

BUFFALO TRAIL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Wednesday, April 16, 2025

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Buffalo Trail Public Schools was held in the Administration Building Boardroom on Wednesday, April 16, 2025.

PRESENT:

Vice Chair: Tanya Ford

Trustees: Stephanie Spornitz, Jim King, Arthur Block, Stephanie Cooper

Administration: Michelle Webb, Superintendent, Peter Neale, Secretary Treasurer, Assistant Superintendent Camille Quinton, Assistant Superintendent James Trodden and Recording Secretary Faye Dunne

Absent: Darla Yonkman, David Bensmiller, Kara Jackson

A. CALL TO ORDER:

Vice Chair Ford called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M. and shared a Treaty Acknowledgement.

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Vice Chair Ford asked for any emergent additions to the agenda.

- None

25-055 COOPER: Moves that the agenda be approved as presented.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

25-056 SPORNITZ: That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held March 19, 2025, be accepted as presented.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

25-057 BLOCK: That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held April 2, 2025, be accepted as presented.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

D. Petitions and Delegations
- none

E. IN-CAMERA:

25-058 KING: That the meeting move In-Camera at 9:33 AM.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Secretary Treasurer Neale, Assistant Superintendents Quinton and Trodden and Recording Secretary Dunne were in attendance.

Assistant Superintendent Trodden left the meeting at 10:07 AM.

E. IN-CAMERA Cont.:

Trustee Spornitz out at 10:17 AM rejoined at 10:19
Assistant Superintendent Quinton and Recording
Secretary Dunne left the meeting at 10:21 AM

**25-059 BLOCK: That the meeting come out of In-Camera at 10:27
A.M. CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Assistant Superintendents Quinton and Trodden and
Recording Secretary Dunne rejoined the meeting at 10:29
AM.

F. SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS:

- Leadership Highlights and Celebrations
- Council of School Councils Review
- Stakeholder Engagements - What We Heard

- Leadership Highlights and Celebrations

The Superintendent shared the leadership information
that included collaborative work on staffing and
budgets, along with addressing emerging challenges. She
shared celebrations from schools that included VES
Choral Speech superior rating and moving to
provincials, Irma School hosting students for badminton
southern area and the JR Robson Career Fair that hosted
21 post-secondary institutes at the school for students
in the division. She also shared that staff from 5 BTPS
schools took part in the professional development
'Thinking Classrooms'.

- Council of School Councils Review

**25-060 SPORNITZ: That the Board of Trustees approve the
continuation and support of the Council of School
Councils initiative for the 2025-2026 school year.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

- Stakeholder Engagements - What We Heard

**25-061 COOPER: That the Board of Trustees of Buffalo Trail
Public Schools receive the Stakeholder Engagement "What
We Heard" report for information.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

2. Secretary Treasurer Report:

- Accounts Payable:
 - oCheque Lists Dated: March 28, 2025
 - oAutomated Payments Dated: March 14, 21, 25, 26, 28,
2025
 - oManual Cheques Issued Dated: March 14 to April 3,
2025
- March 31, 2025 Cash Flow Statement
- Quarterly Budget
- Governance Services Budget for Approval
- Transportation Amalgamation Considerations
- Cross-Boundary and School of Choice Fee
Consideration
- Bus Contractor Compensation 2025-2026
- Division Fees Approval

2. Secretary Treasurer Report Cont.:

- Accounts Payable:
 - o Cheque Lists Dated: March 28, 2025
 - o Automated Payments Dated: March 14, 21, 25, 26, 28, 2025
 - o Manual Cheques Issued Dated: March 14 to April 3, 2025

The Board had an opportunity to ask any questions regarding the accounts payable information that was presented.

25-062 KING: Moves that the accounts payable cheque lists for the period ending March 28, 2025 beginning and ending with cheques #139298 to #139342 and automated payments for the period ending March 28, beginning, and ending with #800027651 to #800027748 and manual cheques issued #700001817 to #700001832 be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- March 31, 2025 Cash Flow Statement

25-063 BLOCK: Moves that the Board accept the March 31, 2025 Cash Flow Statement for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Quarterly Budget

25-064 COOPER: That the Board accepts the second quarter report (ending February 28, 2025) budget information as presented at the April Committee of the Whole meeting on April 9, 2025.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Governance Services Budget for Approval

25-065 BLOCK: That the Board of Trustees hereby approves the Governance Services budget for the 2025-2026 PROJECTED budget at \$375,000.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Director of Transportation Rapson, joined the meeting at 10:59AM

- Transportation Amalgamation Considerations

25-066 COOPER: That the Board of Trustees, in accordance with Administrative Procedure 701.15, Bus Route Amalgamation, receives as information the report from the Superintendent on the amalgamation of two bus routes (PR-22 and PR-33) and supports the inclusion of the amalgamation of routes for the 2025-2026 PROJECTED budget.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Cross-Boundary and School of Choice Fee Consideration

Information from Alberta Education was reviewed. Several options were reviewed. There was a generative conversation.

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25-067 BLOCK: That the Board of Trustees accepts the information report on residence school of choice busing provided by the Superintendent on April 16, 2025.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Direction was given to add school of choice bussing to the May Committee of the Whole agenda.

Transportation Director Rapson left the meeting at 11:12AM

- Bus Contractor Compensation 2025-2026

25-068 COOPER: That the Board of Trustees accepts as information the report on bus contractor compensation for 2025-2026 provided by the Superintendent and supports including the consideration in the 2025-2026 PROJECTED budget.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Division Fees Approval

25-069 SPORNITZ: That the Board of Trustees hereby approves the Division fees for 2025-2026 as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

25-070 KING: That the Board of Trustees hereby accepts as information the Transportation fees for 2025-2026 as presented.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Student Engagement - CTS at Lakeland College

Secretary Treasurer Neale left the meeting at 11:21AM

Vice Chair Ford welcomed students from Irma, JR Robson and Kitscoty High schools to the student engagement and there was a round of introductions. Students were asked the following questions 1) Please share some examples of your experiences with CTS at Lakeland 2) How has this facility and the instructors helped create great learning? 3) What advice would you give to future students considering taking these courses? The high school students provided their examples and thoughts on each question. The students shared examples from a wide range of dual credit courses they have taken, including mechanic, electrician, esthetics, and psychology. Overall, they felt that the Lakeland College experience was a great introduction into post-secondary. The atmosphere was welcoming and it was easy to learn. The courses gave some students the answer of what they want to do in their future, and in some cases ruled out a course they were considering. All students expressed that overall, their experiences were positive. The Board had an opportunity for questions. The Board thanked the students for their participation and for taking time to meet and share their thoughts.

Secretary Treasurer Neale rejoined the meeting at 11:27AM

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Assistant Superintendent Trodden shared additional information on the psychology course.

G. COMMITTEE REPORTS

H. Business Arising from Minutes:

- none

Assistant Superintendents Quinton and Trodden left the meeting at 11:45AM

I. NEW BUSINESS:

- Letter from the County of Vermilion River re; Request to Meet
- International Field Trip Request - Delnorte and Mannville - Ireland and Scotland 2027
- Bill 51 Update
- Amisk and Hughenden School Council - Capital Plan Update
- Municipalities Capital Plan Update
- Edgerton Parent Advocacy for Community Enrichment Letter re; CTS Room Request

- Letter from the County of Vermilion River re; Request to Meet

25-071 **COOPER: That the Board of Trustees write a letter to the County of Vermilion River to acknowledge their request to meet and invite them to attend as a delegation at a BTPS board meeting. Alternately, the Board is looking forward to hosting all Mayors and Reeves after the municipal election and would invite them to attend for introductions and conversation on key concerns.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- International Field Trip Request - Delnorte and Mannville - Ireland and Scotland 2027

25-072 **KING: That the Board of Trustees approve the international field trip request for Delnorte and Mannville Schools to travel to Ireland and Scotland during Easter Break 2027 as outlined in their proposal, provided the trip is not subject to a Government of Canada travel advisory above 'Take Normal Security Precautions', adheres to Board Policy and Administrative Procedures, the tour company providing satisfactory supervision, and all legal obligations are satisfactory to the Board.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Superintendent Webb shared information regarding a communication to schools regarding community trips.

- Bill 51 Update

The Board had an opportunity for a generative conversation regarding the information. There are many unknowns regarding Bill 51 at this time.

- Amisk and Hughenden School Council - Capital Plan Update

25-073 BLOCK: That the Board of Trustees write a letter to the Amisk and Hughenden School Councils with a Capital Plan update.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Municipalities Capital Plan Update

25-074 KING: That the Board of Trustees write letters to the municipalities in the jurisdiction to share the BTPS Capital Plan 2024-2027.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Edgerton Parent Advocacy for Community Enrichment Letter re; CTS Room Request

25-075 SPORNITZ: That the Board of Trustees invite the Parent Advocacy for Community Enrichment group from Edgerton to attend a Board meeting as a delegation at a mutual agreed time to further understand the request and options for the CTS space.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

J. TRUSTEE REPORTS:

- ASBA - Trustee Spornitz shared an update from ASBA Zone 2/3. The roundtable discussions included classroom complexity, accommodations for ASBA and ASBA learning modules around negotiating. She told the Board that the ASBA Budget review is a big topic that will come forward in May. Highlights of the budget information were shared.
- PSBAA/PSBC - Trustee Cooper shared information from the quarterly PSBC meeting and 4 professional development sessions she attended. One of the presentations was called 'What is Sharenting.' This was quite an interesting session and talked about parents that share images on social media and how deleting items after 2 years is recommended. Another session, 'Don't Meth with Us' was brought to a school division from the local rotary club. This is a free program for grade 5 students.
- RCASB - No report
- TEBA - There was no update.

K. INFORMATION ITEMS:

Vice Chair Ford reviewed the information items with the Board.

L. COMMUNICATION STRATEGY:

- Continuation of Council of School Councils Initiative
- Stakeholder Engagement - What we Heard
- Student Engagement
- School Fees 2025-2026 (no change)

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meeting of The Board of Trustees of Buffalo Trail
Public Schools

AGENDA Items for Next Meeting
- None

25-076 KING: Moves that the meeting adjourn.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Time: 12:39 P.M. hours (12:39 p.m.)

Board Chair

Recording Secretary