St. John's Parent Council Meeting Minutes

Thursday, November 14, 2024 Minutes

School Updates

1. School Population Growth

Principal Davidson:

- a. Hired a new teacher due to population numbers are high for grade 7/8
- b. First class was on November 13
- c. There are nine 7/8 classrooms

2. Bursaries - Update:

- a. Bursaries have not been received but informed they are on their way.
- 3. Tiger Square Kiosk:
 - a. Run by Students selling St. John's items, like clothing, etc.
- 4. Report Cards
 - a. Will be sent electronically via email on November 15. If you want a hard copy, contact the school
 - b. Parent Teacher:
 - i. Grade 9-12: November 21
 - ii. Grade 7-8: November 29

North District Advisory Committee Meeting - November 12, 2024

Update - Pair Chair Laurie Kozak:

Board Advisory Committee Guidelines – Proposed Changes

The Winnipeg School Division Board wants to change the structure guidelines of all Board Advisory Committees.

Proposing to remove:

- i. Parent to chair the meetings and for Trustees to serve as the chair instead.
- ii. Quorum requirements
- iii. Voting to consensus- based decision-making process

St. John's High School is in the North District Advisory Committee

Proposing to change Districts to Grade Structure – dividing 78 school into Elementary Years, Middle Years and Senior Years

Feedback from parents from North District Advisory Committee on the proposed changes;

- These committee meetings will be throughout Winnipeg not in our District
- Increased Barriers
 - Travel
 - Not virtual meeting
- Lack of Engagement
- Currently our schools have common challenges and more alike than different even with the age differences

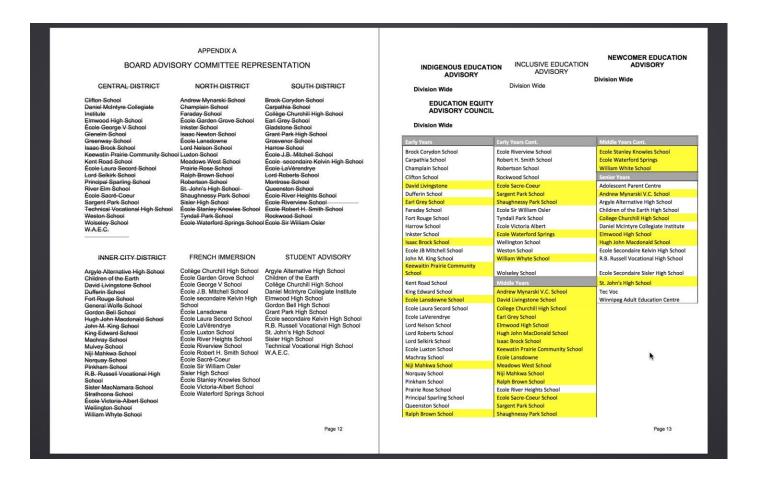
Parents indicated that there is lack of engagement from the WSD Board and 2 weeks or less notice for these committee meetings is not enough time for parents. We need more parents to come out because attendees include more administrators. Board mentioned busy schedules and finding a school to host. Parents recommended booking these meetings in September because it is the same months every year and the rest will be figured out. Give parents more time to get involved.

Current Districts due to area include: Central, North, Inner City, South, French Immersion, Student Advisory.

St. John's in North District to include the schools below:

Andrew Mynarski School, Champlain School, Faraday School, École Garden Grove School, Inkster School, Isaac Newton School, École Lansdowne, Lord Nelson School, Luxton School, Meadows West School, Prairie Rose School, Ralph Brown School, Robertson School, St. John's High School, Shaughnessy Park School, Sisler High School, École Stanley Knowles School, Tyndall Park School

Diagram below as well as attached shows the changes.



I have attached the proposed Guidelines for Advisory Committees for your review and to provide feedback on the proposed changes to the Board of Trustees via board@wsd1.org no later than December 20, 2024. If you need clarification contact Brenda Lapointe, Board and Community Liaison Officer, at brlapointe@wsd1.org

St. John's Parents on the proposed changes and feedback:

- Unclear on what these committees are for or what they are about and unfamiliar what a Board
 Trustee does and who is our trustee
- Parents at our meeting were also concerned about traveling, the schools in our district are feeder schools to each other and parents have children in those schools and it is important to know what is happening and be connected through the district committee meetings. The areas are also so different and concerned with the division.

These Committee Districts were created by the WSD Board to enhance communication between Board (Trustees – there are 9 that we have elected to represent 9 wards) and Parent Councils. Betty Edel is our Board Trustee for Ward 8. It was recommended that we invite her to our meetings to explain these committees and her role as trustee. More information is also in the attached document.

It was discussed that parents can take different steps if they need to engage WSD. Depending on the topic you can reach out in the following order to your Principal, Superintendent, and Board Trustee. Parents can attend WSD Board meeting and present to the board by being a delegate.

Here is a link with all the information WSD Board – meetings, minutes, policies, board trustee, etc. https://www.winnipegsd.ca/page/9645/governance

2. 2025/26 School Year - Developing the Budget

Province of MB has confirmed a new funding model for the school division. New formula released when announcement has been made

In preparation for 2025/26 budget the Board is inviting feedback on what the overall division needs by December 15, 2024 to brlapointe@wsd1.org

The following questions:

- 1. If we had unlimited resources, what would you prioritize in the upcoming budget?
- 2. What are your top 3 priorities for the upcoming budget?
- 3. What initiatives of programs should we enhance or move resources away from?

The board will also distribute a survey to all WSD families which will assist in the development of the draft budget.

Budget questions are also attached.

3. Strategic Plan Verification of Data

Discussed at our last PAC meeting in October – see minutes and on Page 40 in the attached document. The WSD hired a non-profit company in Toronto to help with this costing \$25,000 for 2 years.

If you participated – see page 41 & 42 in document attached to give new or additional feedback by December 20, 2024 to brlapointe@wsd1.org

4. Ward Boundaries

The population of certain Wards have been growing in certain areas and are stretching the Ward's capabilities. The Electoral Boundaries may change in the future. Ward boundaries represent the number of voters.

5. Fundraising in Schools

See page 44 in document attached

WSD wants all students to have the same experiences and wants to remove barriers. All extracurricular activities should be inclusive to all. Talk to your principal for all fundraising ideas.

Guests St. John's High School Alumni Association

Brian Burdy (prior student & teacher of St. John's) and Sue Gibbs (prior St. John's Teacher)

- a. Alumni formed in 2011
- b. Presented on the rich history of St. John's High School
- c. Shared original photos of school before it was torn down
- d. Discussed the awards and accolades of prior graduates
- e. Sports Manitoba has a yearlong display on St. John's High School
- f. All year books are scanned and put on the Alumni website
- g. Parents informed on our interest in Alumni to be role models and present to our youth. Role models that our diverse student population can relate to.

Discussed PAC Parent getting together with Grandma Group for Potluck.

Mark your calendars - Next Meeting - Monday, December 16, 2024, location and time to be determined.

Any questions, please contact:

Laurie Kozak

Chair, St. Johns High School Parent Council - stjohnsparentcouncil@groups.outlook.com