

SOUTH DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE REPORT NO. 2-2022

To the Chair and Members
Winnipeg Public School Board:

December 1, 2022

The South District Advisory Committee reports as follows:

1. Acknowledgement of Indigenous People of Canada

The Committee was informed that the meeting of the South District Advisory Committee is taking place on Treaty One Land and the traditional homeland of the Red River Métis.

2. Election of Committee Chair

The Committee was informed that at the Inaugural meeting of the Board of Trustees held on November 7, 2022, Trustee Kathy Heppner was appointed as the Board's representative and Trustee Lois Brothers was appointed as the Board's alternate representative to this Committee.

The parent representative from Brock Corydon School volunteered to chair the meeting.

3. Approval of the Agenda

The Committee approved the agenda for December 1, 2022, as distributed.

4. WSD Budget Consultation 2023/2024

The Committee was informed that on March 15, 2022, the Board of Trustees approved a budget for the 2022/2023 school year in the amount of \$437,118,200, which included \$13,217,517 in one-time funding and \$525,358 from accumulated surplus to offset a budgeted deficit. Baseline funding decreased by 1.3 percent (or \$2,325,238) and property tax levies for education remain frozen at 2020 levels.

The Committee was informed that on November 18, 2021, the Province of Manitoba announced the creation of a consultant team to guide the development of a new education funding model which was expected to be implemented by school boards for the 2023/2024 school year, however, to date the province has not announced the new funding model.

The Committee was informed that WSD Board of Trustees is now in the process of 2023/2024 budget deliberations.

The Committee was informed that the Board of Trustees continues to send a strong message to government that it is important that the new funding model supports both the basic education and unique needs of Winnipeg School Division students and communities.

5. Policy KMB – Parent Council Lunch Programs

The Committee was informed that at a meeting held May 2, 2022, the Policy/Program Committee agreed to refer draft Policy KMB – Parent Council Lunch Programs to the District Advisory Committees to review with their respective school parent councils and to provide feedback no later than January 31, 2022.

South District Advisory Committee Report No. 2-2022

The Committee was informed that the policy was developed to provide guidance and support on the responsibilities and acceptable practices for Parent Councils providing lunch programs in schools. The Committee was informed that parent councils had requested support/guidance for the operation of their respective lunch programs as well as concerns regarding consistency for staffing, fees and salaries.

The Committee was encouraged to review the policy with their respective parent councils and to share their thoughts via email to the Board and Community Liaison Officer at brlapointe@wsd1.org for review and consideration by the Board of Trustees. Parent Councils may also contact the Board and Community Liaison Officer directly for assistance.

The Committee raised concerns about the liability of parent councils operating lunch programs as well as challenges with hiring staff and human resources issues.

The Committee was informed that in some exceptional cases schools have made arrangements with outside agencies such as the Y.M.C.A., or with school staff who have agreed to assist with the lunch program. The Committee was informed that WSD had previously explored the option of a universal lunch program, however, it was not financially feasible. The Committee was informed that due to budget concerns, to add a universal lunch program would come at the cost of other programs and services. The Committee suggested that costs could potentially be built into lunch program fees and therefore not affect the budget.

The Committee requested that the cost of universal lunch programs including the cost per child per day, week and month be added to the next agenda for discussion.

6. Renaming of Schools

The Committee was informed that during the 2021/22 school year, the Board of Trustees approved a motion to review all schools named after individuals with a history of actions that are not in accordance with WSD values of inclusiveness, diversity, reconciliation and respect for the human rights and human dignity of others.

The Committee was informed that all schools, parent councils, families, community members and organizations may submit recommendations and/or feedback to the Board of Trustees regarding schools named after individuals.

The Committee was informed that the Board of Trustees recently reviewed and revised the renaming process to provide clear criteria and outline the process for renaming a school. The process may be initiated in response to a request from staff, students, parent councils, community members or a member of the Board of Trustees. All requests must be submitted to the Board in writing and include contact information and a rationale which includes a narrative explaining the basis for the request, the actions of the namesake that are not in accordance with WSD values as well as the sources and strength of evidence of the actions, the harm the continued use of the name may inflict on WSD and its community and any attachments to support the renaming request.

South District Advisory Committee Report No. 2-2022

The Committee was informed that renaming request will be referred to the Building/Transportation Committee for review and consideration.

The Committee was informed that the cost of signage and legal documents would be allocated from the WSD budget.

Respectfully Submitted,

KATHY HEPPNER
Trustee Representative

In Attendance:

Voting Representatives:

Brock Corydon School
Earl Grey School
Grant Park High School
Grosvenor School
Kelvin High School
Queenston School
Robert H. Smith School
Rockwood School

Regrets:

Carpathia School
College Churchill High School
Gladstone School
Harrow School
J.B. Mitchell School
Laverendrye School
Lord Roberts School
Montrose School
River Heights School
Riverview School
Ecole Sir William Osler School

Administration:

Celia Caetano Gomes, Superintendent Education Services
Ryan Hughes, Acting Director
Lars Sigurdson, Principal, Brock Corydon School
Susan Christiuk, Principal, Carpathia School
Camie Lawson, Principal, Grosvenor School
Fernando Batista, Principal, Harrow School
Timothy Cox, Principal, Kelvin High School
Amanda Capina, Principal, Laverendrye School
Michelle Namaka, Principal, Queenston School
Adam Dyck, Principal, Robert H. Smith School
Angela Perez, Principal, Rockwood School
Tarin Howard, Recording Secretary

Trustee:

Kathy Heppner
Lois Brothers (regrets)
Jamie Dumont