

THE WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION
FRENCH IMMERSION ADVISORY COMMITTEE
SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS – Thursday, May 10, 2018

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

As there were three voting representatives in attendance and seven were required to form a quorum, the parent representatives agreed to proceed with an informal meeting.

2. 2018/2019 FINAL BUDGET

Committee members received an overview of the budget for the 2018/2019 school year.

The final budget approved by the Board of Trustees includes expenditures of \$410,984,800 for the fiscal period July 1, 2018 to June 30, 2019.

Complying with direction from the Provincial government, the Board approved a 2% increase to the special requirement resulting in a 3.3%, or \$45 a year, increase on property taxes for taxpayers within WSD boundaries. This is based on the average assessed value of \$214,200 on a home in WSD.

Committee members were informed that this year's funding for the International Education Program and the Swimming Counts program and workplace safety enhancements were approved by the Board.

Committee members were informed that several items proposed for consultation as options for cost reductions such as the School Resource Officer Program and Kindergarten program will continue due to support.

In addition, the budget is addressing needs identified for building maintenance and accessibility articulated in the *WSD Building Systems Assessment Report*. Deferred maintenance in the form of building systems exceeding their useful life and capital improvements represents a budgeted deficiency of about \$261 million, 75.5% of which should be supported by Public Schools Finance Board. These funding needs are assumed over a period of 30 years.

Committee members were informed that the Board approved \$1,752,900 in cost savings to achieve a balanced budget without impacting programming for students. These include \$100,000 in travel budgets and \$1,652,900 in vacancy management with savings being achieved through attrition.

Committee members were informed that WSD continues to operate as one of the leanest administration teams in the Province, while providing direction, support and service to the largest school division. WSD administrative costs equal 2.7% of total spending, below the 3% mandated limit for all large urban school divisions in the province.

Committee members were informed that as part of the Division's Strategic Priority, the administration has prepared a Financial Facts document which includes an overview on WSD, review, expectations and the financial position of the Division. WSD Financial Facts can be found at the link below:

<https://www.winnipegssd.ca/Governance/BoardReports/Pages/default.aspx>

3. SCHOOL TRUSTEE ELECTIONS

Committee members were informed that the City of Winnipeg is holding the Municipal and School Board Elections on October 24, 2018. The Winnipeg School Board is established as a corporation under the terms of the Public Schools Act of Manitoba. The WSD has nine trustees based on a nine ward system. The Boundaries of the WSD can be found on the Division's website.

<https://www.winnipegsd.ca/Governance/WardBoundariesandMaps/Pages/default.aspx>

Committee members were informed that the required qualifications for the school trustees are listed under the Public Schools Act.

Committee members were also informed that an employee of the same school board, school division or school district is disqualified from serving as a trustee unless he or she takes a leave of absence under subsection 48 of the Public Schools Act.

The Committee was informed that the City of Winnipeg Senior Election Official will be accepting Nomination Papers commencing Wednesday, September 12, 2018. During the election period, nomination papers are available from the City of Winnipeg, City Clerk's Department, Administration Building at 510 Main Street, between 8:30 a.m. and 4:30 p.m., Monday through Friday, as well as the Winnipeg School Division, 1577 Wall Street East. Nomination papers must have 25 signatures of voters whose names appear on the Voters List. Signatures must also be from residents who reside in the ward in which they are seeking election. The deadline to file is Tuesday, September 18, 2018, 4:30 p.m.

4. GREEN PURCHASING AND PROCUREMENT POLICY

Committee members were informed that at a previous meeting, the Board of Trustees approved motions requesting the administration develop a policy in relation to a Green Purchasing and Procurement policy and to refer the draft policy to District Advisory Committees for feedback prior to Board approval. In the meantime, Policy-DJA-Purchasing Authority is being currently reviewed to include a green purchasing and procurement aspect.

Committee members were provided with a copy of Policy DJA-Purchasing Authority and were encouraged to share this information with their respective school and provide feedback on policy revisions to the Board Office at board@wsd1.org.

5. POLICY KMA-COMMUNITY INVOLVEMENT IN EDUCATION

Committee members were informed that at a previous meeting, the Board of Trustees approved motions requesting that administration review and revise Policy KMA-Community Involvement in Education and that the draft policy be referred to the District Advisory Committees for feedback.

Committee members were provided with a copy of Policy KMA-Community Involvement in Education and were encouraged to share this information with their respective school and provide feedback on policy revisions to the Board Office at board@wsd1.org.

Committee members received an overview on the role of parents/guardians in the selection of school Principals and Vice-Principals.

Committee members indicated that Parent-Teacher interviews should be expanded to include Student-Led and Tri-Conferences.

Committee members indicated that in addition to updating the language in the policy, there was a preference to replace Student Discipline with Behaviour Expectations.

In response to an enquiry, Committee members were informed that there still is currently a Block Parents Association.

6. FOR INFORMATION

6.1 Security Cameras in Schools Policy

Committee members were informed that at a previous meeting, the Board of Trustees approved a motion to develop a policy in relation to security cameras in schools and that the policy be referred to District Advisory Committees for information. A copy of the Security Cameras in Schools Policy was distributed to Committee members for information.

6.2 Policy EEA-Transportation of Pupils

Committee members were informed that at a previous meeting, the Board of Trustees approved the motion that on an interim basis, Policy EEA – Transportation of Pupils be revised to include provisions for Courtesy Transportation Services and that the Board would continue its review of the Fee for Service option for possible implementation in the 2018/2019 school year.

Committee members were provided with a copy of the revised policy which includes provisions for a fee-for-service for those students who meet the criteria under the Courtesy Seat provision. The revisions also include clarification on areas deemed hazardous.

Committee members were advised that the revised policy includes a fee for service cost that would be equivalent to the new City of Winnipeg rates at \$70 per month for a student transit bus pass. The new fees would include a reduced fee of \$35 per month for each additional child effective the 2018/2019 school year.

6.3 Policy IGD-Extracurricular Activities

Committee members were informed that at a meeting held April 9, 2018, the Board of Trustees approved amendments to Policy IGD-Extracurricular Activities to be consistent with provincial curriculum, Division policies and the Manitoba High School Athletics Association. Committee members were provided with a copy of Policy IGD-Extracurricular Activities for information.

6.4 District Advisory Reports and Summaries of Discussions

Committee members were informed that at a meeting held March 5, 2018, the Board of Trustees received the French Immersion Advisory Committee Report and Summary of Discussions as information. The Summary of Discussions have been distributed to Committee members the week of March 5th.

Once reviewed by the Board, District Advisory Committee Reports and Summaries of Discussions are posted on the Division's website under the Family and Community tab.

www.winnipegsd.ca/Parents/Parent%20Council/Pages/Default.aspx

7. ENQUIRIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SCHOOL REPORTS

SCHOOL REPORTS

Parent representatives from the following schools provided a written report (attached) on school activities:

- Ecole Robert H. Smith School

IN ATTENDANCE:

Voting Representatives:

Heather Pachet, Ecole J.B. Mitchell School
Lucy Payette, Ecole Laura Secord School
Laurie Kozak, Ecole Victoria-Albert School

Administration:

Fatima Mota, Superintendent
Matt Couture, Vice-Principal, Ecole Laura Secord School
Dominique Ostermann, Vice-Principal, Ecole Robert School
Nelja Husack, Principal, Ecole Victoria-Albert School
Helena Tessier, Recording Secretary

Regrets:

Trustee Wasyliv
Trustee Broughton
College Churchill
Ecole Garden Grove School
Ecole secondaire Kelvin High School
Ecole Lansdowne
Ecole LaVerendrye
Ecole River Heights School
Ecole Riverview School
Ecole Sacre-Coeur
Ecole Sir William Osler
Ecole Stanley Knowles School

École Robert H. Smith School
French Immersion Parent Advisory Report
May 10, 2018

WSD Strategic Priorities 2017-2020

- **Students:** To provide robust and comprehensive education, equitable access, diverse opportunity and a supportive learning environment for all students to help them prepare for their journey with values of learning and social justice, and to be responsible community members.
- **Learning Outcomes:** To further improve school attendance, achievements, and graduation rates through the exploration of additional programs and strategies.
- **Addressing Barriers of Learning:** To further develop initiatives and innovative approaches addressing special needs and accessibility requirements, mental health issues, childcare needs, and nutritional needs.
- **Employees:** To retain, attract, and develop our valued staff who are dedicated to the vision, purpose, values and Principals of Learning of the Winnipeg School Division, and reflect diversity.
- **Fiscal Responsibility:** To provide responsible management of tax dollars and resources to ensure long term fiscal sustainability and accountability of the programs, facilities, and service that we provide.
- **Communications and Partnerships with Community:** To further develop communications and partnerships with the communities we serve, parents, families, government, business, health, and social service agencies, Indigenous education, other community organizations, and our valued volunteers.
- **Sustainability:** To strengthen and enhance sustainable development initiatives that address environmental, social, and economic values.

École Robert H. Smith School Priorities include:

1. Develop within students an increased knowledge, attitude and behaviour of the three pillars of Education for Sustainable Development so that students may integrate these practices into their daily lives and their learning.
 2. Students will develop an increased awareness of the seven science processes skills (classifying, observing, measuring, inferring, predicting, communicating, experimenting) in order to apply them to the learning of new knowledge in scientific studies and other related content curriculums.
 3. Students will develop a greater depth of understanding related to the principles of numeracy and literacy in order to independently engage in innovative learning opportunities.
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1. Bike Rodeo for our grade 2-4 students this week once again, where we encourage all the kids to ride their bikes to school and must be wearing a bike helmet. Students will have an assembly in the morning, then go outside, and ride through an obstacle course simulating a community with roads, intersections, etc.
 2. Concours d'art oratoire, 2 of our students won first place in the provincials for their categories; Eric D and Noah R.
 3. Everybody Has the Right Workshop at the Canadian Museum for Human Rights was attended by 12 students attending from grades 5 and 6 joining other schools in the WSD. What a productive day for our students! The day was all about Healthy Relationships.

4. Garbage Free Day last month was a huge success. We noticed a lot of our families had conversations with their children and so did the staff. Not an easy task but overall as a school we learned something valuable that day.
5. National Indigenous Week Celebrating including ESD and Roots and Shoots Successes will take place at our school on Tuesday June 19th to Friday June 22nd. A week full of valuable learning including Indigenous drumming, dancing and bringing in the Star Dome to see the celestial connections around the indigenous perspectives.
6. Run at the Ridge 2 of our students for their age category placed first; Petra S and Ania M.
7. School Planning Day 2018-2019 in April at Shelmerdines went extremely well. We had a very productive planning day focusing on our goals for next year 2018-2019. Our school goals next year will focus on numeracy, literacy and science.
8. 'Wonderful World Story' Book was a huge success. Every child from N to 6 and staff have a story that is meaningful to them in the book.
9. WSD Science, 8 of our groups did very well with two groups receiving gold, three silver, two bronze and 1 honourable mention.



'It takes a community to educate a child.'