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, October 09, 2018
Start time: 9:30 AM
Location: Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools Board Room

Attendance
Present were:

Trustee
• Lynn Ware
• Dave Gursky (via telephone)
• Leanne Axelsen
• Karen Becker
• Randy Ermineskin
• Barb Johnson
• Rhonda Peters
• Jayne Pettifor

Superintendent
• Terry Pearson

Associate Superintendent
• Rick Hayes
• Sherri Senger
• Brian Taje

Recording Secretary
• Shirley Barton

Information

Call to Order
Board Chair Barb Johnson called the Regular Meeting of the Board of Trustees of Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools to order at 9:30 a.m.

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."

Consideration of Agenda
Resolution #WR20181009.1001
Moved By: Randy Ermineskin
That the agenda be approved as presented.
Approval of Agenda

Resolution #WR20181009.1002
Moved By: Randy Ermineskin
That the agenda for meeting Regular Board Meeting (2018/10/09) be approved as presented.
Carried Unanimously

Minutes Approval

Resolution #WR20181009.1003
Moved By: Jayne Pettifor
That the minutes for the Regular Board Meeting (2018/09/25) be adopted as presented.
Carried Unanimously

Resolution #WR20181009.1004
Moved By: Dave Gursky
That the minutes for the Board Organizational Meeting (2018/09/25) be adopted as amended.
Carried Unanimously

Millet School

At its meeting on September 25, 2018 the Board was provided with an update regarding the status of Millet School. The information provided was as follows:

In April 2018, subsequent to the Open House that was held at Millet School, WRPS received a letter from the Town of Millet indicating that they were disappointed with the community participation at the Open House, were concerned that they might not be in a position to move forward with acquiring the school and were asking for the school board’s direction. WRPS’s Board Chair, Mrs. Lynn Ware wrote a letter in response indicating that WRPS must comply with a Disposition of Property Regulation which clearly outlines the process a school board must follow and that it was the Town of Millet’s responsibility to take the lead in deciding whether or not they are interested in procuring the facility. This letter gave a deadline of May 31, 2018 for the Town of Millet to submit a proposal. This deadline has past.

In late June/early July 2018, WRPS provided a couple of tours of the Millet School to individuals that the Mayor of the Town of Millet indicated have shown interest in sharing space with the Town of Millet.

The Town of Millet sent a letter dated July 4, 2018 in which they indicated that they would be unable to move forward without first obtaining a full inspection report on the current structural condition of the building. In the meantime, the Associate Superintendent, Business and the Director, Facilities met with Mr. Jim Pickford, owner/operator of Team Revolution. Mr. Pickford was one of the individuals that received a tour of Millet School. Mr. Pickford expressed interest in leasing space in the facility but given his current lease was to expire at the end of September 2018 he was wanting to lease the facility as soon as possible. The Associate Superintendent, Business emailed the Board Chair, Board Vice Chair and Superintendent to get their feedback regarding the idea of leasing the space in Millet School on a one year term. The thought was that this would give the Town of Millet the additional time they said they needed in order
to obtain an inspection report and would generate some monies, which would help offset the cost of operating the school building, in the meantime. The Associate Superintendent, Business received support for this idea so proceeded to enter into a one-year lease agreement for the 2018-2019 school year with Mr. Pickford.

On August 30, 2018, Mayor Wadsworth sent an email to the Associate Superintendent, Business indicating that the Town Council had decided to move forward in procuring 'an up-to-date physical inspection on the status quo condition of the building'. He also indicated that he would be able to report back with further progress in about 2 to 3 weeks time.

The Board determined that it would set a date at its meeting on October 9, 2018 by which the Town of Millet needs to advise the Board as to its interest in the Millet School building. Associate Superintendent Business, Sherri Senger, provided an update indicating the Town has an architect and engineering company completing an inspection of the facility later this fall. Discussion ensued. The Board will revisit this at the December meeting once the inspections have been completed.

Every five years, the ASBA Policy Development Advisory Committee (PDAC) is tasked with reviewing ASBA Position Statements. The purpose of the review is to determine which position statements should be brought forward to the membership for reaffirmation. In preparing for a generative discussion at the FGM 2018, boards are asked to participate in a survey related to the existing ASBA position statements. The survey deadline is October 10, 2018. Discussion ensued.

The Board decided on the following five "Education Finance Positions":

1. Special Education Funding
2. Funding Framework Review
3. Integrated Services Funding
4. Adequate, Stable and Predictable Funding
5. Public Funding of Private Schools

The Board decided on the following five "Facilities Positions":

1. Funding for plant operations and maintenance
2. Small schools by necessity
3. Funding for right-sizing
4. Public-public and Public-private partnerships
5. Infrastructure preservation

Trustee Peters left the meeting at 10:03 a.m.

Trustee Peters entered the meeting at 10:05 a.m.

On November 26, 2018 Wetaskiwin Regional Public Schools will be hosting the ASBA Zone 4 meeting.

It is the practice of the Board to highlight best practices in the Division. Discussion ensued. Trustee Ermineskin and Associate Superintendent Instruction, Brian Taje, will work with Trustee Ware and Trustee Johnson on a presentation for this meeting surrounding our Indigenous programming.
Community Consultation
(Action)
(Issue #20181001078)

The Board's Three-Year Capital Plan 2019 - 2022 listed Winfield School as priority number one and Parkdale School as priority number two. Given that Winfield School is priority number one it is critical to commence the community consultation process. In previous discussions the Board has mentioned doing a broader community consultation that would include potential partners. As such, it is imperative that the Board determine who it believes are potential partners, and determine when the Board wishes to hold a community consultation. In addition, the Board discussed whether to have an architectural firm facilitate the community consultation or do the consultation using inhouse staff. Discussion ensued regarding exploring partnerships with the County of Wetaskiwin, 4-H, neighboring school divisions, Ermineskin band, community libraries, and discussion with central office regarding efficiencies. The Board will hold a community consultation on Thursday, November 29 at Winfield School from 7 - 9 pm, with invitations sent out to the aforementioned as well as media, politicians, school council and parents in the area.

ASBA Zone 4: Showcase
(Action)
(Issue #20181001082)

The meeting recessed at 10:58 a.m.

The meeting reconvened at 11:07 a.m.

Board Policy 9: Board Representatives
(Action)
(Issue #20181002002)

At the organizational meeting on September 25, 2018 the Board discussed revisions to Board Policy 9: Board Representatives.

The minutes read:
That Board Policy 9 be revised with an amendment as follows:

1. Wetaskiwin Learning Council name change to Wetaskiwin Community Learning Program.
2. Removal of School Community Health Education Partnership Representative
3. Addition of WRPS Edwin Parr Committee.
Additional there was one other revision.
Change to Leadership Team: Two Trustees - removed 2nd Trustee on a rotational basis.

Resolution #WR20181009.1005
Moved By: Leanne Axelsen
That the Board approve the revisions to Board Policy 9: Board Representatives as presented.

Carried Unanimously

Board Policy Review
(Action)
(Issue #20181001003)

It has been the Board's practice to review each Board Policy after an election year.

Attached for review by the Board are the following Policies:
Board Policy 3: Role of the Trustee
Board Policy 4: Trustee Code of Conduct
The School Act requires school boards to develop and implement a code of conduct.
School Act - Code of conduct
78.1(1) A board shall develop and implement a code of conduct that applies to trustees of the board and that includes provisions respecting definitions of breaches and providing for sanctions for breaches, in accordance with principles set out by the Minister by order.

(2) An order of the Minister under subsection (1) must be made publicly available.

(3) A trustee of a board shall comply with the board's code of conduct.

Board Policy 4: Trustee Code of Conduct aligns with the recommendations made by the Alberta School Boards’ Association. Discussion ensued.

The Board recommended the following changes to Policy 4, Appendix B:

20. A trustee who believes that a fellow trustee has violated the Code of Conduct must seek resolution of the matter through appropriate conciliatory measures prior to commencing an official complaint under the Code of Conduct.

28. The Trustee in question must be provided in writing the reasons for its decision.

Resolution #WR20181009.1006
Moved By: Karen Becker
That Policy 4, Appendix B be changed as follows:

20. change "may" to "must"

and add:

27.4. The Board must provide in writing to the Trustee the reasons for its decision.

Carried Unanimously

Trustee Expense Claim Cut Off Dates
(Action)
(Issue #20181001081)

This item is being brought forward for clarification and better understanding by Trustees.

In order to ensure budget requirements are kept current Administrative Procedure 418 Reimbursement of Expenditures 8.6 outlines specific dates that expenditures may be claimed on expense claims.

As per WRPS Administrative Procedure 418: Reimbursement of Expenditures:

8.6 Employees must submit expense claims no later than 60 days following the completion of the trip or of incurring the expense. Reimbursements received past this timeline may not be reimbursed.

Requests for reimbursements for expenses incurred up to and including August 31 of each year must be submitted by the deadline set by Business Services. This deadline will be communicated to all staff in advance and shall never be later than September 15.

Resolution #WR20181009.1007
Moved By: Lynn Ware
That the Board approve the reimbursement of Trustee Peters kilometres for the May 2018 Appreciation Night, Trustee Becker's kilometres for PSBAA Summer meeting, and Trustee Becker’s summer orientation work with Trustee Peters.
The Board approved its Strategic Direction May 24, 2016. During the 2016 - 2017 school year preparations were made to close Millet Elementary School, repurpose C.B. McMurdo School and move the grade 9 students in the City of Wetaskiwin, Millet and Gwynne to WCHS. The first full year of the Board's Strategic Direction occurred during the 2017 - 2018 school year. Data has been compiled to provide evidence that the Board's Strategic Direction achieved the Strategic Direction's purpose, which was "to implement efficiencies across the Division, providing high quality learning opportunities while ensuring that the Division is financially sustainable."

The senior administrative team presented evidence to the Board on the implementation of the Board's Strategic Direction. Discussion ensued.

The meeting recessed at 12:17 p.m.

The meeting reconvened at 1:01 p.m.

The PSBAA Executive will present to every Board in Alberta the "Together for Students" campaign.

Trustee Becker will present to several Boards in central Alberta this fall.

Trustee Becker along with Patti Diettrick presented the work of PSBAA's new campaign "Together for Students" that focuses on one education system in Alberta rather than a system that serves multiple systems within it. PSBAA believes that one inclusive education system would offer more choice for families. In 1901, 75% of the population in Alberta was rural. In 2016, this number dropped to 16%. The change in rural to urban ratio affects what education in the province looks like now. The board received the presentation along with promotional materials to assist them in conversations that may come up regarding this.

Associate Superintendent Business, Sherri Senger, reviewed the enrollment summary which compares the September 30, 2018 enrollment against the projected enrollment used to generate the 2018-19 Approved Budget and the September 30, 2017 enrollment.

The September 30, 2018 enrollment is 5.5 FTE higher than the enrollment used to generate the 2018-19 Approved budget and 7.5 FTE higher compared to the enrollment count on September 30, 2017.

Trustee Becker attended the National School Board Association Conference this past summer in Halifax, Nova Scotia.

Trustee Becker provided a brief report on the sessions she attended at the conference.

The Board Annual Work Plan was reviewed. Discussion ensued around September's work item to schedule meetings with Minister of Education and local Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs). It was suggested to invite the three current MLAs: MLA Mark Smith, MLA Bruce Hinkley, and MLA Jason Nixon for lunch on January 22, 2019.
Dicussion ensued around scheduling of Trustee School Visits and what the Board's purpose is for these visits. This will be addressed further at the Committee of the Whole meeting on Tuesday, October 16.

Trustee Ermineskin left the meeting at 2:04 p.m.

Trustee Ermineskin entered the meeting at 2:08 p.m.

Associate Superintendent Instruction, Brian Tajie, highlighted the $50,000 dual credit initiative received from Alberta Education.

Dual credit helps students to:

- get a jump start on their post-secondary education while still in high school
- complete high school while engaging in meaningful curriculum
- transition to post-secondary studies or move into the world of work
- potentially complete post-secondary with less financial debt

The Alberta Dual Credit Framework identifies dual credit as programming that is authorized and funded by Alberta Education in which grade 10, 11, or 12 students can earn both high school credits and credits that count toward a post-secondary certificate, diploma, or degree, including a journeyperson certificate.

- High school credits earned count towards course and credit requirements of the Alberta High School Diploma or the Alberta Certificate of High School Achievement.
- Post-secondary credits earned may count towards a post-secondary certificate, diploma, or degree through partial or full completion of post-secondary requirements.

Based on a recent Joint Economic Development Initiative (JEDI) 2016 Regional Labour Study report, our grant application highlights the need to fill occupations with trained and educated residents from the community rather than with non-residents as is the current trend, with the goal to use this initiative as a high school completion strategy.

In partnering with Norquest College, we are focusing on offering one semester of the two year Business Administration Diploma program to our high school students from all three high schools as well as Outreach. To successfully implement this, we require at least one student cohort of 20-25 students. We are currently in the information gathering stage with our high schools, with a goal of holding community engagements in November 2018 to determine student interest.

Provided we have a large enough cohort, our plan is to have students begin the courses for Business Administration Diploma program in September 2020.

We are also currently in the process of applying for a second dual credit grant of $50,000 focusing on the areas of agriculture and business.

Trustee Becker left the meeting at 2:33 p.m.

Norwood School - Letter of Concern (Board Correspondence) (Issue #20181004001)

Trustee Becker entered the meeting at 2:35 p.m.

Resolution #WR20181009.1008
Moved By: Lynn Ware
That the meeting go in to In-Camera, at 2:37 p.m., pursuant to Section 197 of the Municipal Government Act, 2000, Chapter M-26 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 Norwood School - Letter of Concern.

Carried Unanimously

Resolution #WR20181009.1009
Moved By: Lynn Ware
That the meeting moves Out of Camera at 2:47 p.m.

Carried Unanimously

Upcoming Events

October 9, 2018 TBAC Meeting 5:00 p.m.
October 11, 2018 Leadership Team Meeting
October 17, 2018 COSC 7:00 p.m.
October 22, 2018 ASBA Zone 4 Meeting
October 23, 2018 Regular Board Meeting 9:30 a.m.
October 24-26 PSBAA U2 Fall AGM Hilton Hotel West Edmonton

Adjournment

Resolution #WR20181009.1010
Moved By: Barb Johnson
That the meeting be adjourned at 2:53 pm.

Carried Unanimously

Board Chair

Associate Superintendent: Business