



FRONTIER SCHOOL DIVISION

Excellence and Experience in Education

RECEIVED FEB 29 2024

February 12-13, 2024

Meeting Highlights ~ Board of Trustees

Trustees Ballantyne, Pearson, Calvert, Friesen, Imrie, Montgomery, Muswagon, Sanderson, Throop

PRESENTATION OF GIFT

The Board was presented with a Kokum (grandmother) Mask from former Chief Superintendent Keven Van Camp and Gloria Van Camp. In the presentation, it was shared the Mask originated from the late Doreen Dupree, a community champion for education in the early beginnings of Frontier School Division school committees. The importance of recognizing Kokum(s) for their knowledge and teachings was shared.

STRATEGIC PLAN DIALOGUE

Presentations from Assistant Superintendents were provided on Numeracy and Science, and on the Technology (RightClick). Agenda topics for the March 19, 2024 Board meeting with senior leadership (Superintendent Group) was discussed. Topics includes review of the Division's Strategic Plan focus areas of Academics, Indigenous Way of Life and Wellness, as well as a revisit of discussions arising from their fall meeting with senior leadership.

SPECIAL LEAVE

The Board approved twenty (20) applications for Special Leave for 2024/25.

RATIFICATION OF COLLECTIVE AGREEMENT

The Board ratified the Collective Agreement reached in-committee with the United Steelworkers (USW) Local 7106-18 for Employees in Area 5 and Cross Lake for the period July 1, 2022 to June 30, 2026. This agreement is pending ratification by those respective employee groups.

AWARDS

The Board approved recommendations from their Awards Panel for the 2024 Frontier Achievement Award and the 2024 Award for Outstanding Contribution – School Committee Members. Recipients will be formally announced as part of the Annual School Committee Conference proceedings.

MILL RATE

The *Public Schools Act* requires school boards annually by March 15 to set Special Levy Mill Rates. The Board approved a Mill Rate of 12.8363 to be used for the calculation of the 2024 Special Levy.

RETIREMENT PLAN FOR EMPLOYEES OF THE FRONTIER SCHOOL DIVISION

The Board approved recommendations from their Employee Pension Committee (Canadian Equities Fund be reduced to target weight with balance transferred to the Canadian Fixed Income Fund; Canadian Equity Investment Manager change from Jarislowsky Fraser (JF) to Fiera Capital).

2024 ANNUAL SCHOOL COMMITTEE CONFERENCE – School and Community Working Together

The 2024 Annual School Committee Conference "School and Community Working Together" draft agenda was reviewed. The Board provided feedback to administration to shape their address to delegates. Further planning discussions will resume at the March Board meeting.

TRIPS APPROVED and RATIFIED

The Board ratified a number of higher care trips: Berens River School (2 Trips), Black River Anishinabe School (2 Trips), Dauphin River School (2 Trips), Duke of Marlborough School, Frontier Mosakahiken School, Grand Rapids School (3 Trips), Helen Betty Osborne Ininiw Education Resource Centre (4 Trips), Jack River School (2 Trips), Joseph H. Kerr School, Lakefront School, Leaf Rapids Education Centre, San Antonio School (2 Trips), Skowanan School (3 Trips), Wanipigow School, Cold Lake School, and D.R. Hamilton School. The Board approved a number of higher care trips: Barrows Junction School, Falcon Beach School (2 trips), Helen Betty Osborne Ininiw Education Resource Centre (4 trips), Jack River School (4 trips), Minegozibe Anishinabe School, and Waterhen School (2 trips).

DISCUSSION and DIRECTION

- Reports were provided by Board sub-committees: Employee Pension, Finance, N.O.F.I. Board of Directors.
- The 2024 Manitoba School Boards Association Annual Convention agenda was reviewed with Trustees and administration confirming participation.
- A Board sub-committee was struck to begin planning for the Chief Superintendent Retirement Function planned for Saturday, June 1, 2024 in Winnipeg.
- Information was shared regarding the 2024 Divisional Science Fair.
- Updates on discussions arising from the January meeting was provided on a number of topics including taxation of Status employees, 30 Speers Road lease, and Area Advisory Committee stipends. Administration was directed to ensure future updates are provided on identified topics.
- Conference and meeting reports were provided (Area 3 Advisory Committee, First Nations Educators' Conference, Manitoba Collaborative Indigenous Education Blueprint – Indigenous Education Gathering).

The next meeting of the Frontier School Division Board of Trustees takes place in the Winnipeg office on March 19-20, 2024, with March 19 designated as their meeting with senior leadership.

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