

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR BOARD OF  
TRUSTEES MEETING OF NORTHERN GATEWAY  
REGIONAL DIVISION NO. 10 HELD IN THE BOARD  
ROOM OF THE DIVISION OFFICE IN WHITECOURT,  
ALBERTA ON JANUARY 28<sup>TH</sup>, 2014**

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**OPENING**

**A. OPENING**

**CALL TO ORDER  
ROLL CALL**

**1. CALL TO ORDER**

The January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2014 meeting was called to order by Chair Muir at 10:05 a.m.

**ROLL CALL**

Chair Judy Muir, Trustees Cindy Granley, Jim Hailes, Sherry Jeffreys, Albert Schalm, Terry Slemko, Beverly Smith, Gerry Steinke and Administrators Kevin Andrea, Superintendent of Schools, Michelle Brennick, Deputy Superintendent and Michael Gramatovich, Secretary-Treasurer.

Roger Lacey, Director of Learning Services, Jennifer Deyenberg, Learning Services Coordinator, Lisa Bakos, Communications Officer and Barry Kerton, Reporter for the Whitecourt Star, were present at this time.

Trustee Jim Govenlock was absent from the meeting.

**ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

**2. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA**

E11.a) Provincial Inspiring Education Symposium  
G.2.a) Voluntary Interest Arbitration

**ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA**

**3. ACCEPTANCE OF AGENDA**

2775-14

Moved by Trustee Smith – that the agenda for the January 28<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Regular Board Meeting be adopted as amended.

Motion Carried

**APPOINTMENTS &  
DELEGATIONS****B. APPOINTMENTS & DELEGATIONS**

Roger Lacey, Director of Learning Services report:

*Student Learning Assessments (SLAs)*

The vision of Inspiring Education is to support students in becoming engaged thinkers and ethical citizens. As part of this vision, Alberta Education is changing provincial programs of study to focus on developing student competencies. This includes enabling students to know when, where and how to apply certain knowledge to different scenarios, as well as demonstrate skills such as problem solving, critical thinking and communication.

As provincial programs of study change to emphasize student competencies, provincial standardized tests must also change. The new Student Learning Assessments (SLAs) will provide students, teachers, and parents with information at the beginning of the school year to plan for learning. Collecting and receiving the information at this point in the school year, rather than at the end, will serve as useful reference for everyone and enable collaboration between parents and teachers to support student learning during the year. The information from SLAs will be used to generate a report that details each student's strengths and areas requiring improvement relative to provincial standards.

Rhett Czaban, Director of Transportation, entered the meeting at 10:18 a.m.

Grade 3 students will be the first to write the new assessments, with pilots starting in September 2014. Full implementation for Grade 3 is expected by September 2015. Pilots for Grades 6 and 9 are scheduled to begin in 2015 and 2016.

Roger Lacey, Director of Learning Services, completed his report at 10:31 a.m. and left the meeting, along with Jennifer Deyenberg, Learning Services Coordinator.

Rhett Czaban, Director of Transportation report:

*Bus Art:*

The poster being displayed in buses for the month of January is from a Grade 5 student at Grasmere School. The theme is “Lead by Example, Stay Safe and Sit Forward”.

*Service Cancellations:*

Buses were cancelled 5 times in December, 2013 and 3 times in January, 2014 due to mechanical reasons, no bus driver available or for extremely bad weather/road conditions. Please see the attached News Release on “*To run or not to run? School bus transportation and winter weather*”.

**DRAFT MINUTES OF THE  
JANUARY 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2014  
REGULAR BOARD  
MEETING**

2776-14

**C. DRAFT MINUTES OF THE JANUARY 14<sup>TH</sup>, 2014  
REGULAR BOARD MEETING**

Moved by Trustee Jeffreys – that the draft minutes of the January 14<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Regular Board Meeting be adopted.

Motion Carried

**ACTION ITEMS**

**HILLTOP HIGH SCHOOL  
INTERNATIONAL FIELD  
TRIP**

2777-14

**D. ACTION ITEMS**

**HILLTOP HIGH SCHOOL INTERNATIONAL FIELD  
TRIP**

Moved by Trustee Slemko – that the Board approve in full Hilltop High School’s international field trip, Tour of Italy, scheduled from April 15<sup>th</sup> to April 26<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

Motion Carried

**NON-TAXABLE  
MILEAGE  
REIMBURSEMENT**

**NON-TAXABLE MILEAGE REIMBURSEMENT**

2778-14

Moved by Trustee Steinke – that the Board approve administration to request an advanced Tax ruling from Canada Revenue Agency (CRA).

Motion Carried

**ASBA TRANSPORTATION  
AND RECOMMENDATIONS**

**ASBA TRANSPORTATION STUDY AND  
RECOMMENDATIONS**

2779-14

Moved by Trustee Hailes – that the Board accept as information the Transportation Review Report completed by ASBA.

Motion Carried

2780-14

Moved by Trustee Hailes – that the Board direct Administration to provide additional information related to the reports' recommendations.

Motion Carried

Rhett Czaban, Director of Transportation, left the meeting at 11.50 a.m.

**BORROWING BY-LAW  
NO. 1-14**

**BORROWING BY-LAW NO. 1-14**

2781-14

Moved by Trustee Schalm – that the Board approve as presented Borrowing By-Law No. 1-14 for the sum or sums not exceeding at any one time of two million dollars.

Motion Carried

**ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS****ADDITIONAL ACTION ITEMS**

NIL

**INFORMATION ITEMS/ REPORTS****E. INFORMATION ITEMS/REPORTS****ASBA/PSBAA UPDATE****ASBA/PSBAA UPDATE**ASBA

Trustee Hailes reported from the January 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014 ASBA Zone 2/3 meeting:

1. Chairs Report – The Provincial Edwin Parr submission deadline has been extended to March 21<sup>st</sup> to allow the Zones more time to properly vet their candidates. Boards are encouraged to put forth the names of suitable candidates.
2. Advocacy Committee – The three main areas of focus this year will be:
  - a) Adequate, Sustainable and Predictable funding;
  - b) Capital Maintenance Funding; and
  - c) Transportation Funding.

These issues will be approached through the Lens of the Social Policy Framework adopted by the Provincial Government in February of 2013. They are looking for input into the most effective ways to meet with the MLAs (Breakfast, Luncheon Supper, Evening or others).
3. Labour Relations – 44 Boards have signed with 18 Boards going to arbitration.
4. U of A Field Services Report – Looking for feedback on what are the Division's expectations in terms of technology preparedness for graduates.
5. Zone Directors Report – ASBA is looking at the poor PISA math results. The audited financial statement has been presented to the Board of Directors showing a light surplus. There is expected to be a slight raise in fees for next year's budget. The ASBA is looking at creating a bargaining team for future negotiation situations. The FNMI report will be issued shortly. The ASBA is looking at doing a report on School Division Reserves too better educate the Province as to their usage.

6. Executive Director – David Anderson gave a brief overview of Educational Funding by the Province. This information is aimed at new trustees.
7. Alberta Education Report – Randy Billey is our new director. There will be information sessions regarding high school redesign in the New Year.
8. A presentation was given on SiPP (Supplemental Integrated Pension Plan) and SERP (Supplemental Executive Retirement Plan) for our Executive Staff.
9. A presentation on possible uses of Twitter was given. Primary use is to open another avenue of dialogue with stakeholders as well as to follow education Tweeters.

PSBAA

No Report

**SUPERINTENDENT'S  
REPORT**

**SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- Administration reported on the Memorandum of Understanding for First Nation Education in Alberta (MOU). The MOU is an agreement among the Assembly of Treaty Chiefs in Alberta, the Government of Alberta and the Government of Canada to work toward strengthening learning and educational success for First Nation learners in Alberta.
- The deadline is approaching for approval of a tentative deal between the Alberta Teachers' Association (ATA) and the province. The framework agreement established an instructional time limit for teachers of 907 hours. Only one school in Northern Gateway is unable to meet the 907 hour limit.
- Administration attended a Capital Planning Workshop where a 20-Year Strategic Capital Plan was discussed. This 20-year Strategic Capital Plan provides a vision for the schools, hospitals, roads, etc., which will help us stay ahead of Alberta's growing infrastructure needs.

- Grade 4 students from Whitecourt Central School will be participating in the Trends in International Mathematics and Science Study (TIMSS) this spring. TIMSS is carried out every four years at the fourth and eighth grades, and provides data about trends in mathematics and science achievement over time.
- The Annual Rural Education Symposium will be taking place March 2<sup>nd</sup> – 4<sup>th</sup>, 2014, Canmore, AB. Keynote speakers are: Dr. Ken Coates; Dr. Lloyd Axworthy; Honourable Jeff Johnson, Minister of Education, Dr. Martin Brokenleg and Deputy Minister of Education, Greg Bass.

## **DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

## **DEPUTY SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT**

- The deadline for nomination packages for the Excellence in Teaching Award is February 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014 and the nomination packages for the Edwin Parr Award must be submitted to the Deputy Superintendent no later than Friday, March 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014.
- The Staffing Procedures Process for the 2014-2015 school year will be forwarded to principals by the end of January. The Staffing Procedures Process will be circulated to teaching staff following a discussion with school Administration.
- Teacher intent forms will be available on the Teachers' and Secretaries' Conference on March 3<sup>rd</sup>, 2014 for any teacher wishing to request a leave, and/or submitting a resignation or retirement letter effective the 2014-15 school year. These forms are to be returned to the Deputy Superintendent by March 24<sup>th</sup>, 2014.
- Louise Osland working with Edmonton Regional Learning Consortium (ERLC) will present information regarding Inspiring Education, Ministerial Order and Curriculum Redesign for the morning of the January 27<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Administrators' Meeting.
- Four Learning Service Coordinator positions are being advertised under the Career Sections on the Northern Gateway webpage. These positions close February 6<sup>th</sup>, 2014.

- C-2 update – Thoughtstream has completed the data gathering process and this information will be presented to the Co-Chairs and then a full C-2 meeting with all committee members to review data will take place.
- March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014 is the date scheduled for the new Teacher Induction Ceremony, with more details to follow.
- This year Artsfest will be Thursday, May 8<sup>th</sup>, 2014. We need three host schools:
  - a Valleyview or a Fox Creek School
  - a Whitecourt or a Mayerthorpe School
  - an Onoway, Grasmere, Rich Valley or Sangudo School.

**FINANCE**

**FINANCE**

- Michael Gramatovich presented to the Board the following finance reports:
  - Bank Statements as at December 31<sup>st</sup>, 2013.

**BUDGET PREPARATION**

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The Budget preparation has started. Administration has requested from schools their projected enrolments for the next school year.

**UTILIZATION FORMULA**

**UTILIZATION FORMULA**

Effective September 1<sup>st</sup>, 2014, Alberta Infrastructure will administer a new Utilization Formula. The major change will be the Instructional area will be used in determining the Capacity factor. More work needs to be done to determine the impact for Northern Gateway.



**TEACHER INDUCTION  
CEREMONY DATE**

**TEACHER INDUCTION CEREMONY DATE**

March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2014 is the date scheduled for the new Teacher Induction Ceremony, with more details to follow.

**COMMUNICATIONS  
COMMITTEE MEETING  
RECORD**

**COMMUNICATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING RECORD**

The January 7<sup>th</sup>, 2014 Communications Committee Meeting Record was provided for information. No changes to the record at this time.

**OUT OF COUNTRY/  
PROVINCE CONVENTION  
BOOKINGS**

**OUT OF COUNTRY/PROVINCE CONVENTION  
BOOKINGS**

School Board Trustees will be responsible for their own registration, accommodation and travel arrangements for Out of Country/Province Conventions.

**BOARD ANNUAL  
WORK PLAN**

**BOARD ANNUAL WORK PLAN**

Changes made to Board Annual Work Plan:

January

Remove 3<sup>rd</sup> bullet which reads: Finance Meeting (Board Priorities)

February

Add a 7<sup>th</sup> bullet to read: Finance Meeting (Board Priorities)

**YELLOWHEAD  
REGIONAL LIBRARY  
REPORT**

**YELLOWHEAD REGIONAL LIBRARY REPORT**

Report provided for information.

**TRUSTEE REPORTS**

**TRUSTEE REPORTS**

Terry Slemko

Trustee Slemko displayed and read Sturgeon River School Board Minutes from a minute book dated 1920 – 1931.

Trustee Slemko spoke about a former Onoway School student, Amanda Ammar. Amanda has been part of the Jackrabbit Ski program for the last 26 years and is a Canadian cross-country skier. It was announced three days ago, that Amanda will be joining the Canadian Olympic Team.

Gerry Steinke

Alberta Education has been contacting school board trustees to participate in phone surveys to get their view on Education. Trustee Steinke did comment on his survey that parents tell him there is no room on the Provincial Surveys for them to provide comments, thus limiting parents as to what they can say.

Albert Schalm

Trustee Schalm thanked the Deputy Superintendent for attending the Mayerthorpe Parent Council meeting.

Judy Muir

Chair Muir reported that three parents from the Rich Valley area had received calls from Alberta Education to participate in the phone survey regarding their view on Education.

Chair Muir attended the ASBA “Unlock Your Potential: New trustees and Board Chairs Conference on January 19<sup>th</sup> – 21<sup>st</sup>, 2014 with keynote speakers:

- Jamie Vollmer: The Great Conversation: Increasing public support for your local schools;
- Deputy Minister and three ADMs;
- CASS representatives spoke about their association;
- Alberta School Council Association; and
- Dr. Don Lenihan, spoke on Community Engagement: The path to better local decisions.

#### Beverly Smith

Trustee Smith attended a Fox Creek Parent Council meeting. Parents voiced disappointment in the Provincial Surveys, where no room is provided for any comments.

Staff at Harry Gray would like to see the 2014-15 School Year Calendar amended as professional development days are mostly in the 1<sup>st</sup> Semester and would like to see some PD days in April.

#### **ADDITIONAL REPORT ITEMS**

#### **ADDITIONAL REPORT ITEMS**

#### **INSPIRING EDUCATION**

#### **INSPIRING EDUCATION**

Trustees would like to change the School Tours day scheduled on February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014 to April 16<sup>th</sup>, 2014, so they can attend the Inspiring Education Symposium, February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2014, in Calgary, Alberta.

#### **BOARD HIGHLIGHTS**

#### **F. BOARD HIGHLIGHTS**

The following items will be communicated to our communities:

- Hilltop High International Field Trip
- Student Learning Assessments (SLAs)
- Tell Them From Me Survey/Accountability Pillar Survey – Parent Surveys
- Transportation Report

Lisa Bakos, Communications Officer and Barry Kerton, Reporter for the Whitecourt Star, left the meeting at 2:51 p.m.

**IN-CAMERA ITEMS**

**G. IN-CAMERA ITEMS**

2782-14

Moved by Trustee Schalm – that the Board go in-camera at 2:52 p.m. and that Kevin Andrea, Mike Gramatovich, and Michelle Brennick be invited to remain.

Motion Carried

Trustee Steinke left the boardroom at 3:03 p.m. due to a conflict of interest.

Trustee Steinke returned to the boardroom at 3:08 p.m.

2783-13

Moved by Trustee Schalm – that the Board come out of in-camera at 3:09 p.m.

Motion Carried

**ADJOURNMENT**

**H. ADJOURNMENT**

2784-14

Moved by Trustee Steinke - that the meeting be adjourned at 3:10 p.m.

Motion Carried

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Board Chair

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Secretary-Treasurer