

**BUFFALO TRAIL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Wednesday, February 17, 2021

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Buffalo Trail Public Schools was held in the Administration Building Boardroom on Wednesday, February 17, 2021.

**PRESENT:**

Chair: Lanie Parr

Trustees: Darcy Eddleston, Rose Gorniak, Bruce Marriott, Marie Isaman, Jim King, Stephanie Spornitz and Sheldon Archibald (all attended via video)

Administration: Rhae-Ann Holoien, Superintendent, Michelle Webb, Deputy Superintendent, James Trodden, Assistant Superintendent Bob Brown, Secretary Treasurer Faye Dunne, Recording Secretary

Absent: Barry Livingston

**A. CALL TO ORDER:**

Board Chair Parr called the meeting to order at 9:31 a.m.

The Board Chair shared a Treaty 6 Acknowledgement Black History Month

A video was shared in recognition of Black History Month.

**B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

The Chair asked for any additions to the agenda.

**J. NEW BUSINESS:**

- Multiple Clandonald Emails and Letters re; Postponement of Public Meeting

21-024 GORNIAK: Moves that the agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**C. MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING**

21-025 SPORNITZ: That the Minutes of the regular meeting held January 20, 2021 be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**D. PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS:**

- none

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**E. IN-CAMERA:**

**21-026 KING: That the meeting move In-Camera.**  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Deputy Superintendent, Webb, Secretary Treasurer, Brown, Assistant Superintendent Trodden and Recording Secretary, Dunne were in attendance.

Trustee Isaman left the meeting at 10:17 AM  
Trustee Isaman rejoined at 10:34 AM

**21-027 GORNIAK: That the meeting come out of In-Camera.**  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**F. COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**1. Finance:**

- Cheque Lists Dated; December 15, 23, 2020
- Accounts Payable Cheque Lists Dated; December 15, 23, 2020
- Manual Cheques Issued Dated: December 18, 2020 to January 12, 2021
- January 31, 2021 Cash Flow Statement

Assistant Treasurer Vivian Locher reviewed the cheque lists with the Board. There were a few questions for clarification of information.

**21-028 KING: Moves that the accounts payable cheque lists for the period ending February 12, 2021 beginning and ending with cheques #130865 to #131086 and automated payments for the period ending February 12, 2021 beginning and ending with #800019455 to #800019645 and manual cheques issued #700001106 to #700001113 be received for information.**  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- January 31, 2021 Cash Flow Statements

**21-029 MARRIOTT: Moves that the Board accept the January 31, 2021 Cash Flow Statement for information.**  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

The Secretary Treasurer told the Board that this would be his final board meeting and thanked the Board for its support over the past 14 years. The Board thanked Secretary Treasurer Bob Brown for all of his service over the years but especially during these trying times.

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## **2. Facilities:**

- Capital Plan

- 21-030 **EDDLESTON: Moves that the Board set its 3-Year Capital Plan 2022-2025 as follows:**
1. **Wainwright Elementary Replacement School and demolition of existing school**
  2. **Provost replacement school and demolition of a portion of the existing school**
  3. **A value management scoping to assist the Board of Trustees with the best solution for the Kitscoty area**
- CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Student Engagement - Collaboration

Assistant Superintendent Trodden welcomed students from Dewberry, EH Walter and Dr. Folkins' to the Student Engagement.

The Board Chair welcomed all the students and there was a round of introductions.

The students took turns answering the questions posed for the discussion. 1) How do students support each other's learning? 2) How are your teachers allowing students to come together to work on projects and learning together? 3) How do you wish you were able to connect and learn with your peers?

Students shared that if one of them is struggling they all help each other to understand. Online math breakout rooms allow students to work together. Students wish to be closer like pre-COVID. Asking lots of questions helps with support for understanding. Some mentioned that more group work would be welcomed. Teachers let students help each other and are always there to answer questions.

The Board Chair thanked the students for supporting one another and thanked them for participating today.

- 21-031 **EDDLESTON: That the board meeting recess for lunch.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

The meeting reconvened at 12:47 p.m. in the Boardroom with all Trustees present.

## **G. SUPERINTENDENT'S DEPARTMENT**

### **1. Superintendent's Report:**

- Enrolment Reports
- Superintendent's Public Speaking

- Women in Leadership Videos
- 2019-2020 Retirement Update  
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**1. Superintendent's Report Cont.:**

- Enrolment Reports

The information was shared with the Board. The Superintendent reported that there was a slight enrolment increase from December to January and that there are currently 156 students attending Students Online.

- Superintendent's Public Speaking

The Superintendent's Public Speaking Competition will resume this year with a virtual event being held Wednesday April 28<sup>th</sup>, 2021.

- Women in Leadership Videos

The Superintendent has been sharing videos featuring interviews with 5 BTPS women in leadership in the weekly BTPS Newsletter leading up to International Women's Day.

- 2019-2020 Retirement Update

The Board had an opportunity to discuss the previous decision to postpone the 2019-2020 BTPS Retirement Celebration and combine it with the 2020-2021 event. It is still unlikely that public gatherings will be allowed by June 2021. The Board shared several ideas and gave direction to prepare the 2019-2020 retirement celebration and send the gifts to the recipients.

Trustee Isaman left the meeting at 12:50 pm

**2. Deputy Superintendent's Report:**

- Staffing Reports
- Edwin Parr Selection Committee
- Staffing Reports

**21-032 GORNIAK: Moves that the Board accept the Teacher and Support Staff Reports as presented for information.  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- Edwin Parr Selection Committee

**21-033 KING: Moves that the Board support Trustees Gorniak and Spornitz to represent the Board on the Edwin Parr Selection Committee.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Trustee Isaman rejoined the meeting at 12:54 pm

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### **3. Assistant Superintendent's Report**

- 2020-2021 Stakeholder Engagement

Assistant Superintendent Trodden told the Board that he is currently preparing for the 2020-2021 Stakeholder Engagement to review the BTPS 4 Year Plan Year One Report. The dates for the online engagement have been set for the evenings of April 6, 12, 21, 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021. Trustees will sign up to attend a session. There was a request to invite Mayors and Reeves.

#### **H. Business Arising from Minutes:**

The letters were reviewed.

#### **J. NEW BUSINESS:**

- Facility Enhancement Request
- Notice of Motion - Trustee Isaman re; Supporting ATA Position on MO 42/2020
- MLA N Horner, Joint School Board Meeting Request
- Email from B Martin re; Request to Delay Community Meeting
- Letter from T. Jones re; Request to Delay Community Meeting
- Letter from A. Cusack re; Request to Delay Community Meeting
  
- Facility Enhancement Request

**21-034 MARRIOTT: Moves that the Board postpone the decision on the Provost Public School facility enhancement project request until more information is gathered.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- Notice of Motion - Trustee Isaman re; Supporting ATA Position on MO 42/2020

**21-035 ISAMAN: Moves that the Board of Buffalo Trail Public Schools write a letter of support to the local ATA representatives regarding their position to self-manage the Alberta Teachers Retirement Fund instead of being moved to be managed by the Alberta Investment Management Corporation.**

**CARRIED**

- MLA N Horner, Joint School Board Meeting Request

MLA Nate Horner would like to have a joint meeting with school boards in the area he represents. The meeting is scheduled for April 29<sup>th</sup>, 2021 in Hanna at this point, however it may be a virtual meeting.

**J. NEW BUSINESS Cont.:**

- Email from B Martin re; Request to Delay Community Meeting
- Letter from T. Jones re; Request to Delay Community Meeting
- Letter from A. Cusack re; Request to Delay Community Meeting

The Board discussed the letters and emails it received regarding concerns with not having their public meeting in person and requests to delay the meeting for a year. The Board shared that it appreciates all the concerns and understands it is a challenging situation. While the online public meeting is not typical, this review was already delayed because of the new funding formula. The Board had a thorough discussion of all the requests for postponement and was asked about technology challenges and the timeframe of the meeting. The end time of the meeting will be taken off the website. It is important to continue with the process once it is started as there are protocols to follow. BTPS will present all of the information gathered from the public. Any further information can be sent to the Board Secretary.

Direction was given to respond to all who have contacted the Board so far regarding postponement.

Appeals; none

**K. TRUSTEE REPORTS:**

- ASBA - Trustee Marriott shared information from the last Zone 2/3 meeting he attended. The kindergarten funding in place for 2021/2022. The next zone meeting is Friday. The new deputy minister, Andre Tremblay will be online for the next coffee conversation March 9<sup>th</sup>. The Edwin Parr deadline is March 19<sup>th</sup>. The presentation on social media with Kathy Campbell was great professional development.
- PSBC - Vice Chair Spornitz shared that the current president of PSBC had a meeting with the Minister. Information shared included; notifications of charter applications will be given to those impacted, there will be trustee workshops for public school councils and PSBAA is developing a member portal. PSBAA is also developing promotional information on why public education is important
- RCASB - Trustee Eddleston shared there will potentially a meeting will be April 27<sup>th</sup>. Rural caucus has done great work and beneficial meeting with the minister.
- TEBA - Trustee Eddleston shared there was no update.

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**K. TRUSTEE REPORTS Cont.:**

- Shaping the Future - Trustee Spornitz attended the sessions virtually. Pre-recorded sessions were available to participate in. Trustee Spornitz attended some live sessions and shared that the key note speaker Shelly Moore was high energy. She felt there were not a lot of trustee sessions but there was good information for staff.

**L. TRUSTEE READINGS:**

- None

**M. INFORMATION ITEMS:**

The Board Chair reviewed the information items with the Board. She highlighted the jack.org mental health support.

**N. COMMUNICATION STRATEGY**

- February 25<sup>th</sup> Clandonald Public Meeting
- Student Engagement
- Capital Plan 2022-2025
- Women in Leadership
- BTPS Secretary Treasurer
- Plan to Celebrate 2019-2020 Retirees
- ASBA Edwin Parr

21-036 **KING: That the board meeting adjourn.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Time: 1:57 pm hours 13:57 (PM)

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Board Chair

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Recording Secretary