

BUFFALO TRAIL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Wednesday, September 16, 2020

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Buffalo Trail Public Schools was held in the Administration Building Boardroom on Wednesday, September 16, 2020.

PRESENT:

Chair: Lanie Parr

Trustees: Darcy Eddleston, Sheldon Archibald, Rose Gorniak, Bruce Marriott, Marie Isaman, Jim King and Stephanie Spornitz

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

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

The Chair asked for any additions to the agenda.

- New Business - MLA Armstrong-Homeniuk
- Mental Health

20-241 **MARRIOTT: Moves that the agenda be approved as amended.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

20-242 **GORNIAK: That the Minutes of the organizational meeting held August 19, 2020 be accepted as amended.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

20-243 **KING: That the Minutes of the regular meeting held August 19, 2020 be accepted as amended.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Trustee Eddleston joined the meeting 9:34am

E. IN-CAMERA:

20-244 **GORNIAK: That the meeting move In-Camera.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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Trustee Archibald joined the meeting at 9:40am

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

E. IN-CAMERA Cont.:

20-245 **KING: That the meeting come out of In-Camera.**
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

D. PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS:

- PSBAA President Cathy Hogg Zoom Meeting

PSBAA President Cathy Hogg and PSBAA Executive Director Troy Tait joined the meeting via zoom. President Hogg began by thanking the Board for taking the time to meet, realizing that it has been difficult to schedule regular face to face meetings during the pandemic. She told the Board that this year the annual general meeting will be online, however they are planning for an in-person council meeting in November. The PSBAA president shared some of the work and advocacy efforts of the association over the years, its work with government as well as some updates on issues. Executive Director Troy Tait introduced himself to the Board and said that he was happy to join PSBAA this past March. He shared some of his goals for the upcoming year which included a focus on being open and transparent and finishing the year with a balanced budget. Board Chair Parr thanked the PSBAA President and Executive Director them for all the work they are doing advocating for public schools.

G. SUPERINTENDENT'S DEPARTMENT

2. Deputy Superintendent's Report:

- Staffing Reports

There was a question from the public regarding our support staff re-hires. The Deputy Superintendent told the Board that BTPS is on par with the number of support staff laid off due to COVID-19 and number re-hired for re-entry.

20-246 **ISAMAN: Moves that the Board accept the Teacher and Support Staff Reports as presented for information.**
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Student Feedback on Re-entry

Students from Vermilion Elementary, Mannville and Hughenden schools joined the Board via video to share their thoughts on how re-entry has been for them so far. Assistant Superintendent Trodden welcomed the groups and the Board introduced themselves to the students.

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Student Feedback on Re-entry Cont.

Assistant Superintendent Trodden asked the Vermilion students what they have appreciated and liked the most about coming back to school. They shared that they felt safe, the teachers were happy to see them, it was great to see their friends and get back to learning. The Assistant Superintendent also asked 'how did the school and teachers help you know you were in a safe and caring environment' They shared they are sanitizing their hands, staying apart and hearing teachers say that they are so happy to see them back.

The Mannville grade four class shared that they were happy to be riding the bus and seeing all their friends. They shared that the teachers make them laugh and the teachers were so happy to see them it felt like they never left. Some activities are just a bit different than before.

The Hughenden grade nine class told the Board that they were happy to renew the comradery they missed over the summer, to get back to learning in the classroom and to generally be back in school. Masks and social distancing, blocked off bathroom stalls, using separate entrances and staggered entrance times lets them know that they are in a safe and caring environment.

The Board Chair thanked the students for sharing their thoughts and wished the students an enjoyable year.

F. COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

1. Finance:

- Cheque Lists Dated; August 28, 2020
- Accounts Payable Cheque Lists Dated; Aug 25, 26, 28, 31, 2020
- Manual Cheques Issued Dated: August 14 to 28, 2020
- August 31, 2020 Cash Flow Statements
- Alberta Education School Jurisdiction Report - Irma School August 2020
- Edgerton Scholarship

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

20-247 **SPORNITZ: Moves that the accounts payable cheque lists for the period ending August 28, 2020 beginning and ending with cheques #130026 to #130080 and automated payments for the period ending August 31, 2020 beginning and ending with #800018703 to #800018809 and manual cheques issued #700001067 to #700001070 be received for information.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- August 31, 2020 Cash Flow Statements

20-248 **MARRIOTT: Moves that the Board accept the August 31, 2020 Cash Flow Statement for information.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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1. Finance Cont.:

- Alberta Education School Jurisdiction Report - Irma School August 2020

The information was shared with the Board. The Secretary Treasurer told the Board that this is the completion of the Irma school replacement project and the final hold back from government has been applied for.

- Edgerton Scholarship

We received notice that BTPS is a recipient of funds from the Estate of Scot Steele meant for a scholarship for Edgerton school students.

2. Transportation:

Director Mannix joined the meeting to answer any transportation questions from the Board.

- Boundary Exemption Request
- Contractor Selection
 - o Route PR-22
 - o Route PR-28

20-249 **SPORNITZ:** Moves that the Board approve the boundary exemption request of the Broadhurst/Briggs family residing at NE-14-44-05-W4 in the Wainwright transportation service area to receive bussing services from their residence gate to attend Edgerton Public School (school of choice) for the 2020-2021 school year.
DEFEATED

- Contractor Selection
 - o Route PR-22

20-250 **GORNIAK:** Based on the evaluation criteria for contractor selection the Board shall enter into a school bus service contract with 1053410 Alberta Ltd. for bus route PR-22 effective October 1, 2020.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- o Route PR-28

20-251 **EDDLESTON:** Based on the evaluation criteria for contractor selection the Board shall enter into a school bus service contract with Carrie Craig for bus route PR-28 effective October 1, 2020.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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20-252 ARCHIBALD: That the board meeting recess for lunch.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The meeting reconvened at 1:07 p.m. in the Boardroom with all Trustees present.

G. SUPERINTENDENT'S DEPARTMENT Cont.

1. Superintendent's Report:

- Enrolment Reports
- Leadership Workshop
- International Field Trip - Honor Band 2021

- Enrolment Reports

The Superintendent reported that everyday there are a few variations to the enrolment at the school level.

- Leadership Workshop

20-253 KING: Moves that the Board postpone the 2020-2021 Leadership Team Workshop that was previously supported for fall of 2020 and revisit the possibility in January 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- International Field Trip - Honor Band 2021

It was noted that the re-entry plan says there should be no international travel.

20-254 MARRIOTT: Moves that the Board cancel support for the Honor Band international field trip originally planned for Easter Break 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

20-255 GORNIAK: Moves that the Board approve the Honor Band international field trip to be rescheduled for Easter Break 2022 provided that the trip is not subject to a Government of Canada travel advisory, adheres to Board Policy, the tour company providing satisfactory supervision and all legal obligations are satisfactory to the Board.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

H. Business Arising from Minutes:

The letters were reviewed.

J. NEW BUSINESS:

- BTPS Celebration Day
- Ward Bylaw/Ward Review
- Email from County of Vermilion River re; Response to Request to Meet
- MLA Armstrong Homeniuk
- Mental Health

J. NEW BUSINESS Cont.:

- BTPS Celebration Day

There was a discussion of several options for the 2020-2021 Celebration Day.

20-256 **EDDLESTON: Moves that the Board postpone the formal 2020-2021 BTPS Celebration Day until October 2021, send letters of acknowledgement to this years' award recipients, and that all staff receive the day off in recognition of the hard work and extra time associated with re-entry.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Ward Bylaw/Ward Review

The Board discussed a possible ward review. There are time constraints to complete a thorough review. Direction to have the policy committee prepare the ward bylaw.

- Email from County of Vermilion River re; Response to Request to Meet

Direction was given to have questions sent in advance and set up a virtual meeting for October 20, 2020 with the CVR. The Board Secretary will make the arrangements.

- MLA Armstrong Homeniuk

Direction was given to set up a virtual meeting with MLA Armstrong-Homeniuk for October 14, 2020. The Board Secretary will make the arrangements.

- Mental Health

There was a discussion regarding mental health and available support through BTPS.

Appeals; none

K. TRUSTEE REPORTS:

- ASBA - Trustee Marriott shared that the next zone 2/3 meeting is September 25, 2020.
- PSBC - Trustee Spornitz shared that the next meeting is the PSBAA AGM.
- PSBAA AGM Registration Sign-ins - The individual trustees indicated their interest in attending.

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K. TRUSTEE REPORTS Cont.:

- RCASB - Trustee Eddleston shared an update from the meeting that he and the RCASB president attended with the Minister of Education. He told the Board that they discussed the transportation task force report, mental health challenges, children with disabilities, CASS legislation and the impact of COVID-19 on budgets, especially students online. There was a concern noted regarding upcoming diploma exams. He also told the Board that the AGM is typically an in-person meeting, however, this year the executive recommends that the financials be sent out for review and recommends that for the elections to send out an email to ask boards to vote to extend the positions at this time.

20-257 **KING: Moves that the Board support the extension of the term of the 2 RCASB executive positions that were to be up for election at the 2020 AGM for one additional year.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- TEBA - Trustee Eddleston reviewed highlights of the latest TEBA meeting with the Board. The group of 61 school boards is overall very concerned with local negotiations.

L. TRUSTEE READINGS:

- None

M. INFORMATION ITEMS:

N. COMMUNICATION STRATEGY

- Student Feedback on Re-Entry
- Celebration Day 2020
- Edgerton Public School Scholarship
- PSBAA Executive Meeting with the Board
- Support Staffing Update

There was a question regarding the nutrition program at schools. Information will come back to the Board.

Board Chair thanked the Board for all the work they are doing.

E. IN-CAMERA:

20-258 **ARCHIBALD: That the meeting move In-Camera.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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

20-259 **KING: That the meeting come out of In-Camera.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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2020, meeting of The Board of Trustees of Buffalo Trail
Public Schools

20-260 **KING: That the board meeting adjourn.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Time: 2:24 hours 14:24(PM)

Board Chair

Recording Secretary