLYNE BAUTISTA
Committee Chair

In Attendance:

Trustees:

D. Bautista, C. Collins, M. Babinsky, R. Hildahl

Administration:

P. Clarke, R. Appelmans, T. Bobby, R. Chartrand, K. Seiler,
D. Persaud, G. Heath, K. Leonard