

THE WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION

CENTRAL DISTRICT ADVISORY COMMITTEE

SUMMARY OF DISCUSSIONS – Thursday, February 23, 2017

1. APPROVAL OF AGENDA

The Committee members approved the Agenda of February 23, 2017, as distributed.

The Principal of Elmwood High school thanked the students and staff for their hospitality. Principal, Mike Babb introduced the school performers to present a song and dance for the committee. Principal Mike Babb welcomed committee members to Elmwood School and welcomed guests Member of the Legislative Assembly Wab Kinew and Member of the Legislative Assembly Matt Wiebe to the meeting.

2. 2017/2018 DRAFT BUDGET DISCUSSION

Committee members were provided with an overview of the 2017/2018 Draft Budget. Committee members were informed that Provincial funding for the Winnipeg School Division for 2017/2018 increased by \$2.6 million, or 1.4%, over the 2016/2017 Budget.

Committee members were informed that 2017/2018 provincial funding provides 62% of total revenue while 36% comes from property taxation and 2% from other sources. The total revenue from the Province is projected to be \$245,622,498.

Committee members were informed that the Board develops the budget based on the Winnipeg School Division's Strategic Plan. The plan includes providing robust and comprehensive education, equitable access, diverse opportunity and a supportive learning environment for all students. It includes retaining, attracting and developing valued staff, addressing barriers to learning, enhancing sustainable development initiatives and developing communications and partnerships with the community.

Committee members reviewed the expenditures required in the draft budget for the 2017/2018 school year. Committee members were informed that 81% of the draft budget goes directly to the cost of providing instruction and supports in the classroom. The other 19% covers costs such as student transportation, building maintenance and operations, business administration and support services related to research, planning and technology. Other mandatory expenses are Canada Pension Plan costs, Employment Insurance premiums, payroll tax and the cost of supplies, materials, books and equipment.

Committee members were informed that in order to achieve a balanced budget, the Board of Trustees have proposed three options for a school levy tax increase: A 3% increase would be equal to an annual increase of \$40, a 3.9% increase equals to a \$52 and a 4.5% increase equals to a \$60 increase on an average assessed value of a home in the Division.

Committee members were informed that the Education Property Tax Credit is currently \$700 per owner occupied home. Seniors are eligible for an additional credit and renters are also eligible for a credit through their income tax, however, this credit is under review by the current government.

Committee members were informed that in order to achieve a 3% special levy tax, Adult Crossing Guards, the Nursery Program, Library Technical Assistants, changes to the Transportation Policy and mileage expense payments would have to be significantly reduced to achieve savings.

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Committee members were informed that the Division's administration cost is at 2.7%, which is well below the provincial mandate of 3.5%.

Committee members were informed that the additional programming such as the autism early intervention team, autism assistive technology, netforce upgrading/replacement, international student program as well as various pending board items would be an enhancement to existing services.

Committee members discussed the International Student Program. Committee members were informed that although there would be a significant startup cost associated with International Student program the Division would see profits in the second or third years into the program. Committee members were informed programming would be hosted in schools that had vacant space available. The international students enrolled in the program would pay a tuition fee. Members of the community will provide lodging for the students enrolled in the international student program.

Committee members were informed that proposed reductions would result in the Nursery program cut by half and the adult crossing guards and SRO's would be eliminated completely. Committee member were informed that the Winnipeg School Division is the only Division that supports the Nursery program.

Committee members supported the phasing out of full day kindergarten program to half days so the nursery program could continue to be offered to students. Committee members were informed that the Division would not be able to fully support both programs.

Committee and Community members expressed their concern about the low turnout of the meeting. Community members were concerned that topics for discussion are important to the community and should be taken seriously. Community members described schools as being home for some children and the Winnipeg School Division needed to continue providing all the current programming and supports.

A Committee member was concerned with how the decisions are being made to select the programs to eliminate/reduce and suggested that Committee members visit schools to experience the significance of these programs and services.

Committee member expressed their ideas on many of the items presented on the Budget Information Brochure. Committee members brought forward many different options for cost savings these include charging parents a fee for the nursery program, partner with daycares to transport children to and from school, have a central meeting place for children to be picked up by bus to eliminate number of stops, setup meeting with MPI and Green Action Center to present financial impact on school division.

Committee members were informed that the proposed changes to the Division's Transportation Policy includes removing the option for fee for service and special circumstances. Committee members were informed that parents would no longer have that option to pay a fee of service for students who do not meet the mandated distance requirements. Committee members were also informed that having a central meeting place would be a small scale change and minimal savings due to many factors. Committee members were informed that daycares struggle meeting the school buses due to staff / child ratio legislation.

Committee members were informed that the Division has met with MPI and they are not able to provide financial support for the crossing guard program.

Committee members supported the School Resource Officers in schools as student safety is deemed a priority. The SRO's provide support to students in crisis and have assisted in adverting a potential crisis situation. The SRO's build solid relationships with the indigenous community and provide students, parents and community members with a sense of support and security. The SRO program is valued a great deal in schools.

Committee members were informed that in addition to budget presentations at District Advisory Committee meetings, information is available on the Division's website. A Public meeting will also be held on February 27, 2017 at Administration Building No. 1, 1577 Wall Street East at 7:00 p.m. to provide budget information to the general public and receive feedback from individuals or groups that may wish to attend as well there is a survey posted on the Division's website www.winnipegsd.org. The deadline to receive feedback regarding the budget will be received by the Board until March 6, 2017. All feedback will be considered by the Finance/Personnel Committee. The Board of Trustees will approve the budget at its meeting to be held March 13, 2017.

3. ENQUIRIES AND ANNOUNCEMENTS AND SCHOOL REPORTS

SCHOOL REPORTS

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

- École George V School
- Issac Brock School
- Sargent Park School

4. FOR INFORMATION

4.1 District Advisory Reports and Summaries of Discussions

Committee members were informed that the Board, District Advisory Committee Reports and Summaries of Discussions are posted on the Division's website under the Family and Community tab.

4.2 School's Parent Council Website

Committee members were informed that a Parent Council tab has been created on the Division's website that provides information on areas of interest such as District Advisory Committee Dates, Advisory Reports and Summaries of Discussions, information on Manitoba Association of Parent Councils as well as information the Board of Trustees may want to share with Parent Councils.

5. NEXT MEETING DATE

The next meeting of the Central District Advisory Committee will be held Thursday, May 4, 2017.

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IN ATTENDANCE:

Representatives:	Administration:
Theresa Tougas, Elmwood High School	Celia Caetano-Gomes, Superintendent of Education Services
Cara McDougall, École George V School	Julie Smerchanski, Director of Instruction & Assessment
Sabrina Lusty, École George V School	Paul Kochan, Chief Financial Officer and Secretary Treasurer
Melissa Rowman Wilson, Laura Secord	Mike Babb, Principal, Elmwood High School
Horacio Medeiros, Sargent Park School	Rhona Churman, Principal, Laura Secord School
Gerald Bork, Tec Voc High School	Rosanne Ashley, Principal, River Elm School
Marla Friesen, Wolseley School	Luba Krosney, Principal, Sargent Park School
	Suzanne Mole, Principal, Wolseley School
Alternate Representatives	Lorraine Spence, Recording Secretary
Karon Chester, École George V School	
Melissa Rempel, Laura Secord School	Trustees:
	Cathy Collins
Non-Voting/Resource Members:	Lisa Naylor
Daniel Braga, Guidance, Elmwood High School	Arlene Reid
Nathan Falk, Teacher, Elmwood High School	Kevin Freedman
Nancy Baker, Teacher, Elmwood High School	
Wab Kinew, MLA	Regrets:
Matt Wiebe, MLA	Cecil Rhodes School
Community Members	Clifton School
	Daniel McIntyre Collegiate
	Greenway School
	Isaac Brock School
	Principal Sparling School
	River Elm School
	École Sacré-Coeur



École George V School

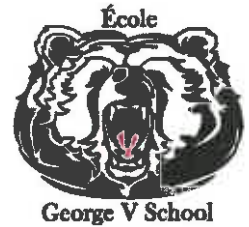
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Principal/Directeur: Manuel Silva



Report to Central District Advisory
February 2017

- École George V School's ESD Green Team, consisting of staff and students, continue to guide our school in the areas of recycling, composting and citizenship. Our school is actively involved in recycling not only regular materials found in classrooms and brought to school in lunch bags, but also recycling plastic bags. Our compost corner saw students plant and grow corn, sunflowers and squash as well as flowers. This year we are quite excited that we get to use some of our own composted soil to plant vegetables and flowers both in raised garden beds and in the ground. The community also helps us collect tabs for students in need of wheelchairs.
- This year our Music teacher has expanded his horizons and is teaching both music and art classes to all students from Grades 1 to 8. We are very excited to be able to offer a visual arts program in order to offer all children the opportunity to express and expand their creative sides.
- We continue to work hard to fundraise for a new play structure for our school and have reached just over \$10 000 raised so far. Administration will work with Parent Council to apply to the board of trustees for a one time grant of \$20 000 towards the play structure.
- French Immersion students are busy working on their oratorical presentations for our Concours d'art oratoire. This contest, sponsored by Canadian Parents for French, will see one grade 4 student, one grade 5/6 student and two grade 7/8 students represent our school at the Divisional event on March 21.
- Festival du Voyageur is alive and well as we spend the week of February 20 to 24 celebrating the Metis culture at our school. Students will be participating in a bulletin board decorating contest following a pre-set rubric of criteria. Each day will see students and staff dressing in various aspects of the Voyageur costume. The week culminates on Friday with a fun activity day and a pancake lunch for students. Hé! Hô!



WINNIPEG SCHOOL DIVISION

District Advisory Council

Isaac Brock Parent Council Report- February 23, 2017

Academic

- The Cool 2Be Kind campaign continues at Isaac Brock. Each week a new 7-Teaching was introduced and students give each other “Likes” when they see kind acts. #IBKind4Life
- Junior High Honour Roll Assembly was held December 9th recognizing academic achievement
- Junior High Interim Reports- sent out Jan. 25th
- Junior High ELA Midterms on Jan.31st
- I Love to Read Month is all of February. This includes:
 - Kick off with Ryan Price (magician) on Feb. 1
 - Guest Readers: MLA Andrew Swan, DJ Blitz, MB Opera singer Fred Simpson, Radio DJ Toby Johnson, Radio DJ Adam West, Winnipeg Jets Dustin Byfuglien and Chris Thorburn
 - Weekly Book Trivia
 - Spirit Week (Winter Theme Day, Summer Theme Day, PJ Day, Sports Day)
- Game On at Sisler High School on Feb. 2 and 3- Six junior high students attended this amazing game creation opportunity at Sisler. Three of our students won an award for best themed game design. Way to go Generals!
- Everybody Has the Right- Attended Thunderbird House on Feb. 8 for a Aboriginal Human Library event
- 100 Day- Feb. 17
- 100 Days of Language Learning Celebration- the Cree and Ojibwe Bilingual Language classes celebrated the first 100 days of their program with special guests (Trustees, Superintendents, Directors, Parents, Media, Aboriginal Education team) including a Pipe Ceremony to officially open our Lodge Room. CTV and Our Schools covered the event.

Extra-Curricular/Other

- Echo attended Choralfest on November 22nd

- The 5/6 Choir attended Choralfest on November 23rd
- Select 7-9 students were at Choir Camp on November 24th
- Grade 9s volunteered at the Christmas Cheer Board on December 20th
- Christmas Concert (Dec. 21st): Another very successful concert. We received a lot of very positive feedback about the concert from the community.
- JH Boys and Girls Basketball
- Grade 5/6 Ringette Intramurals
- Valentine's Day- junior high dance, elementary classroom celebrations
- Grade 6 cross country skiing for 10 weeks at Windsor Park

Community

- We held a Cascades/Norampac Thank-You Assembly on November 24 to thank our community partners for their generous donation of 40 iPad minis. We presented a student made video and scrap book. The representatives from Cascades were very touched.
- Visit from Trustee Sherri Rollins (Dec. 14th)
- CBC radio covered a story on our Cree and Ojibwe Bilingual Language programs



Sargent Park School Central District Advisory Report

February 23, 2017

Parent Enrolment: 830 students Grades N – 9 as well as an Industrial Arts and Practical Arts program for 4 outside schools.

Overall

- √ Elementary Assemblies continue with a focus on The Seven Sacred Teachings, and N – 9 monthly emphasis on the Teachings.
- √ Our Aboriginal Youth Leadership students will be visiting classrooms teaching students about the historic and contemporary relationship between Indigenous and not-Indigenous peoples in Canada.
- √ Love to Read activities are in full swing with our focus this year on 150 Years of Reading Canadian Authors. Many guest readers have come to visit and whole school wide reading activities are in full bloom.
- √ Many classes have embarked on virtual classroom Skype visits with other classrooms around the world, removing the borders of physical classrooms to share and enrich their learning experiences.
- √ A grade 8 team of students attended the Technology Game On conference at Sisler High School and our t the Sacred Banana.
- √ A 150 Canada school-wide birthday event is planned for May.
- √ The grade 5 – 8 team are involved with the WSD Math course, and our students are actively involved in Math Drills that are helping strengthen automaticity with math facts. Teachers are having excellent discussions and learning about best practices in Math instruction.
- √ A new literacy lab has been created to support classroom instruction.
- √ The library has a newly added Makerspace and shelving as we move toward our library becoming a learning commons.
- √ Peace Makers and Me to We groups continue to raise funds and collect items that support needs in our local community. Mitts, hats, warm clothing, food and money are examples of some of the collection initiatives that have occurred. Visits to the local Seniors' home are a regular part of their work.
- √ A team of students from our GSA group attended the WSD Out forum this past week.
- √ Zones of Regulation programs are being implemented at various levels to support students in self regulation strategies.
- √ Spirit week for our Junior High and Senior High students was held last week with lots of action packed team activities.
- √ Grade 9 students toured DMCI and will be heading to Tec Voc to explore grade 10 options.
- √ Tec Voc will be hosting all grade 8 students in June for a day of hands on activities.
- √ The outdoor classroom is getting closer to being started as grants to support the classroom come in and the construction drawing is near completion.
- √ Student Led Conferences will be held on March 16th and 17th with a book fair running at the same time.

Sports:

- √ Basketball season is drawing to a close. We hosted 6 weekend tournaments at the school. Our students will be taking part in the City Championships with our school hosting part of the Championship and taking part in the Provincials over the next 2 weeks.
- √ Badminton Club will be starting soon with close to 120 students taking part and Track and Field season will begin after Spring Break.

Arts:

- √ Our Choir and Band will be travelling to Moose Jaw in May to take part in the Band and Choir festival. A Zumba night will be held on March 4th from 6:30 – 8:00 p.m. as a fundraiser. Tickets for the event are available at the office for \$15.00 in advance and \$20.00 at the door. Food and door prizes will be available.
- √ Our Grade 9 Band received an award of Superior Achievement at the Optimist International Band Festival today.
- √ Students in our Art program have prepared a permanent Art installment for our hallway to reflect their learning in the area of Truth and Reconciliation recommendations. They have also created an art piece to recognize our school being on Treaty 1 land.
- √ The Celebration of the Arts evening will be held on May 30th for grade 6 – 9 students.

Parent Teacher Association:

- √ The Association is working closely with the school to pursue funds to support the outdoor learning space and various other school programming. Upcoming fundraisers include chocolate sales and plant sales.
- √ A hot dog lunch is planned for the school in March.
- √ Lunch program is at full capacity and running smoothly.



Once a Flame, Always a Flame