

BUFFALO TRAIL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Wednesday, January 19, 2022

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Buffalo Trail Public Schools was held in the Administration Building Boardroom on Wednesday, January 19, 2022.

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, Nadeem Altaf, Secretary Treasurer and Faye Dunne, Recording Secretary

Absent:

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.

- none

22-001 KING: Moves that the agenda be approved as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

22-002 YONKMAN: That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held December 15, 2021, be accepted as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

E. IN-CAMERA:

22-003 LIVINGSTON: That the meeting move In-Camera at 9:36am.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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

Deputy Superintendent Webb, Assistant Superintendent Trodden, Secretary Treasurer Altaf and Recording Secretary Dunne left the In-Camera at 10:20am.

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22-004 BENS MILLER: That the meeting come out of In-Camera at 10:57 am.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Engagement - Use of Technology to Support Learning

Assistant Superintendent Trodden welcomed students from Mannville, Dr. Folkins and Wainwright High Schools and introduced himself. The Board Chair introduced herself and the rest of the Board and senior administration introduced themselves to the students.

Assistant Superintendent Trodden posed 3 questions to each school on the topic, 1) How is technology supporting your learning? 2) How does Seesaw and Hapara support your learning? 3) What else would you like to see to support your learning?

Students shared that technology in their school helps with assignments, makes it easy and accessible to jump to online learning and organize school projects, Hapara helps organize learning and it would be nice to use technology for photography, robotics, or more advanced coding. The Board had an opportunity to ask questions and thank the students for participating.

The Assistant Superintendent thanked the students and told the Board that technology use is in the assurance model and that the student engagement helps guide us with great information that goes forward to school leadership.

F. COMMITTEE/DEPARTMENT REPORTS:

1. Finance:

- Cheque Lists Dated; December 2,15,17, 2021 January 14, 2022
- Accounts Payable Cheque Lists Dated; December 15,17,23,2021 January 1, 14, 2022
- Manual Cheques Issued Dated: December 3, 2021 to January 11, 2022
- December 31, 2021 Cash Flow Statement
- Lotteries and Gaming Update from December Board Question
 - o AGLC Charitable Gaming Policies Handbook
 - o Eligibility for Raffle License
 - o Guidelines re; Education Use of Proceeds
- Provost Busing Update from December Board Question
- Budget Information Session

Secretary Treasurer Altaf reviewed the cheque lists with the Board.

22-005 LIVINGSTON: Moves that the accounts payable cheque lists for the period ending January 14, 2022, beginning, and ending with cheques #132697 to #132927 and automated payments for the period ending January 14,2022 beginning and ending with #800021187 to #800021372 and manual cheques issued #700001239 to #700001259 be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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1. Finance Cont.:

- December 31, 2021 Cash Flow Statement

22-006 KING: Moves that the Board accept the December 31, 2021 Cash Flow Statement for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Lotteries and Gaming Update from December Board Question
 - o AGLC Charitable Gaming Policies Handbook
 - o Eligibility for Raffle License
 - o Guidelines re; Education Use of Proceeds

The information was shared with the Board.

- Provost Busing Update from December Board Question

The information was shared with the Board. There is work being done at the school level to educate the students on safety in the bussing area.

- Budget Information Session

The Secretary Treasurer provided an executive summary of budget funding. He told the Board that the BTPS funding comes from Alberta Education and goes to 5 main categories. With the new funding framework funds are received based on the weighted moving average calculation. This funding framework was implemented to provide boards more predictability in planning and the budget processes, to reduce midyear adjustments and to better align the school year and government fiscal year. Funding is determined by Alberta Education and must be spent on the programs they are set for. The Board had an opportunity to ask questions for further understanding.

22-007 KING: That the board meeting recess for lunch.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

The meeting reconvened at 12:40 p.m. in the Boardroom with all Trustees in attendance virtually.

2. Audit Committee:

- Audit Committee Minutes: January 5, 2022
- Audit Committee Recommendations for the Public Communication Plan
- Thank you Letters to the Audit Committee Public Members

- Audit Committee Minutes: January 5, 2022

22-008 BENSMILLER: Moves that the Board receive the minutes of the Audit Committee meeting held January 5, 2022.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

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2. Audit Committee Cont.:

- Audit Committee Recommendations for the Public Communication Plan

Thank you to the committee and the summary of points.

22-009 SPORNITZ: Moves that the Board send out the communication plan as developed by the Audit Committee. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Thank you Letters to the Audit Committee Public Members and thank you to Nadeem.

22-010 KING: Moves that the Board send thank you letters to Grant Mills and Bernie Huedepohl for participating in the BTPS Audit Committee. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

G. SUPERINTENDENT'S DEPARTMENT

1. Superintendent's Report:

- Enrolment Reports
- BTPS January Media Release - BTPS Returns in 2022
- BTPS Plans 2022 - Interview with Prime Time Local News Lloydminster
- Introduction of New Director of Transportation Video
- Back to School Plan Update 2021-2022

- Enrolment Reports

The information was shared with the Board.

- BTPS January Media Release - BTPS Returns in 2022

The information was shared with the Board.

- BTPS Plans 2022 - Interview with Prime Time Local News Lloydminster

The information was shared with the Board.

- Introduction of New Director of Transportation Video

New Director Garth Rapson was introduced to the division via video.

J. NEW BUSINESS:

- Thank you Letter to MLA Jackie Armstrong-Homeniuk

Direction was given to send a thank you letter to the MLA.

M. INFORMATION ITEMS:

The information was reviewed.

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D. PETITIONS AND DELEGATIONS:

- Amy Eyben K-3 Masks

Board Chair Spornitz and the Board members introduced themselves and the Board Chair reviewed the delegation information.

Amy Eyben, as well as other parents, Brandi Suva, Tracy Mitchell, Tara Anderson, and Jill Applegate along with a few students shared information with the Board regarding K-3 masks, masking on the bus and medical mask exemptions. Ms. Eyben was here to request that the Board defer to minimum requirements for masks of K-3 students.

The Board Chair thanked the parents for sharing their information with the Board.

1. Superintendent's Report Cont.:

- Back to School Plan Update 2021-2022

The Superintendent shared background information with the Board on the back-to-school plan starting from the August 2021 to date. The government 'Guidance for Schools (K-12) and School Buses' was updated in January 2022 prior to schools reopening January 10, 2022. Prior to the reopening senior administration and school leadership worked to operationalize provincial guidelines and the Health Order. The Board Chair thanked the Superintendent and the BTPS team for reviewing and updating the Back-to-School plan. The Board had an opportunity to ask questions.

22-011 LIVINGSTON: Moves that the Board amend the current back to school plan update to omit the words in #7 that masks will be mandatory for 14 days when there is a positive case in the schools.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

22-012 KING: Moves that the Board further amend the wording in number 7 of the back to school plan update to include that if there is a positive case in the school, masks will be mandatory for K- 3 Students for 5 days.

CARRIED

22-013 SPORNITZ: I move to reconsider Motion #22-012 regarding mandatory masks for K-3 for 5 days when there is a positive case in the school. I voted in favor of the motion.

Vice Chair Yonkman called the question.

CARRIED

1. Superintendent's Report Cont.:

- 22-014 **KING: Moves that the Board further amend the wording in number 7 of the back to school plan to include that if there is a positive case in the school, masks will be mandatory for K- 3 Students for 5 days.**

DEFEATED

- 22-015 **YONKMAN: Moves that the Board support the updated back to school plan 2021-2022 as amended.**

CARRIED

2. Deputy Superintendent's Report:

- Draft 2022-2023 School Calendar

- 22-016 **LIVINGSTON: Moves that the Board receive the 2022-2023 school calendar as presented using the calendar guidelines developed with the 2021-2022 Calendar Guidelines Ad Hoc Committee.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

3. Assistant Superintendent Report:

- Overview of Curriculum Implementation Plans
 - o Past Activities - Assistant Superintendent Trodden shared some of the history regarding the 2020 release of the new K-6 curriculum that was set for implementation in the fall of 2022-2023. Currently, only ELA, Math, Physical Education and Financial Literacy is to be rolled out. There remains some challenges toward implementation such as funding and resources. Senior Administration and school leadership is working to prepare teachers for the implementation.
 - o Next Steps - The Assistant Superintendent told the Board that BTPS will continue to collaborate with Alberta Education as they implement the new curriculum subjects.

H. Business Arising from Minutes:

The information was shared with the Board.

J. NEW BUSINESS Cont.:

- Students Online Cash in Lieu Request
- Thank you Letter to MLA Jackie Armstrong-Homeniuk
- Board Accountability

- Students Online Cash in Lieu Request

- 22-017 **YONKMAN: Moves that the Board endorse the application from Students Online School for Cash in Lieu of Reserve Funds to be forwarded to the County of Vermilion River for review and approval.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

J. NEW BUSINESS Cont.:

- Board Accountability

Trustee Kaastrup restated information that the Board had already received from legal advice and the BTPS insurer. Both recommended the implementation of COVID-19 mitigation to protect from personal liability and risk to the division.

- 22-018 KAASTRUP: Moves that the Board acknowledge, as per Buffalo Trail Public School legal counsel advice and insurance provider statement, that we are currently operating without insurance in relation to any COVID 19 litigation and that trustees are accepting the financial risk this poses to themselves, our executive leadership team and the BTPS school division.**

REFERRED TO COMMITTEE

- 22-019 KING: Moves that the Board refer motion 22-018 and form an Ad Hoc Committee to further research and bring back information to the Board.**

CARRIED

Trustees Kaastrup, Livingston and Cooper volunteered to join the committee and asked for Superintendent Holoien to join as well.

K. TRUSTEE REPORTS:

- ASBA - Trustee Yonkman provided an update that the next Zone 2/3 meeting is Feb 25th, 2022.
- PSBAA - Trustee Yonkman shared that the next PSBC meeting is Feb 10 and 11th, 2022.
- TEBA - Board Chair Spornitz shared that TEBA meetings are ongoing, and that central bargaining is continuing for the next contracts.
- RCASB - Trustee King shared that at the Dec 16th meeting there was election of new executive members and new committees were struck. The RCASB Chair is Sherry Cooper, the Vice Chair is Brad Toone, 1st Director is Tammy Henkle, 2nd Director, Dwight Weibe, and 3rd Director Phil Irwin.
- Innisfree Sustainability Committee Update - Trustee Jackson told the Board that a school committee with parents has formed looking into different learning for students with the hope of increased enrolment in the future. The committee is looking for support. Trustee Jackson shared a thank you to Lisa Anderson, one of the parents, for initiating the committee.

L. TRUSTEE READINGS:

N. COMMUNICATION STRATEGY

- Back to School Plan Update
- Student Engagement
- 2022-2023 Calendar
- Audit Committee Communication Plan
- Work on New Curriculum

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Board Chair Spornitz thanked the Board for all of its work and participation in the meeting.

AGENDA Items for Next Meeting

- None noted

Board Work Plan Items for the Next Board Meeting

- Committee of the Whole Meeting
- Board Meeting
- Teacher/Staff Appreciation
- Preliminary Enrollment Figures (Semester Two)
- Semester Suspension Report
- Review of Spring Stakeholder Engagement Timeline

22-020 LIVINGSTON: Moves that the meeting adjourn.

Time: 5:20 pm hours (17:20PM)

Board Chair

Recording Secretary