

Minutes of the Regular Meeting of the Board of Education of the Prairie Spirit School Division No. 206 held in the Prairie Spirit School Division Office, on Thursday, September 10, 2009, commencing at 9:00 a.m.

Present for the meeting were Board Members: Andrew Bergen; Sam Dyck; Joan Heath; Norbert Hirschhorn; Merla McIntyre; Larry Pavloff; Cathy Taylor; Pam Wieler; Gerald Yausie; Evelyn Novak, Director of Education; Brenda Erickson, Communications Consultant; Nadine Meister, Assistant to the Director; Karen LaPointe, Superintendent of Schools and Learning; Noel Roche, Superintendent of Schools and Learning (arrived at 10:34 a.m.); Donna McTavish, Principal, and Michael Karras, Vice Principal, Lord Asquith School; and Randy Schmaltz, Principal, Allan Composite School.

Absent: Bernie Howe; Natalie Keewatin

Andrew Bergen, Chair, called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

1. THAT the agenda be adopted as presented.

Agenda
Hirschhorn

Carried.

2. THAT an excused absence be granted to Natalie Keewatin for September 10, 2009.

Excused
Absence
Bergen

Carried.

3. THAT the August 17, 2009, minutes be adopted as presented.

Minutes
Pavloff

Carried.

Brenda Erickson reviewed the draft letter from the Board to the business community. Evelyn Novak suggested a sixth question: would you like an opportunity to speak to the Board directly. Brenda also provided a list of businesses randomly selected from within the Prairie Spirit School Division and asked Board members to review and provide feedback. A response date will be included in the business community letter and Board members will be asked to follow up with late responders. Further action will be decided following a review of the information collected.

Update from Committees:

- Negotiating Committee – meetings have been taking place since late spring, but postponed until after summer due to budget deliberations. Progressing positively.
- Partnerships Committee – continuing to meet with Muskeg Lake Cree Nation and Mistawasis First Nation. Continued attempts made to communicate with Beardy's and Okemasis Band. Paperwork for Mistawasis becoming the 12th subdivision within Prairie Spirit School Division is complete. Awaiting official announcement from the Ministry of Education. Common PD day being offered on September 25, 2009.

No submissions for resolutions to the SSBA AGM at this time. Any resolutions hereafter should be forwarded to Andrew Bergen by September 30, 2009.

A suggestion of showcasing the Student Forum at the SSBA AGM was made, but decided a more appropriate place for this might be at the Congress on Rural Education.

Following a discussion with respect to recognizing Board Members' service, it was recommended that this item be placed on the agenda for the September 21, 2009, meeting, for further consideration.

Noel Roche arrived at 10:34 a.m.

Randy Schmaltz then provided an informal report to the Board regarding the start of the new year at Allan Composite School. Allan Composite continues to work to improve school/community connections. Have opened an Allan School Eatery and are looking into the option of opening their weight room to the public. Currently have 10 students enrolled in the ACCT program (Academic Credit and Career Training).

Donna McTavish and Michael Karras also provided an informal report to the Board regarding Lord Asquith School. Lord Asquith is focusing on literacy from Pre-Kindergarten to Grade 8. They want all children to be able to read by the time they are out of grade 3. Lord Asquith received a grant from the Breakfasts Clubs of Canada and will now provide five breakfasts per week at school.

4. THAT the Board go into closed session at 11:26 a.m.

Closed
Session
Taylor

Carried.

5. THAT the Board return from closed session at 11:52 a.m.

Closed
Session
Dyck

Carried.

14. THAT the meeting be adjourned at 12:23 p.m. The next meeting to be held on Monday, September 21, 2009, at 9:00 a.m., at the Prairie Spirit School Division Office, in Warman.

Adjourn
Wieler

Carried.

Chairperson

Superintendent of Finance,
Administration and Planning