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

**APPROVED BY THE
BOARD ON
DECEMBER 15, 2014**

Board Room, Administration Building,
Winnipeg, December 1, 2014.

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

The Chair of the Board called the meeting to order.

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

Rollins-Broughton That the Agenda for the regular meeting of the School Board to be held this evening, December 1, 2014, be approved. – Carried.

Wasyliw-Rollins That an In Camera Item regarding a Strategic Plan be added to the Agenda – Carried.

Wasyliw-Collins That allegations made by Trustee Mike Babinsky against the Winnipeg School Division be added to the Agenda under New Business.

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:

Collins-Babinsky Regular Meeting – November 17, 2014

PRESENTATION AND CONSIDERATION OF REPORTS

The following report was considered:

Superintendent's Report No.15-2014	Dated December 1, 2014
Pension Committee Report No. 6-2014	Dated November 12, 2014
Special Committee to Review the Existing Structure of the District Advisory Committees Report No. 1-2014	Dated November 17, 2014

Superintendent's Report No.15-2014

Rollins-Babinsky That Clause No. 1 (Inkster School – Partial Window Replacement) be approved. – Carried

Pension Committee Report No. 6-2014

Collins-Beach That the Pension Committee Report No. 6-2014 be receive as information - Carried

Special Committee to Review the Existing Structure of the District Advisory Committees Report No. 1-2014

Koshelanyk-Naylor That the Special Committee to Review the Existing Structure of the District Advisory Committees Report No. 1-2014 be received as information – Carried

Koshelanyk-Naylor That Clause No.1 (Terms of Reference) be approved. - Carried

ENQUIRIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS49 - Funding Announcement

Trustee Collins informed trustees that she attended a provincial funding announcement at R.B. Russell School on December 1st 2014. The Premier was in attendance. The Education and Advanced Learning Minister Peter Bjornson announced, the Manitoba government is investing in major renovations at R. B. Russell Vocational High School to expand and revitalize several key skills training programs, allowing them to move toward apprenticeship accreditation and provide increased opportunities for students.

50 - Environment Canada Temperature readings at the Forks

Trustee Koshelanyk informed trustees that recently he has been advised that the Division is using the temperature readings from the Forks in connection with decisions on cold weather closure as opposed to the temperature at the airport. Trustee Koshelanyk indicated that using the Forks instead of the airport as the guideline has created concern among parents as the data collected has up to a 13 degrees difference. Trustee Koshelanyk recommended that the Chair of the Board write a letter to the Chairs of all Metro School Divisions regarding the concern and whether they have similar concerns and whether this decision should be revisited.

51 - Anti-Bullying Policies

In response to an enquiry from Trustee Koshelanyk regarding Anti-Bullying policies and whether there are options for helping children on evenings and weekends by providing 24 hour bullying assistance help line. The Chief Superintendent informed trustees that students who are bullied outside of school hours are encouraged to report these incidents to the school.

52- Website Chair's Message

Trustee Babinsky requested that the website be updated as it still has the former Chair's message.

53 - Active School Engineering Project

Trustee Freedman informed trustees that on November 24, 2014 he attended a series of presentations for the Active School Engineering Project at the University of Manitoba. An effort coordinated in conjunction with the Green Action Centre, this project challenged civil engineering students to create an active school travel engineering plan to enable safer active transportation options to and from schools, active transportation being defined as walking or cycling. Principal Sparling, Sargent Park, Clifton, Wellington and John M King Schools participated in the initiative. Trustee Freedman expressed that he was thoroughly impressed with the students' efforts and the excitement and interest the City of Winnipeg's Active Transportation Department for the project. Trustee Freedman wished thank Jackie Avant from the Green Action Centre's Active and Safe Routes to School program for the invitation to the event. Trustee Freedman hopes to circulate the students' projects to the members of the Board for information upon receipt.

54 - Concern among Staff Members Regarding the Provincial Government's Initiative

Trustee Freedman informed trustees that over the past few weeks he had the opportunity to visit a few schools in Ward five including some elementary schools. There was concern among staff members regarding the provincial government's initiative to limit all kindergarten to grade 3 classes to 20 students. The most frequent comment received was that there is a lack of classroom support and that teacher and administrators would be more than happy to have more than 20 students in their class if they had support from an educational assistant. There was also concern that in some schools there is not the infrastructure in terms of classroom space available and that for this initiative to be realized, higher grades would have to have an increased number of students in each room to accommodate the extra space required for the k – 3 classes. Trustee Freedman expressed concern that some of our schools, teachers and administrators, are not supportive of this initiative. In addition, Trustee Freedman wished to thank the teachers and administrators for sharing their concerns.

55 - Parent Teacher Conference

Trustee Wasyliw informed trustees that he was recently advised that a special needs student was not allowed to participate in a parent/teacher conference and whether Tri Conferences are not encouraged due to the student having an Individual Education Plan in place. Trustee Wasyliw questioned whether this practice was in keeping with the Division's policies on inclusion. The Chief Superintendent indicated that this would not be standard practice and recommended that the name of the school be provided to the administration.

56 - Reading Recovery – École LaVérendrye, extra-curricular activities – École LaVérendrye

Trustee Wasyliw informed trustees that overcrowding at LaVérendrye has resulted in the reading recovery program no longer being offered at the school. Trustee Wasyliw recommended that the Building Department conduct a site visit to determine the space options and implement possible solutions.

57 - Strathcona- Kindergarten Program

Trustee Wasyliw informed trustees that he visited Strathcona school and received an update on the full-day Kindergarten Program. The teacher indicated that students in her classroom have shown development on the social/emotional benefits which has resulted in children settling in the classroom and routines. It was her opinion that students in the half-day Kindergarten program took longer to get ready to learn as they were exposed to the classroom setting for only a half a day.

58 - Challenge to be top 25 employer

Trustee Freedman informed trustees of that entering its 10th year, *Manitoba's Top Employers* is an annual competition organized by the editors of Canada's Top 100 Employers. This special designation recognizes the Manitoba employers that lead their industries in offering exceptional places to work. The 2015 winners were announced and included the University of Manitoba as well as Great West Life. Trustee Freedman would like to challenge the Winnipeg School Division to become top Manitoba's Top 25 employer.

59 – Budget Process

Trustee Babinsky informed trustees that at the District Advisory Committee meetings the Board presentation regarding property tax should include a disclaimer that property taxes only apply to home owners.

NEW BUSINESS60 - Condolences

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

On November 3, 2014, Dorothy Matthies (Steingart), retired Administrative Secretary, Superintendent's Department, a member of our staff for 29 years;

On November 14, 2014, Richard Leo (Rick) Symonds, Teacher, a member of our staff for 29 years;

On November 16, 2014, Walter A. Kontusic, Retired Head Caretaker, a member of our staff for 25 years;

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

61 - By-Law 1230 – SECOND AND FINAL READING
DEBENTURE BORROWING - \$5,465,300.00

- Rollins-Collins (a) “That By-Law No. 1230, a by-law of the Winnipeg School Division for the purpose of borrowing FIVE MILLION FOUR HUNDRED AND SIXTY FIVE THOUSAND THREE HUNDRED DOLLARS (\$5,465,300.00) for certain building projects be read a second time in short.”
- Rollins-Collins (b) “That the rules be suspended in order for By-Law No. 1230 to be read a third time.”
- Rollins-Collins (c) “That By-Law No. 1230, a by-law of the Winnipeg School Division, be read a third time in short and passed.”

By-Law No. 1230 then read accordingly.

62 Transportation Services

Motion, notice of which was given by Trustee Babinsky on November 17, 2014:

Babinsky- That the material presented to the Board of Trustees of the Winnipeg School Division by Trustee Babinsky regarding matters related to Transportation Services be received as information.

(This motion did not receive a seconder, therefore was not discussed.)

63 – Mike Babinsky Allegations

Trustee Wasyliw informed trustees that at a meeting held June 2, 2014, Trustee Babinsky gave the Board of Trustees a verbal notice of a motion requesting that staff be disciplined for misconduct. The minutes clearly state that Trustee Babinsky gave a notice of motion which was accurately recorded and reflected in the minutes. At the same meeting, the Board Chair indicated that this motion was out of order in accordance with Procedural By-Law 1203 section 42.7 which clearly outlines that matters dealing with “efficiency, discipline, or retirement of employees” are dealt with In Camera, therefore the minutes dated June 2, 2014, accurately reflect the recording of the motion.

On June 16, 2014, the Board of Trustees received a confidential memorandum from the Chief Superintendent In Camera, outlining the opinion provided by legal counsel which included the actual wording of the motion. Trustees did not object to this information.

Trustee Babinsky has been a trustee for almost 20 years and is aware that issues related to employees are dealt with In Camera as outlined in Procedural By-law 1203.

Trustee Wasyliw indicated that he was concerned that Trustee Babinsky was suggesting that the staff intentionally altered minutes for the purpose of concealing the truth when in fact he knew the reason for the generalization was to protect the Division from liability by revealing the identity of a staff member that he was criticizing and discussing confidential disciplinary and personal matters publicly.

The members of the Board are deeply concerned about the conduct and false accusations that are being made by Trustee Babinsky.

AGENDA INFORMATION ITEMS

Freedman-Naylor That Information Correspondence No. IC65-14- IC66-14 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 8:25 p.m. with Trustee Collins in the Chair.

Upon the Board resuming in public session at 9:12 p.m. Trustee Collins, the Chair of the Committee of the Whole presented the following recommendations of that Committee:

64-Suspension Report September-October 2014

Collins-Beach That the Suspension Report September-October 2014 be received as information.- Carried

65 - Egale Canada – Outshine 2015 Canada’s National Gay-Straight Alliance Summit

Collins- Naylor That the Winnipeg School Division contribute \$7,500 to support students participation at the OUTShine 2015 Summit.

In Amendment:

Collins-Koshelanyk That the Chair write a letter to Egale Canada to advise of the Winnipeg school Division contribution of \$7,500 to support students participation at the OUTShine 2015 Summit. - Carried

66 - Ellen Douglass Property – 700 Elgin

Collins-Beach That the proposal submitted for the purchase of the Ellen Douglass Property be accepted subject to approval of the Public School Finance Board

Collins-Freedman That this motion be postponed until the next meeting pending additional information – Carried.

67 - Strategic Planning

Collins-Koshelanyk That this matter be referred to Policy/Program Committee- Carried

Upon the Board resuming in public session at 9:17 p.m. Trustee Collins, the Chair of the Committee of the Whole reported that direction was given regarding negotiations. (*Trustee Naylor withdrew from the meeting during discussion of this item in accordance with Section 36(1) [Conflict of Interest] of the Public Schools Act.*)

Notice of Motions

The following Notice of Motions were presented during the meeting by Trustee Wasyliw:

- a) "That a yearly public report be developed that will account for all extra fees and fundraising figures, including voluntary extra enrichment programs that are fee based, school supply levies, parent advisory group lunch programs, sports programs etc."
- b) "That the administration develop a draft school survey which will be used as the reporting instrument to be given to each school annually and whose results will be collected and reported back to the Board in a yearly report."
- c) "That upon completion of the draft survey that the administration refer the draft to the Policy/Program Committee for discussion, review and approval."

The following Notice of Motions were presented during the meeting by Trustee Broughton

- a) "That the administration audit division playgrounds for universally accessible design principles."
- b) "That the administration review the "Winnipeg School Division Guidelines for Playground Improvements G8" and report to the Building/Transportation Committee for discussion and review and recommendations for implementing universal access design requirements."

The following Notice of Motions were presented during the meeting by Trustee Broughton

- a) "That the administration review its current communications and community engagement practices and identify areas upon which the Board of Trustees could improve public access to information and communication with the community."
- b) "That the administration review community engagement options based on the new nine ward board structure."
- c) "That the administration report back to the Board of Trustees, by January 31, 2015, at the Public Relations/Communications Committee for discussion and review."
- d) "That the administration perform a cost analysis of report recommendations."

The following Notice of Motions were presented during the meeting by Trustee Rollins

- a) "That the Winnipeg School Division create the Winnipeg School Division Aboriginal Education Council (WSDAEC) with the mandate to review and make recommendations on a new Education Policy for the division."
- b) "That the administration provide, no later than March 31, 2015, a draft terms of reference for the WSDAEC which includes:
 - Scope, mandate, and authority of the WSDAEC;
 - Recommendations regarding potential membership, including indigenous community leaders; and
 - A proposed initial timeline for the work of the WSDAEC."

The meeting adjourned at 9:17 p.m.

Chair

Secretary-Treasurer

SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT NO. 15 - 2014

To the Chair and Members
Winnipeg School Board

December 1, 2014

1. Inkster School – Partial Window Replacement

The Building Department budget includes an allocation to undertake a Partial Window Replacement project at Inkster School.

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

<u>Firm</u>	<u>Total Price</u>
KDR Design Builders (Commercial) Inc.	<u>\$124,253.55</u>
J5 Construction Ltd.	146,290.81
Western Construction Services Inc.	161,771.53

The Division has applied to Manitoba Hydro for an incentive grant under the Commercial Building Envelope Program. Should it be approved, the amount of the grant will be approximately \$ 24,500.00.

Recommendation:

That the tender of KDR Design Builders (Commercial) Inc. to supply all material and perform all work in connection with the Partial Window Replacement project at Inkster School be accepted, in accordance with the plans and specifications therefor, for the total amount of \$124,253.55, 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 KDR Design Builders (Commercial) Inc. for the carrying out of the work.

Respectfully submitted,

P.E. CLARKE
Chief Superintendent

PENSION COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 6-2014

To the Chair and Members
Winnipeg Public School Board

November 12, 2014

Your Pension Committee reports as follows:

1. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair

Trustee Collins was elected to the position of Chair and election of Vice-Chair was deferred until next Pension Committee meeting.

2. Contributions to the Pension Fund

Your Committee gave consideration to a statement dated November 12, 2014, regarding the contributions to the pension fund. Your Committee received the statement on Contributions to the Pension Fund as information.

3. Pension Plan Membership, Pensioners and Disability Recipients

Your Committee gave consideration to two reports dated November 12, 2014, regarding the pension plan membership and disability recipients. Your Committee received the reports on Pension Membership and Disability Recipients as information.

4. Disability Income Plan

Your Committee gave consideration to applications for disability income benefits on behalf of seven members of the Plan. Disability benefits were approved for four members and declined/terminated for three members in accordance with the conditions of the Plan.

Respectfully submitted,

CATHY COLLINS
Chair

In Attendance:

Trustees:	C. Collins, M. Babinsky, A. Beach, D. Koshelanyk
Representatives	B. Morrison, L. Randa, S. Dhaliwal
Observers:	D. Bronk
Administration:	R. Appelmans, T. Bobby, A. Schalk, K. Stuart
Actuary:	D. Ellement
Regrets:	L. Tome, R. Premack, P. Harold

Special Committee to Review the Existing Structure of the District Advisory Committees
Report No. 1-2014

**SPECIAL COMMITTEE TO REVIEW THE EXISTING STRUCTURE OF THE DISTRICT
ADVISORY COMMITTEES REPORT NO. 1-2014**

To the Chair and Members
Winnipeg Public School Board

November 17, 2014

Your Committee to Review the Existing Structure of the District Advisory Committees reports and recommends as follows:

1. Terms of Reference

Your Committee gave consideration to the proposed terms of reference for the Special Committee to Review the Existing Structure of the District Advisory Committees as follows:

- To review the Role of the District Advisory Committees.
- To review the Structure of the District Advisory Committees.
- To deal with any matter referred to the Committee by the Board.

Recommendation:

That the Terms of Reference to Review the Existing Structure of the District Advisory Committees be approved.

2. Structure of District Advisory Committees

Your Committee reviewed the current Guidelines for Board Advisory Committees and discussed the existing structure. Your Committee also discussed the role of the District Advisory Committees. Your Committee agreed that it would be important to develop a better consultation process with parents. Your Committee agreed to develop a survey that would allow parents and administration to provide feedback in order to increase parental and community involvement.

Your Committee agreed to continue discussion at the next meeting to be held January 2015.

Respectfully submitted

DEAN KOSHELANYK
Committee Chair

In Attendance:

Trustees: D. Koshelanyk, L. Naylor, A. Beach, M. Wasyliv, C. Broughton, S. Rollins,
M. Babinsky
Administration: P. E. Clarke, R. Appelmans, B. Lapointe, H. Tessier