

February 16, 2017

Call to Order

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of the Wolf Creek School Division No. 72 was called to order by the chair at 9:00 a.m. in the Learning Centre of the Ponoka office.

Present

Chair: L. Jess; Trustees: T. Bratland, P. Hansen, B. Huff, D. Peterson;
Superintendent of Schools: J. Lovell; Assistant Superintendent of Schools:
M. McWhinnie; Secretary Treasurer: J. Henderson; Recording Secretary: J.
Haines

Regrets: B. Walker

Agenda Item 1.1 - Treaty Six Land Acknowledgement

The Treaty Six Land Acknowledgement was recited by Chair Jess.

Agenda Item 1.2 - Additions to the Agenda

Agenda Item 1.3 - Adopt Agenda

51.17
Adopt Agenda

Moved by P. Hansen that the agenda for the February 16, 2017 regular meeting of the Board of Trustees be adopted as follows:

1. Call to Order
 - 1.1 Treaty Six Land Acknowledgement
 - 1.2 Additions to the Agenda
 - 1.3 Adopt Agenda
2. In Camera
3. Appointments
4. Superintendent's Report
5. Action Items
 - 5.1 Additions to the Agenda
 - 5.2 Minutes February 2, 2017
 - 5.3 Policy 2 - Role of the Board Revised
 - 5.4 ASBA's Review of WCPS Administrative Procedures and Board Policies
 - 5.5 Support of Policy Proposal on ASBA Identity
 - 5.6 Capital Plan
 - 5.7 Careers Next Generation - Career Expo
 - 5.8 Library Advisory Committee
 - 5.9 RJSH School Visit
 - 5.10 Zone 4 Survey on Cell Phone Usage
6. Trustee Report
7. Information Items
 - 7.1 PSBAA
 - 7.2 Facilities Report
 - 7.3 OHS Report
 - 7.4 Transportation Report

Carried Unanimously.



In Camera

52.17
Meeting of the
Whole

Moved by D. Peterson that the Board hold a meeting of the whole with all persons excluded except Mr. Lovell, Mr. McWhinnie, Mr. Henderson and Mrs. Haines.

Carried Unanimously.

Mr. McWhinnie withdrew from the meeting.

53.17
Open Meeting

Moved by D. Peterson that the Board revert back to an open meeting.

Carried Unanimously.

Appointments

Superintendent's Report

Mr. Lovell reviewed the attached report. Mr. Lovell also reported that Wolf Creek Public Schools is investigating the opportunity for students to access the Northern Lights School Division service rig program.

Action Items

Agenda Item 5.1 - Additions to the Agenda

54.17
Additions to the
Agenda

Moved by P. Hansen that the Board *add Agenda Item 5.11 - CEO Evaluation Date and Agenda Item 5.12 - Artwork Display* to the agenda.

Carried Unanimously.

Agenda Item 5.2 - Minutes February 2, 2017

55.17
February 2, 2017
Minutes Approved

Moved by D. Peterson that the Board approve the minutes of February 2, 2017 as presented.

Carried Unanimously.

Agenda Item 5.3 - Policy 2 - Role of the Board Revised

56.17
Revise Board Policy
2.6

Moved by B. Huff that the Board revise Policy 2.6, Role of the Board - Political Advocacy to "The Board may...".

Carried Unanimously.

Agenda Item 5.4 - ASBA's Review of WCPS Administrative Procedures and Board Policies

57.17
Review of
Administrative
Procedures and
Board Policies

Moved by D. Peterson that the Board direct the Superintendent to have Mr. Terry Gunderson, Alberta School Boards' Association Education Consultant, review the Wolf Creek Public Schools Board Policies at the same time as reviewing the Administration Procedures.

Carried Unanimously.

Agenda Item 5.5 - Support of Policy Proposal on ASBA Identity

This item was accepted for information.



Agenda Item 5.6 - Capital Plan

Mr. Henderson requested confirmation that the Board's capital plan priorities will continue as follows:

- 1) Rimbey Jr/Sr High School modernization,
- 2) Iron Ridge Elementary Campus modernization, and
- 3) New High School in Blackfalds.

Mr. Henderson will provide further information at the March 16, 2017 regular board meeting.

Agenda Item 5.7 - Careers Next Generation - Career Expo

58.17
Purchase Bronze Package

Moved by D. Peterson that the Board purchase the \$750 Bronze Package in support of the Careers - Next Generation Expo.

Defeated.

Agenda Item 5.8 - Library Advisory Committee

59.17
Trustees Authorized to Library Advisory Committee

Moved by D. Peterson that the Board authorize the attendance of Trustee Huff and Trustee Jess to the Library Advisory Committee.

Carried Unanimously.

Agenda Item 5.9 - Rimbey Jr/Sr High School Visit Reschedule

60.17
RJSH School Visit Rescheduled

Moved by B. Huff that the Board reschedule the Rimbey Jr/Sr High School visit to April 11, 2017 beginning at 9:00 a.m.

Carried Unanimously.

Agenda Item 5.10 - Zone 4 Survey Cell Phone Usage

61.17
Superintendent to Complete Zone 4 Survey

Moved by B. Huff that the Board direct the Superintendent to complete the ASBA Zone 4 survey on Cell Phone Usage and further to provide the information to the Trustees.

Carried Unanimously.

Agenda Item 5.11 - CEO Evaluation Date

62.17
CEO Evaluation Date February 22, 2017

Moved by B. Huff that the Board hold the CEO Evaluation on February 22, 2017 beginning at 5:00 p.m. in the Learning Centre of the Division Office.

Carried Unanimously.

Agenda Item 5.12 - Artwork Display

63.17
Facilities Department to Install Cork Boards for Artwork Display

Moved by P. Hansen that the Board direct the Superintendent to have the Facilities department speak to Mrs. Haines regarding the installation of cork boards in the Learning Centre for the purpose of student artwork display and further that the installation be paid for out of Board funds.

Carried Unanimously.

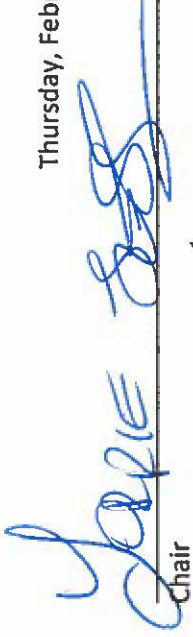
Agenda Items 6. – 7.4 were accepted for information

64.17
Meeting Adjourn

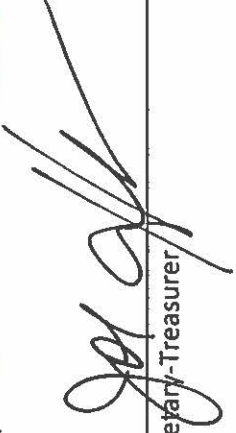
Moved by B. Huff that the board meeting adjourn. Time: 11:45 a.m.

Carried Unanimously.

Thursday, February 16, 2017, Continued

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Jodie Ross", written over a horizontal line.

Chair

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jodie Ross", written over a horizontal line.

Secretary-Treasurer



SUPERINTENDENT'S REPORT
Office of the Superintendent
for
February 16, 2017

Assurance Meeting with Alberta Education

The Superintendent, three Assistant Superintendents and the Director of Learning met with three members from Alberta Education Field Services to review the WCPS Three-Year Education Plan goals as well as various data measures. Topics during the three hour review ranged from sharing our district's work in Literacy, FNMI, Bright Futures, Enhanced Learning for High Schools and the Collaborative Response Model. Each of these areas were discussed in relation to how they contributed to both student growth and staff development. Field Services also requested feedback on challenges that WCPS is experiencing around investment into education resources, inclusion implementation and funding, class size and staff wellness. Communication with parents via *ThoughtExchange* and recent board initiatives around diploma exam preparation and student voice were also discussed. This opportunity provided senior leadership from WCPS to also communicate questions sent back to the Ministry around the progress towards final approval of the School Act, curriculum writing, a focus on numeracy and further resources for FNMI support. Field Services provided positive feedback to the senior leadership team on the goals within WCPS Three-Year Education Plan, the alignment the plan has with Alberta Education Business Plan and their ongoing efforts to focus on student growth measures. WCPS was also encouraged to continue to look beyond the data collected from the AERR and consider local measures as an important context for measuring growth moving forward.

Summer School Planning

Learning Services met with the Superintendent and is in the process of meeting with Outreach principals and staff to discuss plans for Summer School that will be provided for students. Registration and staffing details are being worked out with further information coming to the board in early March.

YouthTechNation

Over 300 students from across WCPS participated in a successful day of YouthTechNation, an event that is led by students and chaperoned by staff. Students participated in leading each other through a variety of learning activities designed to assist them in understanding new ways to learn and new ways to demonstrate their learning. There were many, many positive comments provided from students about this event. This event is organized by a volunteer committee of teachers from across WCPS.

Ongoing Literacy Supports Continue

Staff from Learning Services continue to work closely with our schools through implementation of literacy interventions including programs such as Read 180 and Leveled Literacy Intervention (LLI). Another cohort of Junior High teachers will meet again in March to discuss support from Grade 7-9 students and a group of teachers will also be attending the upcoming CARC workshop in May with Cris Tovani on *Using the Workshop Model to Support Adolescent Readers*. Developing our school administrators as leaders of literacy continues with specific sessions on this topic take place at WCPS Administrator Association meetings and ongoing conversations directly with principals in their schools. School administrators continue to pay close attention to the ongoing data around student growth in literacy.

Bright Futures Play Academy (BFPA) Update

Registrations continue to be accepted for Bright Futures Play Academy with almost 200 registrations being received for the Fall program. Teachers in the program continue to meet regularly in a cohort to receive professional development and Family Oriented Program plans are taking place with our community agency partners and paraprofessionals on topics such as parenting, speech supports, fine motor skills, social skills and more. These Family Oriented Programs have been well received by parents and community. Potential program expansion discussions for BFPA in new schools this fall have also been taking place during the past few weeks.

Library Advisory Committee

Representation from Trustees, Administrators, Teachers, Librarians, Educational Assistants and Division Office will come together on February 28, 2017 for the first meeting of the Library Advisory Committee. This committee will meet in an advisory capacity to gather feedback on learning and programming opportunities for school libraries and library commons across WCPS. Existing programs as well as new programs in and outside WCPS will be examined with a list of recommendations being provided to the Superintendent later this spring.

Regional Collaborative Services Delivery (RCSD) Update

When the Central RCSD was formed four years ago, WCPS received some hold harmless funds because the new way the government was deploying funds. This left our Zone RCSD with a 21% budget reduction that amounted to \$1,329,879. Over the



past three years, our needs and demands have increased yet our funding has stayed relatively the same. Communication has been received indicating a removal of the hold harmless funding which will have a huge impact on service delivery for our Central RCSD. It would impact all services for students needing: Mental Health, Low Incidence, SLP, OT, and other programming that RCSD dollars have been used for in Education, Health and CFS services. Communication to clearly outline the impacts of this reduction in funding has been sent. We are awaiting a response.

French Immersion "Pool" Preliminary Interviews

Various school administrators from our Lacombe schools with French Immersion Programs and the Assistant Superintendent and Director - People Services will be interviewing and completing classroom observations with seven French Immersion teaching candidates that have flowed from the post-secondary recruitment fairs at the end of January, 2017. The interviews and observations will take place on February 14, 16 & 17, 2017. Our hope is to develop a pool of suitable candidates we can draw from when we begin our formal staffing procedures later this Spring.

AP 440: Terms of Employment

People Services is collaborating with the Secretary Treasurer and Assistant Secretary Treasurer to compile financial analyses and comparable data to inform the Board of Trustees regarding the submissions that have been made from various employee groups in WCPS. The Assistant Superintendent-People Services has also met with the lead employee for each submission to ensure clarity on the submission. Complete submissions, commentary and the financial and comparable information will be shared with the Board on February 17, 2017 in advance of the Wage & Salary Review Committee meeting on February 24, 2017.

EA Advisory Group Follow Up

All Educational Assistants in attendance at the EA Advisory Group Meeting on January 27, 2017 have been provided with a summary of the themes of the day and talking points to share with their Administration and EA Colleagues. These EAs have committed to sharing this information with their colleagues and administration before the end of February as a mechanism to continue the dialogue around the successes and challenges of EAs in WCPS.

Bus Driver Recruitment

The Assistant Superintendent-People Services met with Transportation Manager John Blood following the the February 2, 2017 Board Meeting to discuss possible challenges



or obstacles to recruitment of drivers in WCPS. Several themes were discussed including:

- The logistics of driving a bus can create obstacles for engaging in additional employment between the morning and afternoon bus runs. John reports that approximately 25% of drivers are employed elsewhere. This means that the wage is best as an income / pension supplement rather than a means of supporting oneself. This has impacted the age of our driver population. There seems to be more two-income households in Central Alberta, meaning less parents who are not working outside of the home.
- A perception that EI recipients are applying to Transportation solely to have evidence they are actively seeking employment opportunities. A perception that these applicants have no intentions of working as a bus driver.

In addition to the challenges, the discussion also included the benefits of being a bus driver. Many of these have been communicated by the Secretary Treasurer in a Sunny 94 Radio interview last week:

- WCPS wage scale for drivers is higher than bus contracting companies and within the average salary range for school divisions
- Parents can bring their pre-school age children on their bus runs
- Attractive benefits package
- Comprehensive training

Plans are in place to post a general advertisement on the WCPS Website to attract drivers.

Incentives to Encourage Students to Enter the Field of CTS Teaching

Following the Board Meeting on February 2, 2017 the Assistant Superintendent-People Services followed up with Lynn Anderson-Cook (Senior Manager with Teaching Excellence & Certification at Alberta Education and lead contact for the CTS Bridge to Certification Program) regarding additional incentive or bursary programs that may be available to encourage post-secondary students to pursue a career in CTS Teaching. Lynn has advised that beyond the CTS Bridge to Certification Program, there are currently no additional incentives being offered by Alberta Education at this time. People Services will be working with the three WCPS High Schools to complete a "needs assessment" in regards to current and future needs in the CTS areas.

