

**BUFFALO TRAIL PUBLIC SCHOOLS**

Wednesday, September 15, 2021

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Buffalo Trail Public Schools was held in the Administration Building Boardroom on Wednesday, September 15, 2021.

**PRESENT:**

Chair: Lanie Parr

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

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

Absent:

**A. CALL TO ORDER:**

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

The Board Chair shared a Treaty Acknowledgement

Board Chair Parr opened the meeting by sharing that this is the final meeting of this Board. Chair Parr thanked the Board for all its hard work, its passion for students and public education and the work being done to prepare the next generation. Chair Parr thanked the entire BTPS staff for all the work it does to support students.

**B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:**

The Chair asked for any additions to the agenda.

**E. IN-CAMERA: TEBA**

21-210 KING: Moves that the agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**C. MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING**

21-211 SPORNITZ: That the Minutes of the regular meeting held August 18, 2021, be accepted as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

**E. IN-CAMERA:**

21-212 MARRIOTT: That the meeting move In-Camera.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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**E. IN-CAMERA Cont.:**

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

Trustee Gorniak joined the meeting at 10:27am

**21-213 KING: That the meeting come out of In-Camera.  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**D. PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS:**

- Wagner/Broadhead

Kelly Broadhead, Dillan Anderson, and Jennifer Wagner joined the meeting online. The Board Chair welcomed them and there was a round of introductions. Both families are in a similar situation so are presenting together. Each took a turn to address the Board and further explain their situation. The Board had an opportunity to ask additional questions to gain clarity. The Board Chair thanked Kelly, Dillan, and Jennifer for joining the meeting. The families thanked the Board for its time.

**E. IN-CAMERA Cont.:**

**21-214 MARRIOTT: That the meeting move In-Camera.  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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

**21-215 Spornitz: That the meeting come out of In-Camera.  
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Student Engagement - Back to School

The Board was joined by students from Amisk, Edgerton and JR Robson. The Board Chair welcomed everyone and there was a round of introductions.

Assistant Superintendent Trodden lead the student engagement. He asked each school group the same questions and they took turns answering. 1) How did students and staff support you in welcoming you back to school? 2) What are you looking forward to the most? 3) What will make this a great year for you?

Some of the experiences and thoughts shared included getting a new teacher, playing games, hopes for getting back to normal with support from teachers and hopes for a pep rally to promote school spirit.

The Board Chair thanked all three schools for participating in the engagement and Assistant Superintendent Trodden for hosting.

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**21-216 ISAMAN: That the board meeting recess for lunch.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

The meeting reconvened at 12:46 p.m. in the Boardroom with all Trustees in attendance.

**E. IN-CAMERA Cont.:**

**21-217 EDDLESTON: That the meeting move In-Camera.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Secretary Treasurer Altaf, Deputy Superintendent Webb, and Recording Secretary Dunne were in attendance. Assistant Superintendent Trodden joined at 12:50pm.

**21-218 KING: That the meeting come out of In-Camera.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**D. PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS Cont.:**

- Mitchell/Noble/Treffiak

Board Chair Parr welcomed the parent group to the meeting. Chelsa Noble, Tara Anderson, Shannon Treffiak and Tracy Mitchell introduced themselves.

Each of the group took turns sharing their reasons for requesting to meet with the Board. The group brought forward their concerns with masks, mask exemptions, mental health of children, their right to choose what is best for their children and following AHS guidelines. The group respectfully asked that mask mandates be removed. The group also advised they were collecting names on a petition to bring forward to the Board.

The Board Chair thanked the group for their work, passion and presenting to the Board.

The group thanked the Board for listening to its concerns.

**F. COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:**

**1. Finance:**

- Cheque Lists Dated; August 30 ,2021
- Accounts Payable Cheque Lists Dated; August 20, 25, 26, 30, 2021
- Manual Cheques Issued Dated: August 18 to September 3, 2021
- August 31, Cash Flow Statement
- Renewal ATB Borrowing Resolution
- School Generated Funds Clandonald

**1. Finance Cont.:**

Assistant Treasurer Locher reviewed the cheque lists with the Board.

21-219 **LIVINGSTON: Moves that the accounts payable cheque lists for the period ending August 30, 2021, beginning, and ending with cheques #132057 to #132142 and automated payments for the period ending August 30, 2021, beginning and ending with #800020602 to #800020708 and manual cheques issued #700001162 to #700001172 be received for information.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- August 31, 2021 Cash Flow Statement

21-220 **MARRIOTT: Moves that the Board accept the August 31, 2021 Cash Flow Statement for information.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- Renewal ATB Borrowing Resolution

21-221 **KING: Moves that the Board approve the renewal of the borrowing resolution with ATB Financial in the amount of \$500,000 for current operational expenditures.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- School Generated Funds Clandonald

Secretary Treasurer Altaf told the Board that there are funds remaining in the School Generated Funds account for the now closed Clandonald School and recommended that the remaining funds be invested in a trust for a scholarship for graduating Clandonald Students.

21-222 **KING: Moves that the remaining funds from the Clandonald School Generated Funds account be dispersed by scholarship for the students of Clandonald criteria to be determined by a committee including Senior Administration.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**2. Transportation:**

- Letter from L. Anderson re; Long Ride Times
- Letter from S. Treffiak re; Concern about Long Ride Times and Masks
- Providing Masks/PPE for Students
- Additional 2021-2022 Boundary Exemption & Cross Jurisdiction Requests:

- Letter from L. Anderson re; Long Ride Times

The information was shared with the Board.

**2. Transportation Cont.:**

- Letter from S. Treffiak re; Concern about Long Ride Times and Masks

The information was shared with the Board.

- Providing Masks/PPE for Students

Contractors are giving masks to children without a mask to comply with the Provincial mandate however there is no funding.

There is a behavior process in place and direction was given to work with the school principals.

- Additional 2021-2022 Boundary Exemption & Cross Jurisdiction Requests:

- Sware/Opanavicius-Hanson HUG to STA (SOC)

21-223 LIVINGSTON: Moves that the cross-jurisdiction (non-resident) boundary exemption request from the Sware/Opanavicius-Hanson family residing at TWP 410 RR43 for bussing to their school of choice, St Thomas Aquinas, be approved for the 2021-2022 school year.

DEFEATED

- Briggs/Broadhurst

A letter from the MLA was reviewed.

21-224 SPORNITZ: Moves that the cross-jurisdiction (non-resident) boundary exemption request from the Briggs/Broadhurst family residing at NE 14 44 SW4 for bussing to their school of choice Edgerton School, be approved for the 2021-2022 school year. The family to be included on the south bus route.

CARRIED

21-225 EDDLESTON: I move to reconsider Motion 21-224 for the Briggs/Broadhurst bussing exemption. I voted in favor of the motion.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

There was further discussion for clarity of the route.

21-226 SPORNITZ: Moves that the cross-jurisdiction (non-resident) boundary exemption request from the Briggs/Broadhurst family residing at NE 14 44 SW4 for bussing to their school of choice Edgerton School, be approved for the 2021-2022 school year. The family to be included on the south route as a stop.

DEFEATED

Appeals;

- Anderson Mannville (SOC) Innisfree (D)

**21-227 GORNIAK: Moves that appeal request for the off-route boundary exemption request from the Anderson family residing at NW 5-50-10-W4 for bussing to their school of choice, Mannville, be approved for the 2021-2022 school year.**

**CARRIED**

- Broadhead Mannville (SOC) Innisfree (D)

**21-228 GORNIAK: Moves that the appeal request for the off-route boundary exemption request from the Broadhead family residing at SE 21-50-10-W4 for bussing to their school of choice, Mannville School, be approved for the 2021-2022 school year.**

**CARRIED**

**3. Policy:**

- Policy Meeting Minutes: September 7, 2021
- The Policy Committee Recommends the Board to Receive the Following Administrative Procedures, as Amended for Information:
  - o 203.1AP Administration of Medication/Medical Assistance to Students
  - o 402.5AP Teacher Professional Growth, Supervision and Evaluation
  - o NEW AP Leadership Growth, Supervision and Evaluation
  - o 402.12AP Staff Remediation
  - o NEW AP Events Protocol
  - o 503.1AP Exhibit 3 - BTPS Acceptable Activities List
  - o 302.9AP Exhibit 2 Field Trip High Risk and Excluded Activities
  - o 602.5AP Purchasing
- 102BP Board Committees, Joint Transportation Committee Terms of Reference

Trustee Isaman left the meeting at 2:50 PM.

- Policy Meeting Minutes: September 7, 2021

**21-229 KING: Moves that the Board receive the minutes of the Policy Committee meeting held September 7, 2021.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- The Policy Committee Recommends the Board to Receive the Following Administrative Procedures, as Amended for Information:
  - o 203.1AP Administration of Medication/Medical Assistance to Students

**21-230 SPORNITZ: Moves that the Board receive 203,1AP, Administration of Medication/Medical Assistance to Students as amended for information.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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**3. Policy Cont.:**

- o 402.5AP Teacher Professional Growth, Supervision and Evaluation

21-231 **MARRIOTT: Moves that the Board receive 402.5AP Teacher Professional Growth, Supervision and Evaluation, as amended for information.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- o NEW AP Leadership Growth, Supervision and Evaluation

21-232 **GORNIAK: Moves that the Board receive new AP Leadership Growth, Supervision and Evaluation, as amended for information.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- o 402.12AP Staff Remediation

21-233 **PARR: Moves that the Board receive 402.12AP, Staff Remediation, as amended for information.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- o NEW AP Events Protocols

21-234 **SPORNITZ: Moves that the Board receive new Administrative Procedure, Events Protocols, as amended for information.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Trustee Isaman rejoined the meeting at 3:30pm.

- o 503.1AP Exhibit 3 - BTPS Acceptable Activities List

21-235 **GORNIAK: Moves that the Board receive 503.1AP Exhibit 3 BTPS Acceptable Activities List, renamed, BTPS Acceptable Activities List for Community Use of Schools as amended for information.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- o 302.9AP Exhibit 2 Field Trip High Risk and Excluded Activities

21-236 **KING: Moves that the Board receive 302.9AP Exhibit 2 Field Trip High Risk and Excluded Activities, as amended for information.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- o 602.5AP Purchasing

21-237 **EDDLESTON: Moves that the Board receive 602.5AP Purchasing renamed to Purchasing and Purchase Authority, as amended for information.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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**3. Policy:**

- 102BP Board Committees, Joint Transportation Committee Terms of Reference

**21-238 SPORNITZ: Moves that the Board accept 102BP, Board Committees, as amended for the Joint Transportation Committee Terms of Reference to be forwarded to East Central Catholic Schools.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**G. SUPERINTENDENT'S DEPARTMENT**

**1. Superintendent's Report:**

- Enrolment Reports
- Back to School Plan
- National Truth and Reconciliation Day September 30<sup>th</sup>
- Celebration Day
- Retirement 2020-2021

- Enrolment Reports

The information was shared with the Board.

- Back to School Plan

- National Truth and Reconciliation Day September 30<sup>th</sup>

Recommending a student day of learning. Honoring and respecting Truth and Reconciliation.

**21-239 EDDLESTON: Moves that BTPS continue with plans for September 30, 2021, as a planned day of learning for students and staff and as BTPS is committed to honouring and respecting Truth and Reconciliation the Board give October 8<sup>th</sup> as a holiday for National Truth and Reconciliation Day for all staff.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**21-240 KING: Moves to rescind motion 21-206 from the August 18, 2021, minutes.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- Celebration Day

The Long Service awards will be sent to schools.

- Retirement 2020-2021

**21-241 SPORNITZ: Moves that the 2020-2021 retirement celebration be virtual with individual presentations of gifts within their schools.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**



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

- Staffing Reports
- Teacher Retirement Transition Strategy
  
- Staffing Reports

**21-242 ARCHIBALD: Moves that the Board accept the Teacher Staffing Report as presented for information.**  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**21-243 KING: Moves that the Board approve the Teacher Retirement Transition Strategy for the 2021-2022 school year.**  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**H. Business Arising from Minutes:**

The letters were reviewed.

**J. NEW BUSINESS:**

- Superintendent Evaluation
- Truth and Reconciliation
- Hardisty Update
- Email Letter to School Representatives re; Back-to-School Plan from D. Bensmiller with Multiple Persons Names of Support
- Email from T. Mitchell re; For the September 15<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting
- Tara Clarke Letter re; School Travelling Restrictions
- D. Olson Letter and Proposed Mask Exemption
- Special Use Privileges Request - Paradise Valley Ag Society Comedy Night Fundraiser Dinner
  
- Superintendent Evaluation

The Board Chair thanked the Superintendent for the incredible work over the past year.

**21-244 MARRIOTT: Moves that the Board approve the Superintendent evaluation report as developed during the evaluation workshop of September 1, 2021, as an accurate accounting of the Superintendent's performance for the period August 1, 2020 to August 31, 2021, and further, that the Board authorize the Chair to make any technical edits to sign the report on the Board's behalf.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- Truth and Reconciliation

The information was shared with the Board.

**J. NEW BUSINESS Cont.:**

- Hardisty Update

There was no update to share at this time.

- Email Letter to School Representatives re; Back-to-School Plan from D. Bensmiller with Multiple Persons Names of Support

The information was shared with the Board.

- Email from T. Mitchell re; For the September 15<sup>th</sup> Board Meeting

Postponed until after news conference scheduled for September 15, 2021, at 6:00pm.

Should a petition be presented it will need to be validated.

- Tara Clarke Letter re; School Travelling Restrictions

Postponed till after news conference scheduled for September 15, 2021, at 6:00pm.

- D. Olson Letter and Proposed Mask Exemption

The information was shared with the Board. The Superintendent reported that BTPS has a process in place.

- Special Use Privileges Request - Paradise Valley Ag Society Comedy Night Fundraiser Dinner

**21-245 EDDLESTON: Moves that the Board approve the special use privileges request from the PV and Districts Ag Society to host a fundraiser (November 26, 2021) at EH Walter School at which alcohol will be served and that all insurance obligations are satisfactory to the Board and Provincial COVID measures are met.**

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**K. TRUSTEE REPORTS:**

- ASBA - Trustee Marriott shared that Zone 2/3 meeting is this Friday.
- Synopsis of September 9, 2021, ASBA Special Board of Directors Meeting

The information was shared with the Board.

- PSBC - No report - Trustee Spornitz reported that the next gathering is the November FGM
- RCASB - Trustee Eddleston reported from the Executive Meeting that the annual membership in RCASB will be \$212.00. The next RCASB meeting will occur at the same time as the ASBA FGM and there will be an election for executive. Trustee Eddleston told the Board to

**K. TRUSTEE REPORTS Cont.:**

- RCASB Cont.

encourage the next BTPS representative to be part of the executive. Trustee Eddleston also report that the theme for Alberta Rural Education Symposium will showcase celebrations of rural communities and education.

The Board Chair thanked Trustee Eddleston for all his work on RCASB throughout the years and for advocating for rural education in the province. Trustee Eddleston responded that he had great appreciation for the work and commitments of the committee representatives.

- TEBA - No report at this time.

**L. TRUSTEE READINGS:**

- none

**M. INFORMATION ITEMS:**

The information was reviewed.

**E. IN-CAMERA:**

**21-246 LIVINGSTON: That the meeting move In-Camera.**  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

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

Senior Administration and Recording Secretary Dunne left the meeting at 5:08pm

**21-247 Spornitz: That the meeting come out of In-Camera.**  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**21-248 KING: That the board meeting recess until 20 minutes after conclusion of the Government press release scheduled for 6:00PM.**  
**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**21-249 EDDLESTON: Moves that the meeting reconvene at 7:00 PM.**

- Back to School Plan

**21-250 MARRIOTT: Moves that the Board update the back-to-school plan to align with the government announcement of September 15, 2021 that includes, but not limited to mandatory masks for grades 4-12, cohorting, no overnight trips, with the exception of when the level of sports play is beyond the jurisdiction level (for example, zones or provincials) and following AHS and ASAA guidelines approval could be granted at the discretion of the Superintendent.**

**CARRIED**

**21-251 EDDLESTON: Moves that the Board invoke a motion of censure against Trustee Gorniak. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**N. COMMUNICATION STRATEGY**

- Truth and Reconciliation Learning Day
- Celebration Day
- Revised Back to School Plan
- Last Regular Meeting of this Board
- Retirement 2020-2021

Trustee Eddleston asked for the floor as this was his last meeting. Trustee Eddleston shared a heartfelt thank you to parents at school council over the years, to the staff at Central Office, to the support staff (who truly are the heartbeat of the schools) to the bus drivers for all the endless miles on rough roads, to all the teachers taking up the challenge educate students and to the Senior Administration for your leadership. He also shared to my fellow Trustees, rural education is hard, take no easy decisions, take them head on. Lastly, he shared it has been an honor and a privilege to represent BTPS all these years.

**21-252 EDDLESTON: Moves that the meeting adjourn.**

Time: 7:19 pm hours (19:19PM)

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Board Chair

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Recording Secretary