

WETASKIWIN REGIONAL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

5515-47 A Avenue

Wetaskiwin, Alberta T9A 3S3

"Inspiring students to become the best they can be"

Regular Board Meeting

Meeting Type : Regular Board Meeting

Date : Tuesday, September 26, 2017

Start time : 9:00 AM

Location : Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools Board Room

Attendance

Present were:

Trustee

- Barb Johnson
- Karen Becker
- Shauna Bruno
- Robbyn Erickson
- Dave Gursky
- George Ollenberger
- Lynn Ware
- Jennifer Day

Superintendent

- Terry Pearson

Associate Superintendent

- Brian Taje
- Sherri Senger

Central Administration

- Shannon Dewald

Communications Coordinator

- Sherry Knull

Absent:

Associate Superintendent

- Rick Hayes

Central Administration

- Catherine Hamblin
- Nina Wyrstok

Call to Order

Trustee Barb Johnson called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools to order at 9:05 a.m.

Information

Treaty 6 Land Acknowledgement

Board Chair Barb Johnson began the meeting with the Treaty 6 Land Acknowledgement as follows:

"We acknowledge that we are on Treaty Six territory and we recognize all the many First Nations, Metis, Inuit and non-First Nations whose footsteps have marked these lands."

Dave Gursky entered the meeting at 9:08 a.m.

Information

**Approval of
Agenda**

Resolution #WR20170926.1001

Moved By: Robbyn Erickson

That the agenda for meeting Regular Board Meeting (2017/09/26) be approved with the addition of 10.3 Trustee Handbook and 10.4 Wetaskiwin/Ashoro Friendship Society.

Carried Unanimously

Minutes Approval

Resolution #WR20170926.1002

Moved By: George Ollenberger

That the minutes for the Regular Board Meeting (2017/09/12) be adopted with a change to the spelling of Roy Louis and that where names were recorded as opposing a resolution the names of those in favor of the resolution be added as well.

Carried Unanimously

**Canadian Parents
for French**

(Representative Reports)
(Issue #20170919002)

Trustee Jennifer Day indicated that there was no report for the Canadian Parents for French at this time.

Information

ASBA Zone 4

(Representative Reports)
(Issue #20170919003)

Trustee Lynn Ware reported on the September 25, 2017 ASBA Zone 4 meeting highlights from the September 25, 2017 meeting were attached as information.

Information

**Public School
Board Association**

(Representative Reports)
(Issue #20170919004)

Trustee Barb Johnson reported as the Public School Board Association of Alberta (PSBAA) Representative.

Information

**Yellowhead
Regional Library**

(Representative Reports)
(Issue #20170919005)

Trustee Gursky will reported that the next Yellowhead Regional Library meeting is scheduled for November.

Information

**Leaders of
Tomorrow**

(Representative Reports)
(Issue #20170919006)

As the Board representative on the Leaders of Tomorrow, Trustee Jennifer Day reported that there was no report at this time.

Information

**Rural School
Boards Caucus**

(Representative Reports)
(Issue #20170919009)

Trustee Johnson presented a report as the Board's representative on the Rural School Boards Caucus meeting held on July 24, 2017 as information.

Information

**Teacher Employer
Bargaining
Authority**

(Representative Reports)
(Issue #20170919011)

Trustee Barb Johnson presented a report on the Teacher Employer Bargaining Authority.

Information

Wetaskiwin

Trustee Barb Johnson indicated that the Wetaskiwin Community Learning

Community Learning Program

(Representative Reports)
(Issue #20170919010)

Council will be hosting an open house.

Information

Trustee School Council Activity Reports

(Representative Reports)
(Issue #20170919012)

As trustee representatives Trustees presented information on their respective school council activities over the past month.

- Trustee Becker - Alder Flats, Buck Mountain Central, Winfield & Lakedell
- Trustee Bruno - Maskwacis
- Trustee Day - Pigeon Lake, Pipestone, Lakedell, & Falun
- Trustee Erickson - CB McMurdo & EEFWC
- Trustee Gursky - Griffiths-Scott School
- Trustee Johnson - WCHS & Parkdale
- Trustee Ollenberger - Centennial, Norwood & Ecole Queen Elizabeth
- Trustee Ware - Gwynne, Clear Vista & Colony Schools

Information

2018-2021 Capital Plan Revision

(Action)
(Issue #20170916002)

Ms. Sherri Senger, Associate Superintendent: Business advised that on August 31, 2017, the Deputy Minister of Education announced that between September 30, and October 15, 2017 school boards would be given the opportunity to provide revisions to their 2018-2021 Capital Plan submissions.

When the Board approved their 2018-2021 on April 11, 2017, they were waiting on a scoping report for Winfield School. This report has since been completed by Berry Architecture & Associates and based on the findings it is their recommendation that a modernization or renovation of Winfield School would not be the financially viable option, nor would it be in the best interests of the students, teachers, staff, parents, community members or the provincial government. Their final recommendation is that a replacement school be built on the same location.

Most of the items of concern relate to building code, building safety and efficient building operations. Specifically, significant portions of the school roof, several footings and parts of the exterior walls fail to meet building code standards. In addition, the current condition of the roof creates a safety concern for the roof's integrity in the event of extreme weather conditions. If the school were to be modernized, other areas of concern are the installation of efficient mechanical, plumbing and ventilation systems which would be quite expensive to bring up to current standards. Other concerns of note is the presence of hazardous materials which are throughout most of the school.

Ms. Senger indicated that given the findings, administration believes that a new replacement Winfield School should be added to the Board's 2018-2021 Capital Plan as the Board's first priority. This would move a new replacement Parkdale School to their second priority and the modernization of Buck Mountain Central School to their third priority.

Resolution #WR20170926.1003

Moved By: George Ollenberger

That the Board of Trustees approve the revision to the Capital Plan to include Winfield School as priority #1 in their 2018-2020 Capital Plan submission.

**2017/2018
Transportation
Cost Analysis**

(Action)
(Issue #20170918002)

Ms. Sherri Senger, Associate Superintendent: Business advised that in June/July, in preparation of securing transportation services for the 2017-2018 school year, the Associate Superintendent, Business and Manager of Transportation met with representatives for the rural and urban bus contractors. Historically, WRPS has offered increases to contract rates when it has been determined there is sufficient room in the annual transportation budget. For the 2017-2018 school year WRPS offered a 2% increase to both rural and urban bus contractors. The rural contractors wanted a 16% increase and the urban contractor wanted a 23% increase.

WRPS was able to convince the rural contractors to accept the 2% and a promise to bring their request for 16% to the Board's consideration in September 2017.

The urban contractor was adamant that they could accept no less than a 23% increase. WRPS surveyed a number of surrounding jurisdictions and determined that the average daily rate for an urban bus route was \$236/day. This is a 16% increase compared to the daily rate paid by WRPS in 2016-2017. Given it was late July and WRPS didn't have sufficient time to thoroughly consider other options, an offer of \$236/day was made to the urban contractor even though it will push the transportation budget into deficit. The urban contractor accepted a daily rate of \$236 but asked that their request for a 23% increase be brought forward in September 2017 for the Board of Trustees consideration.

Ms. Senger presented a cost analysis in prepared for both the rural and the urban contractors requests.

Lynn Ware left the meeting at 10:03 a.m.

Lynn Ware entered the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

Information

Resolution #WR20170926.1004

Moved By: Dave Gursky

That an adjustment be made to the rural bus contract increase the daily rate of \$167 and the kilometer rate to \$1.0689 and to maintain the urban bus contractor daily rate remain at \$236 per day, effective September 1, 2017.

Carried Unanimously

The meeting recessed at 10:11 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 10:19 a.m.

**Trustee Handbook
Update**

(Action)
(Issue #20170925001)

Trustee Jennifer Day reported on the work that they have done to on the new Trustee Orientation Handbook. Trustee Day, Trustee Ware and Ms. Sherri Senger, Associate Superintendent: Business have worked on a draft and possible outline for a Trustee Handbook. Trustee Day outlined a list of supplementary materials that could be added, and a list of items to add to the Trustee Office to access as needed.

Information

Ashoro Friendship Society

(Action)

(Issue #20170926001)

Dr. Terry Pearson, Superintendent of Schools presented information on the Wetaskiwin/Ashoro Friendship Society. Dr. Pearson reported on the recent visit and activities of the Ashoro students. Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools contributes \$3000.00 per year to the Society.

Resolution #WR20170926.1005

Moved By: Dave Gursky

That the Board approve adding the Wetaskiwin / Ashoro Friendship Society to Policy 9:Board Representatives and that the Board appoint a trustee to the Society.

Carried Unanimously

Board Advocacy Committee

(Committee Reports)

(Issue #20170914001)

The Board determined the following topics would be placed in the "parking lot" of the Board Advocacy Committee agenda:

- CA RCSD Hold Harmless Funding
- PUF Funding
- School Fees
- STAR Transportation Agreement
- Option Opportunities
- Winfield School
- O & M Funding

Administrative Procedure 418

(Information)

(Issue #20170912005)

Dr. Pearson, Superintendent of Schools advised at the Board meeting on September 12, 2017 Trustee Becker indicated that she did not recall Administrative Procedure 418 being submitted to the Board as an information item. Administrative Procedure 418 was submitted to the Board as an information item at the March 16, 2017 meeting. At that time it was numbered AP 516: Reimbursement of Expenditures. Upon review by the Leadership Team it was determined that AP 516 should be numbered AP 418 as it should be located in the 400 administrative procedure section titled Personnel and Employee Relation and not the 500 administrative procedure section titled Business Management.

Information

Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act Request for Information Update

(Information)

(Issue #20170916001)

Ms. Sherri Senger, Associate Superintendent of Schools advised that the Regular Board meeting held on October 25, 2016, the Associate Superintendent, Business brought to trustees attention that the Board had received it's very first official Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act request for information. A copy of the written request (attached), provided in the agenda package, dated October 6, 2016, stated that a Reporter from the Edmonton Journal wanted copies of a number of documents related to trustee candidates' eligibility during the 2013 election.

As set out in legislation, on October 18, 2016, the Associate Superintendent, Business provided to the Reporter, an estimate of the costs related to providing the requested information (attached). The Reporter then asked to modify the official request reducing the number of documents in order that the cost did not exceed the initial \$25 fee.

Section 92 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act speaks to the 'Offenses and Penalties' that will be assessed when the Act

is contravened. Given the severity of these penalties it was determined that legal advice was warranted prior to addressing this matter.

On November 10, 2016, a package containing a letter of explanation and copies of the redacted documents (as directed by legal) was couriered to the Reporter.

On February 16, 2017, WRPS received a letter dated February 7, 2017 from the Office of the Information and Privacy Commissioner of Alberta (OIPC) (attached) which indicated that the Reporter was asking that their office review her request and WRPS's refusal to allow her access to the information that had been redacted. This letter indicated that WRPS was to provide OIPC with copy of the records at issue (unredacted) by March 3, 2017 and that they would endeavor to complete their review by May 23, 2017. All records were sent to OIPC on February 22, 2017 (letter attached).

On February 22, 2017, the Associate Superintendent, Business was contacted by a parent requesting to 'view the nomination paper that was filed by George Ollenberger for the 2013 election of school board trustees'. The Associate Superintendent, Business responded on February 23, 2017 and a meeting was set up for 11 am on February 27, 2017. As this matter was before the OIPC the document provided to the parent for viewing was the same redacted copy that had been provided to the Reporter.

On May 4, 2017, WRPS received a letter from OIPC indicating they were extending the 'date for completion' of their review to November 20, 2017 (attached).

On May 24, 2017, this same parent contacted the Associate Superintendent, Business asking if WRPS had received a 'decision' from OIPC. That same day the Associate Superintendent, Business responded that the review was not complete and that the date for completion had been extended to November 20, 2017.

On May 29, 2017, the Associate Superintendent, Business received an email from OIPC containing their recommendations related to their review (attached). They were as follows:

'In my opinion, section 17(1) does not apply to the information in the nomination papers. I recommend the Public Body disclose the redacted information to the Applicant.'

'In my opinion, section 17(1) applies to the information in the other record that deals with religion.'

WRPS was given until June 5, 2017 to acknowledge whether or not they agreed with the recommendations. Legal advice was sought and on June 2, 2017 a letter was sent to OIPC indicating that while WRPS agreed with the second recommendation there was still concern that it would be an invasion of privacy to release the nomination papers.

On June 8, 2017, the Associate Superintendent, Business received an email from OIPC (attached) indicating that it was still there recommendation that the nomination papers be released and since WRPS had declined to provide the records it would be up to the Reporter as to whether or not to withdraw the request for review or to ask the Commissioner to proceed to inquiry. On June 8, 2017 the Reporter emailed the Associate Superintendent, Business once again requesting

access to the nomination papers. After much consideration and further legal consultation the decision was made to release the nomination papers. On June 16, 2017 an email was sent to the Reporter (attached) indicating that while copies of the nomination papers would not be released WRPS would allow a person to examine the documents. On August 28, 2017, the Associate Superintendent, Business received a letter dated August 24, 2017 indicating OIPC considers this matter closed.

Information

Trustee Erickson left the meeting at 11:20 a.m.

Information

Trustee Erickson entered the meeting at 11:22 a.m.

Information

**ASBOA
Recommendations
for Equitable &
Adequate PO&M
Funding**

(Information)

(Issue #20170916003)

Ms. Sherri Senger, Associate Superintendent Business advised that during the 2016-2017, the Association of School Business Officials of Alberta (ASBOA), in response to continued cost pressures for school boards and reductions in service levels regarding the daily upkeep and maintenance of schools, the Plant Operations and Maintenance (PO&M) Ad Hoc Committee was formed to analyze the current PO&M funding model in Alberta. Ultimately, the committee is conducted this analysis to determine if the current model provides equitable and adequate resources to fund current operations and ongoing maintenance of school buildings for School Boards, Francophone Regional Authorities and Charter Schools.

Mrs. Sherri Senger, Associate Superintendent, Business was a contributing member of this committee.

The analysis of the committee focused on the:

- evaluation of the adequacy of the PO&M grant by reviewing the current and historical PO&M funding model and comparisons to other provincial models.
- benefits and challenges of the per student allocation methodology of the PO&M grant
- analyzing the inflationary and other expenditure pressures that influence the level of spending for PO&M
- statistical analysis of cost drivers to explore alternative funding allocation methodologies.
- accumulated operating surplus as an indicator of adequacy of total grants provided by the Province.

The analysis has been informed by the results of a survey completed by ASBOA members.

The analysis of the committee did not:

- provide an in-depth analysis of building specific characteristics like age, types of construction, component qualities, etc.
- review IMR funding or expenditures.

Both of these factors, though important in attaining a complete understanding of building related expenditures, due to their complexity extend beyond the scope and resources of the committee's work.

Attached, for trustees information, is the Committee's final report,

including recommendations for changes to the current funding formula, which was passed by the ASBOA Executive and forwarded to Alberta Education for their consideration. In addition, an executive summary of the paper and review of the committees recommendations were presented at the ASBOA provincial conference held in April 2017 and at the Alberta Educational Facilities Administrators Association provincial conference in May 2017.

To date, other than eliminating the funding for 0.1 FTE for on-line students Alberta Education has not formally responded to the recommended changes.

Information

**2017-2018
Preliminary
Enrollment**

(Information)
(Issue #20170918001)

Ms. Sherri Senger, Associate Superintendent Business presented the preliminary 2017/2018 enrollment as at September 18, 2017 final enrollment will be finalized after September 30th, 2017.

Information

**Board Annual
Work Plan**

(Information)
(Issue #20170919013)

The Board Annual Work Plan was presented as information.

Information

**Maskwacis
Education Council
Report**

(Information)
(Issue #20170919014)

Trustee Shauna Bruno reported on the highlights from the September 18, 2017 Maskwacis Education Council Meeting. The Maskwacis Education Council is a Board Committee that acts in an advisory capacity on matters related to Indigenous students and their families. Trustee Bruno advised that the Four Bands have appointed Randy Ermineskin as Trustee. An official letter will be forthcoming announcing this appointment.

Sherry Knull left the meeting at 11:42 a.m.

Information

Resolution #WR20170926.1006

Moved By: Shauna Bruno

That the Board continue to develop it's understanding of Indigenous knowledge and history through professional development for trustees, administration and staff including but not limited to Treaty Six.

Carried Unanimously

George Ollenberge left the meeting at 11:56 A.M.

Information

Resolution #WR20170926.1007

Moved By: Shauna Bruno

That the Board continue to access the services of a cultural advisor from the Maskwacis Cree Nation.

Carried

Resolution #WR20170926.1008

Moved By: Shauna Bruno

That the Maskwacis Education Council add an Elder to the membership of the Council.

Carried

Robbyn Erickson left the meeting at 12:11 p.m.

Information

Robbyn Erickson entered the meeting at 12:13 p.m.

Information

Upcoming Events

(Upcoming Events)
(Issue #20170919001)

September 26, 2017 ATA Local 18 Candidate Forum 4:00 - 5:50 p.m.

Glen's Grill

October 10, 2017 Regular Board Meeting 9:00 a.m.

October 16, 2017 Election Day 10:00 a.m. - 8:00 p.m.

October 24, 2017 Board Organizational Meeting 9:00 a.m.

October 24, 2017 Regular Board Meeting to follow Organizational Meeting

October 30, 2017 ASBA Zone 4 Meeting

Information

Jennifer Day left the meeting at 12:15 p.m.

Information

Jennifer Day entered the meeting at 12:16 p.m.

Information

The meeting recessed at 12:18 p.m.

Information

The meeting reconvened at 12:24 p.m.

**Superintendent
Contract**

(Confidential)
(Issue #20170912003)

Resolution #WR20170926.1009

Moved By: Dave Gursky

That the meeting go in to In-Camera, at 12:24 p.m., pursuant to Section 70(3) of the Alberta School Act, and amendments thereto, and Division 2 of Part 1 of the Freedom of Information and Protection of Privacy Act, Revised Statutes of Alberta 2000, Chapter F-25 and amendments thereto, to discuss Privileged Information with regards to the Superintendent Contract & Gwynne Joint Transportation.

Carried

Resolution #WR20170926.1010

Moved By: Lynn Ware

That the meeting come Out-of-Camera at 12:52 p.m.

Carried

Resolution #WR20170926.1011

Moved By: Dave Gursky

That the Board approve the Superintendent of Schools contract for the period August 1, 2018 to July 31, 2020.

Votes:

In Barb Johnson, Jennifer Day, Robbyn Erickson, Lynn Ware,

Favour: Shauna Bruno, Dave Gursky

Opposed: Karen Becker

Absent: George Ollenberger

Carried

Adjournment

Resolution #WR20170926.1012

Moved By: Dave Gursky

That the meeting be adjourned at 12:54 p.m.

Carried

Board Chair

Associate Superintendent: Business