

**THE WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION**

**SOUTH DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS – Tuesday, February 11, 2020**

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**1. TREATY LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT**

Committee members acknowledged that the meeting is being held on Treaty One Land and the Traditional Homeland of the Metis Nation.

**2. APPROVAL OF AGENDA**

The Committee members approved the Agenda of February 11, 2020, as distributed.

**3. 2020/2021 DRAFT BUDGET**

The Secretary-Treasurer was in attendance to provide an overview of the 2020/2021 Draft Budget. Committee members were informed that on January 30, 2020, the Province of Manitoba announced funding for public education. Committee members were informed that the Manitoba government will increase funding for public schools by more than \$6.6 million for the 2020/2021 school year. Committee members were informed that school divisions also raise revenue through local education property taxes. Committee members were informed that the Manitoba government is again requesting that school divisions limit increases to education property taxes to a maximum of two per cent for the 2020/2021 school year.

Committee members were informed that for the 2020/2021 school year, the Board is proposing a stand pat budget which maintains all programs and services in the WSD.

A Committee member expressed concern that the Spanish program and other language programs would be affected if there was a need to reduce the budget. Committee members were informed that many of the language programs are supported by the fact that WSD provides transportation allotted to these programs. Committee members were encouraged to communicate with their MLA or the Minister of Education regarding programs and services. Committee members were also informed that they can register as a delegate to speak at the board meeting on March 2, 2020.

Committee members were informed that the enrollment has decreased by approximately 350 students this year which has led to a reduction in provincial funding. Committee members were also informed that the province has announced a 15% reduction in administrative positions.

In response to an enquiry, Committee members were informed all programs operating as a daycare are required to obtain a provincial license. Committee members were informed that this matter will be discussed further with WSD Administration.

#### **4. PROVINCIAL K-12 EDUCATION REVIEW**

Committee members were informed that the Commission would be releasing the report to the Minister of Education and Training in February 2020. It is anticipated that the report would be publically released in March 2020, which will include recommendations on the key topic areas identified by the Province. School Boards would not have the ability to provide input on the recommendations and would be obligated to implement the recommendations within the timelines established by the Province. The report and recommendations will be shared with parents indicating the next steps to be in compliance with the direction from the Minister of Education.

Committee members were informed that additional information on the Provincial K-12 Education Review can be found on the Manitoba Commission on K-12 Education.

Committee members were informed that the Province of Manitoba had suggested that WSD delay the by-election to fill the trustee vacancies for wards 3 and 4 pending results of the K-12 Review. Committee members were informed that the Province did not provide clarification on the request to delay the by-election.

In response to an enquiry regarding amalgamation, Committee members were informed that amalgamation does not necessarily translate into cost savings. Committee members were informed that school division amalgamation can be a costly process. Committee members were informed that in order for the government to achieve a cost saving, it is anticipated that a review of programs would be forthcoming. Committee members were informed that many of the unique or specialized programs that are currently being offered are funded through the property tax, rather than by the provincial government. Committee members were also informed that many of the diverse programs such as language programs in WSD may not be available and that community voices will be important to sustain these unique programs and services.

#### **5. FOR INFORMATION**

##### **5.1 Advisory Reports and Summaries of Discussions**

Committee members were informed that at a meeting held December 2, 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 December 9<sup>th</sup>.

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](http://www.winnipegssd.ca/Parents/Parent%20Council/Pages/Default.aspx)

#### **6. NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next South District Advisory Committee meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 28 2020 at Queenston School.

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- 3 -

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**IN ATTENDANCE:**

**Voting Representatives:**

Earl Grey School  
Grant Park High School  
École J.B. Mitchell School  
Kelvin High School  
École LaVérendrye School  
École River Heights School  
École Riverview School  
École Robert H. Smith School  
Rockwood School

**Regrets:**

Carpathia School  
Grosvenor School  
Harrow School  
Montrose School  
Queenston School

**Administration:**

Paul Kochan, Secretary-Treasurer & Chief Financial Officer  
Celia Caetano-Gomes, Superintendent of Education Services  
Julie Millar, Director of Student Services  
Susan Christiuk, Principal, Carpathia School  
Jamie Hutchison, Principal, Grant Park High School  
Graça Do Coto Moreira, Vice-Principal, École J.B. Mitchell School  
Maria Silva, Principal, Kelvin High School  
Ruth Schappert, Principal, École LaVérendrye School  
Wade Gregg, Principal, Queenston School  
Warren Nickerson, Vice-Principal, École Robert H. Smith School  
Kathy Ateah, Principal, Rockwood School  
Mark Wasyliv, MLA, Fort Garry Constituency  
Thérèse Deleurme, Recording Secretary, Board of Trustees

**Trustees:**

Trustee Jamie Dumont  
Trustee Chris Broughton