

# THE WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION

## NORTH DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

### SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS – Thursday, February 22, 2018

#### 1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

As there were eight voting representatives in attendance and nine were required to form a quorum, the parent representatives agreed to proceed with an informal meeting.

#### 2. 2018/2019 DRAFT BUDGET DISCUSSION

Committee members were provided with an overview of the 2018/2019 Draft Budget.

Committee members were informed that on February 8, 2017, the Province of Manitoba announced funding for public education. The increase for all of Manitoba for 2018/2019 is .5% or \$6.6 million dollars. Committee members were informed that the portion of the funding allocated to the Division is tied to the number of students enrolled in the Division and equals an increase of .3% or \$600,000 over last year's funding.

Committee members were informed that the Division's costs increase every year due to inflation on required expenses such as Canada Pension Plan, Employment Insurance Premiums and Payroll Taxes. Committee members were informed that even with the Province's introduction of wage freezes for public sector employees, including teachers, salary increments earned by Division staff must be accounted for in the 2018/2019 budget.

Committee members were informed that the Minister encouraged school boards to limit the special requirement increase to 2%. Committee members were informed that special requirement is based on the school year and property taxes are based on a calendar year. The Committee was informed that the 2% special requirement equals 3.29% property tax increase in the Division for 2018. Committee members were informed that the Province also announced that it will phase out the tax incentive grant over the next six years.

Committee members were provided with three possible options based on meeting a 2% or 3% special requirement.

Committee members were informed that one option is a 2% special requirement or 3.29% property tax and is based on proposed additions for Health and Safety enhancements, additional resources for program and policy analysis and no reductions to existing programs and services.

Committee members were informed that an alternative option is a 2% special requirement or 3.29% property tax increase and is based on proposed additions for additional resources for program and policy analysis, financial software expenditures, building maintenance, school specialty programming promotional signage, additional teaching support for the Aerospace Program at Tec Voc High School, Health and Safety enhancements, online course delivery and school program additions such as additional funding to support students in care who are 18 to 21 years of age, Morningstar program, Inner City Science Centre. Committee members were informed that proposed reductions to this option include discontinuing the School Resource Officer program, Full-Day Kindergarten program reduction to half-day, converting summer school program to an online course delivery model, reduction of travel budgets and vacancy management.

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Committee members were informed that a third option is a 3% special requirement or 3.71% property tax increase and is based on proposed additions such as additional resources for program and policy analysis, building maintenance, school specialty programming promotional signage, additional teaching support for the Aerospace Program at Tec Voc High School, Health and Safety enhancements, online course delivery and school program additions such as additional funding to support students in care who are 18 to 21 years of age, Morningstar program, Inner City Science Centre. This option is based on no reductions to existing programs and services.

Committee members were informed that a 2% special requirement or 3.29% increase on property taxes for education is approximately \$45 per year on the average assessed home value of \$214,200.

Committee members indicated that the budget should not include school specialty programming promotional signage and whether the Swimming Counts program was proven to be a valuable support for families.

Committee members recommended that building maintenance should be a priority for the Division.

Committee members expressed concern on the reduction to the full day Kindergarten program, however it was recommended that research on the results of the program be reviewed thoroughly before expanding the program to other schools.

Committee members also discussed the reduction of travel budgets. Committee members indicated there are an increasing number of conferences held by video which would significantly decrease travel expenses. Committee members were informed that the Division has a “Train the Trainer” program that provides a smaller number of employees to receive formal training, subsequently, those employees train a larger group of staff, which results in decreasing expenses, such as travel.

In response to a parent enquiry, Committee members were informed that at a meeting held October 2, 2017, the Board of Trustees approved a motion that the Division enter into a three-year contract with the City of Winnipeg for the School Resource Officer (SRO) program for the period September 2017 to June 2020.

The Division, the Province and the City of Winnipeg are each responsible for paying one-third of the program, and although not required under the Public Schools Act, the Division is required to increase the Special Levy to support this valuable program and provide the much needed resources that keep our school communities safe for our students.

Although the Province informed the Division that no further funding would be forthcoming, the Board has requested a meeting with the Minister of Education and the Minister of Justice to discuss the importance of the School Resource Officer Program, the financial impact on school divisions and the importance of the Department of Justice to financially support the educational component of justice through the SROs in the public school system and community.

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In response to an enquiry, Committee members were informed that the International Education Program will result in a net revenue of \$501,900. The Committee members were informed that the program has been growing with the increased interest of international students. The Committee was informed that the Division has entered into an agreement with Canada Home Stay Network and that residents would have the opportunity to earn income by hosting international students.

A parent representative expressed concern on converting summer school programs to an online course delivery model as there may be insufficient teacher interaction with the students.

Committee members were informed that the Division could see a savings of \$1,652,900 through vacancy management. Committee members were informed that approximately 20 positions would not be replaced through attrition. Committee members suggested that a time period be established when a position is not being immediately filled in order to assess whether the position needs to be filled as well to provide communication to other employees who may be assisting with extra duties due to the vacancy.

Committee members were informed that the Division faces further challenges as downtown growth is promoted under the Community Revitalization Tax Increment Financing Act (TIF). The School Division receives less property taxation for properties identified under TIF designation.

Overall, Committee members agreed to supporting Option 3 which provides for specified additions with no reductions to existing programs and services.

Committee members were informed that the Budget presentation is available on the Winnipeg School Division's website along with a property tax calculator and survey.

Committee members were informed that in addition to budget presentations at District Advisory Committee meetings, information is available on the Division's website. A Public meeting will also be held on February 26, 2018 at Administration Building No. 1, 1577 Wall Street East at 7:00 p.m. to provide budget information to the general public and receive feedback from individuals or groups that may wish to attend as well there is a survey posted on the Division's website [www.winnipegssd.org](http://www.winnipegssd.org). The deadline to receive feedback regarding the budget will be received by the Board until March 5, 2018. All feedback will be considered by the Finance/Personnel Committee. The Board of Trustees will approve the budget at its meeting to be held March 12, 2018.

**3. POLICY EEA – TRANSPORTATION OF PUPILS**

Committee members were informed that at a previous meeting, the Board of Trustees approved the motion that on an interim basis, Policy EEA – Transportation of Pupils be revised to include provisions for Courtesy Transportation Services and that the Board would continue its review of the Fee for Service option for possible implementation in the 2018/2019 school year.

Committee members were informed that at a meeting held February 5, 2018, the Board of Trustees approved a motion that the revised Policy EEA – Transportation of Pupils be distributed to District Advisory Committees for discussion.

Committee members received the revised policy which includes provisions for a fee-for-service, and processing fee for those students who meet the criteria under the Courtesy Seat provision. The revisions also include clarification on areas deemed hazardous.

Committee members were informed that the revised policy includes a fee for service cost that would be equivalent to the new City of Winnipeg rates at \$70 per month for a student transit bus pass. The new fees would include a reduced fee of \$35 per month for each additional child effective the 2018/2019 school year. In addition, the policy includes a non-refundable \$25 fee be applied to process applications for those who do not meet eligibility requirements and are applying under the Courtesy Seat / Fee for Service option.

The Committee members were informed that the policy also includes a provision for identifying hazardous area considerations, and that the schools identified as a hazard area are to be reviewed by the Transportation Department on an annual basis.

#### **4. SCHOOL NAMES**

In the spring of the 2017, Committees members received a copy of the Naming/Renaming of Schools and Special Purpose Area guideline as well as the biographies of school names. Parent representatives were encouraged to share this information with their respective Parent Advisory Committees and advise the Board if consideration should be given to the renaming of their school.

Committee members were reminded that parents and school representatives review the background of their school's name and advise the Board if consideration should be given to the renaming of their school.

Committee members received a copy of the guideline Naming/Renaming of Schools and Special Purpose Area as well as the biographies of school names. Committee members were informed that school's history may be found on the Division's website at [www.winnipegssd.ca](http://www.winnipegssd.ca) under the heading *Our Schools*.

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

##### **5.1 Policy IGDF – Fundraising in Schools**

Committee members received a copy of Policy IGDF – Fundraising in Schools and were informed that at a meeting held on January 15, 2018, the Board of Trustees approved revisions to the policy.

Committee members were informed that the revisions to Policy IGDF – Fundraising in Schools outlines the guidelines for school initiated fundraisers, Parent Council Fundraisers, as well as the responsibilities of student/parent councils and principals.

## **5.2 Guidelines – Adding Items for Discussion at District Advisory Committee Meetings**

Committee members were informed that at a meeting held December 4, 2017, the Board of Trustees requested that the process for adding items to the agenda for District Advisory Committee Meetings be provided to District Advisory Committee members for information.

Committee members were informed that in accordance with the Board Advisory Committee Guidelines, members may request to add agenda items during the approval of the agenda. The chairperson shall ask if there are any amendments to the Agenda. At this point, any Committee member may make a motion that something be added to the Agenda. In order for the Agenda to be revised to include new items, the revised agenda must be voted on and must be approved by the majority of the members present. It is recommended that no motions be made on any new items that are added to the Agenda as the representatives would not have had the opportunity to discuss the item with their parent/student council. However, discussion may take place on new items to provide information for representatives to take back to their parent/student councils for discussion and report back to the next Advisory Committee.

Committee members were informed that any member of the District Advisory Committee can request an item be added to an upcoming District Advisory Committee Agenda by contacting the Committee Chair/Board and Community Liaison Officer.

Committee members were informed that Advisory Committees should not take action or make representations to outside groups in the name of the Advisory Committee without the endorsement of the Board of Trustees. Advisory Committees should not receive delegations from the public. Delegations are received by the Board at special meetings. Advisory Committees should not discuss personnel matters or individual student concerns. These issues should be discussed with the school principal directly.

## **5.3 District Advisory Reports and Summaries of Discussions**

Committee members were informed that at a meeting held December 4, 2017, the Board of Trustees received the North District Advisory Committee Report and Summary of Discussions as information. The Summary of Discussions have been distributed to Committee members the week of December 4, 2017. Committee members were informed that 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.

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**6. ENQUIRIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SCHOOL REPORTS**

SCHOOL REPORTS

Parent representatives from the following schools provided a written report (attached) on school activities:

- Lord Nelson School
- Meadows West School

**7. NEXT MEETING DATE**

The next meeting of the North District Advisory Committee will be held Tuesday, April 24, 2018.

**IN ATTENDANCE:**

**Voting Representatives:**

Marleen Pollok, Garden Grove School  
Dwayne McIvor, Inkster School  
Brandy Bobier, Lord Nelson School  
Crystal Courtland, Ralph Brown School  
Bernice Rempel, St. John's High School  
Roma Spence, Shaughnessy Park School  
Terry Burr, Sisler High School  
Crystal Molino, Tyndall Park School

**Parent Representatives:**

Garden Grove School  
Ralph Brown School  
Meadows West School  
St. John's High School  
Stanley Knowles School

**Trustees:**

Dean Koshelanyk  
Mike Babinsky

**Regrets:**

Andrew Mynarski School  
Champlain School  
Faraday School  
Isaac Newton School  
Ecole Lansdowne  
Luxton School  
Robertson School

**Administration:**

Fatima Mota Superintendent  
Paul Kochan, CEO & Secretary-Treasurer  
Greg Bouchard, Principal, Andrew Mynarski School  
Kathy Ateah, Andrew Mynarski School  
Graca do Coto Moreira, Vice-Principal, Garden Grove School  
Ryan Hughes, Principal, Isaac Newton School  
Susan Darazsi, Vice-Principal, Isaac Newton School  
Julye Rogoski, Vice-Principal, Lord Nelson School  
Rosanna Guzzi, Principal, Ralph Brown School  
Doug Taylor, Principal, St. John's High School  
Joan Fransen, Vice-Principal, St. John's High School  
Marsha Missyabit, Vice-Principal, St. John's High School  
George Heshka, Principal, Sisler High School  
Angela Perez, Vice-Principal, Shaughnessy Park School  
Madalynne Iannone, Vice-Principal, Sisler High School  
Paul Krowiak, Vice-Principal, Sisler High School  
Chris Clarke, Vice-Principal, Sisler High School  
Gisele Mospanchuk, Principal, Tyndall Park School  
Garth McAlpine, Vice-Principal, Tyndall Park School  
Helena Tessier, Recording Secretary

**Non-Voting/Resource Members:**

Community Members  
WANTE Representative

One Big Family



# LORD NELSON SCHOOL

820 McPhillips Street, Winnipeg, Manitoba R2X 2J7

Phone: 204-586-9625 Fax: 204-582-6558

Principal: Mrs. S. Stevenson  
Vice Principal: Ms. J. Rogoski

February, 2018

## Parent Association Highlights:

- ✓ Friday Pizza Sales continue and the profit each week averages about \$200.
- ✓ PAC Fundraiser will begin on February 23<sup>rd</sup> and run until March 12<sup>th</sup>. Chocolates will be sold during this time.

## Parent Center Highlights:

- ✓ We offer many activities for families and students! Our families stop by for coffee, to use the phone or computer or borrow a book.
- ✓ We had our "Learning Olympics" evening this past Wednesday, with more than 35+ families in attendance! It was a fun evening filled with fun literacy and numeracy activities, yummy food and prizes!
- ✓ Our Tots N' Training/Welcome to Kindergarten evening is coming up on Monday, April 30<sup>th</sup> from 5:30-7:30 pm.
- ✓ Student sessions offered so far this year are: SPIN Gymnastics.

## School Highlights:

- ✓ We continue to work on writing as a Regie Routman School. The focus of learning is the Reading/Writing connection. We have a school wide writing theme this year which is focused on the Rights and Freedoms of All Living Things.
- ✓ We are a Lighthouse School offering many after school activities for our students. So far this year we have offered Indigenous Drumming, Chess Club, Filipino Heritage Classes, Math Club, Grade 5/6 Choir, Crafters Corner, Henna Club, Art Club, Science Fair Club, Dance Project and Kid-Netics Science investigations for all grades levels through the University of Manitoba.
- ✓ Intramurals have included soccer, cricket, pond hockey and baseball will be starting soon. Our children are engaged and active!
- ✓ Our Crafter's Corner students, along with their teacher, Mrs. Glenda Medina won first place at Fashion Fest at Take Pride Winnipeg's event last year. They created an amazing dress all out of a variety of recycled materials! This year they have submitted another dress reflecting Indigenous traditions, again made out of recycled materials.



WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION

# **Meadows West School North District Advisory Report**

## **February 2018**

Focused on Learning.

- Many noon hour clubs are keeping our students active and engaged from card making, Science Fair Club, Hand bells and Intermurals.
- Roots and Shoots Projects are one of the focuses of our classroom learning. One class is working on a Brown Bat Habitat Project and the whole school is voting on their project on the Roots and Shoots website. Good luck students!
- Our students were given an additional 200 spring bulbs to plant to beautify our community. The students are waiting patiently for the snow to melt.
- Circle of Life singers and dancers represented our school with pride. Our Arts Team worked tirelessly with the students to choreography a beautiful piece.
- Parent Council is working hard to support the many extra programs such as sport tournaments, literacy programs, and our biannual Ski Trip.
- Our Indoor Track and Field team is practicing and representing our school amazingly. Over 80 students involved.
- Basketball and more basketball. Our school teams are experiencing the different gymnasiums and teams around the WSD. Their sportsmanship and love of the game shines.
- We have several classrooms practicing their "student voice" by writing elected officials and business community asking questions and gaining insight into a variety of topics.
- Our city counsellor Mr. Mike Pagtakhan visited during I Love to Read and read to Room R7 Grade 5/ 6.
- Technology learning is in high gear at MW with amazing projects being shared and videos being edited to share student learning with others.
- Group of students are researching the many varieties of trees in our city park. The plan is after visiting with the city botanist to create a display board and map identifying the location and type of tree.



- We had a visit from Earth Rangers and participated in a show that involved live animals – an owl, a hawk, a kookaburra and an armadillo. We are involved in collecting used batteries to recycle to protect animals in our environment.
- Our Everyone Belongs Group has expanded their role by advocating for everyone to feel safe at expressing themselves as unique individuals and celebrating our differences.
- Our Early Years Team is beginning their work preparing our Pink Day Assembly. Mr. Le Grand and Mrs. Cox have purchased pink school t-shirts for all students and staff.

**Meadows West School is focused on learning. We learn. We do our best. We treat each other with respect. We are Meadows West!**

