

BUFFALO TRAIL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Wednesday, December 15, 2021

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

PRESENT:

Chair: Stephanie Spornitz

Trustees: Barry Livingston, Jim King, Kara Jackson, Jessica Kaastrup, Tanya Ford, David Bensmiller, Stephanie Cooper, and Darla Yonkman (all attended via video)

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

Absent: Nadeem Altaf, Secretary Treasurer

A. CALL TO ORDER:

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

The Board Chair shared a Treaty Acknowledgement

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Board Chair Spornitz asked for any additions to the agenda. The Board added the following items:

1. Superintendent's Report:

- Mask Exemptions
- Curriculum Update

J. NEW BUSINESS:

- Bus pick up at PPS

2. Policy:

- Calendar Guidelines - Truth and Reconciliation Day

21-307 KING: Moves that the agenda be approved as amended.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

21-308 KAASTRUP: That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held November 24, 2021, be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

D. PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS:

E. IN-CAMERA:

21-309 BENSMILLER: That the meeting move In-Camera at 9:40am.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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E. IN-CAMERA Cont.:

Superintendent Holoien, Deputy Superintendent Webb, Assistant Superintendent Trodden and Recording Secretary Dunne left the in-camera.

21-310 LIVINGSTON: That the meeting come out of In-Camera at 11:11am.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Engagement - Teaching and Learning

Assistant Superintendent Trodden welcomed students from Provost, Vermilion Elementary and Kitscoty High Schools to the student engagement. The Trustees individually introduced themselves to the students. The topic for today is Teaching and Learning. Each of the students took turns sharing their thoughts on the three questions posed for the topic; 1) How do teachers support your learning? 2) What are the parts of the learning that you enjoy most? and 3) How do you wish your learning could be supported more?

The students shared many thoughts with the Board. They were appreciative of having the freedom to learn in their own way for example on paper or on Chromebooks. One student shared the special instrument that helped her to be included in the lesson easier. Teachers make extra time for students before class, at lunch and after school. Students are encouraged to take the help. The parts they enjoy the most were making presentations, art, music, and gym. Students all felt very supported and had no suggestions on how it could be better. The Board had an opportunity to ask questions of the students and thanked them for participating today.

Assistant Superintendent Trodden took the time to explain to the Board how the student engagement topics align with the assurance model.

21-311 BENSMILLER: That the meeting move In-Camera at 11:50am.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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

21-312 BENSMILLER: That the meeting come out of In-Camera as 12:25pm.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

21-313 KING: That the board meeting recess for lunch.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The meeting reconvened at 1:01 p.m. in the Boardroom with all Trustees in attendance virtually.

F. COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

1. Finance:

- Cheque Lists Dated; November 30, 2021
- Accounts Payable Cheque Lists Dated; November 18,19,25,26,30,2021
- Manual Cheques Issued Dated: November 19 to December 3, 2021
- November 30,2021 Cash Flow Statement

Assistant Treasurer Locher reviewed the cheque lists with the Board.

21-314 LIVINGSTON: Moves that the accounts payable cheque lists for the period ending November 30, 2021, beginning, and ending with cheques #132614 to #132696 and automated payments for the period ending November 30, 2021, beginning and ending with #800021099 to #800021186 and manual cheques issued #700001223 to #700001238 be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- November 30, 2021 Cash Flow Statement

21-315 KING: Moves that the Board accept the November 30, 2021 Cash Flow Statement for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Policy:

- Policy Committee Minutes: December 1, 2021
- The Policy Committee Recommends to Receive the Following Administrative Procedures for Information:
 - o 302.1AP BTPS School Calendar Guidelines
 - o 403.1AP Long Service Recognition
 - o 802.1AP Exhibit 1 Indicators for Review
 - o 602.12AP Fundraising
 - o 701.12AP Jurisdictional Bus Cancellations
- Policy Committee Minutes: December 1, 2021

21-316 KAASTRUP: Moves that the Board receive the minutes of the Policy Committee meeting held December 1, 2021.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- The Policy Committee Recommends to Receive the Following Administrative Procedures for Information:
 - o 302.1AP BTPS School Calendar Guidelines

There was a question regarding an in school recognition of Truth and Reconciliation Day rather than a holiday. This would be very costly to the division.

21-317 SPORNITZ: Moves that the Board receive 302.1AP, BTPS School Calendar Guidelines, as amended, for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. Policy Cont.:

- o 403.1AP Long Service Recognition

21-318 **COOPER: Moves that the Board receive 403.1AP, Long Service Recognition, as amended, for information.**
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- o 802.1AP Exhibit 1 Indicators for Review

21-319 **FORD: Moves that the Board receive 802.1AP Exhibit 1, Indicators for Review, as amended, for information.**
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- o 602.12AP Fundraising

21-320 **JACKSON: Moves that the Board receive 602.12AP, Fundraising, as amended, for information.**
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- o 701.12AP Jurisdictional Bus Cancellations

21-321 **LIVINGSTON: Moves that the Board receive 701.12AP, Jurisdictional Bus Cancellations, as amended, for information.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

G. SUPERINTENDENT'S DEPARTMENT

1. Superintendent's Report:

- Enrolment Reports
- March Recommendation
- CBO Insurance Rates Recommendation
- Read Aloud Video
- Communication Update
- Curriculum Update (Addition from the Board)
- Mask Exemptions (Addition from the Board)

- Enrolment Reports

The information was shared with the Board.

- March Recommendation

The Superintendent shared that COVID continues to be very challenging for staff and is recommending a wellness break. Bussing will not be impacted for other jurisdictions.

21-322 **BENSMILLER: Moves that the Board support the Superintendent's recommendation to provide two days March 4th and 7th, 2022, as wellness days for all BTPS staff.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

1. Superintendent's Report Cont.:

- CBO Insurance Rates Recommendation

There was a discussion regarding bus insurance rates throughout the province. ASBA and PSBA are advocating with government on behalf of Bus Contractors.

21-323 KING: Moves that the Board support the recommendation from the Transportation Director for a one-time payment to the 2020-2021 bus contractors to offset insurance costs in the amount of \$250.00 per each bus.

Trustee Bensmiller abstained from the vote.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Read Aloud Video

The information was shared with the Board.

- Communication Update

The information was shared with the Board.

- Curriculum Update (Addition from the Board)

The Superintendent told the Board that the Minister of Education announced a slowdown of the roll out of the K-6 Curriculum. BTPS will now host the previously planned curriculum engagement on January 5, 2022.

- Mask Exemptions (addition from the Board)

The Superintendent explained that any mask exemptions follow the CMOH health order as it is the law not a BTPS policy or procedure. BTPS works with the schools and parents to implement any mask exemption.

There was further discussion and several questions regarding mask exemptions and the accommodations made for students.

Direction was given to bring back information to the Board in January regarding the mask exemption process and the back to school plan.

2. Deputy Superintendent's Report:

- School Calendar Update

Deputy Superintendent Webb told the Board that the 2022-2023 draft calendar will be brought forward at the January meeting.

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3. Assistant Superintendent Report:

- Locally Developed Course

21-324 **LIVINGSTON: Moves that the Board approve the Locally Developed Course Math 15 for 3 credits and Math 15 for 5 credits to be taught in BTPS schools.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

H. Business Arising from Minutes:

- none

J. NEW BUSINESS:

- CVR Municipal School Reserve Request re; Correction of Motion #19-149
- CVR Request to Remove Municipal School Reserve Status on a Lot in Dewberry
- Bus Pick Up at Provost School (Addition from the Board)

- CVR Municipal School Reserve Request re; Correction of Motion #19-149

21-325 **YONKMAN: I move to amend motion #19-149 to change the words Lot 14 to Lot 15, the motion to now read 'Moves that the Board approve the request from the Village of Dewberry, for the release of the MSR designation for Plan 8021410, Block 13, Lot 2 MSR and Plan 8122800, Block 7, Lot 15 MSR (school reserve), provided it is done at no cost to the Board of Trustees of Buffalo Trail Public Schools and with the understanding that cash in lieu of SR will be placed in reserves for future development of other MR/MSR spaces within the Village.'**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- CVR Request to Remove Municipal School Reserve Status on a Lot in Dewberry

21-326 **BENSMILLER: Moves that the Board approve the request from the County of Vermilion River for the removal of the Municipal School Reserve designation for lot 1MSR-13-8021410, provided it is done at no cost to the Board of Trustees of Buffalo Trail Public Schools and with the understanding that the cash in lieu of school reserves will be placed in reserves for future.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Bus Pick Up Provost School (addition by the Board)

The new school at STA has a new bus loop this seems to be causing major traffic congestion at PPS and student safety is a concern. Information will be brought back to the Board.

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- Insurance and Covid Mitigation (addition by the Board)

21-327 KAASTRUP: Moves that the Board pursue a second legal opinion on COVID mitigation from one of the lawyers presented during the in-camera session.

Trustee Bensmiller requested a recorded vote.

In Favor: COOPER, SPORNITZ, KING, KAASTRUP

**Opposed: YONKMAN, BENSMILLER, JACKSON, FORD, LIVINGSTON
DEFEATED**

K. TRUSTEE REPORTS:

- ASBA - Trustee Yonkman reported that there was an update on government funding supports for students. She heard that the Alberta Education grants increased by 14 million in support of student wellness. The ASBA advocacy will be on curriculum and mental health.
- PSBAA - The PSBA Advocacy is also on curriculum and mental health support. The next meeting is in February.
- TEBA - No report.
- RCASB - The RCASB meeting is December 16, 2021

L. TRUSTEE READINGS:

The information was shared with the Board. Several books were recommended.

M. INFORMATION ITEMS:

The information was reviewed.

N. COMMUNICATION STRATEGY

- Locally Developed Course
- Christmas Wishes
- Bus Drivers Insurance Subsidy
- Administrative Procedure Amendments
- Curriculum Engagement January 5, 2022
- March Wellness Days

AGENDA Items for Next Meeting

- BTPS Back to School Plan and Health Order of Mask Exemption
- Innisfree Sustainability Committee Update

Board Work Plan Items for the Next Board Meeting

- Committee of the Whole Meeting
- Board Meeting

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Public Schools

21-328 YONKMAN: Moves that the meeting adjourn.

Time: 2:52 pm hours (14:52PM)

Board Chair

Recording Secretary