



MEMORANDUM

November 5, 2024
Regular Board Meeting

TO	Board of Trustees
FROM	Lorraine Stewart, Board Chair
ORIGINATOR	Lorraine Stewart, Board Chair
RESOURCE	Board of Trustees and Executive Team
GOVERNANCE POLICY	Board Policy 8: Board Committees Board Policy 12: Role of the Superintendent
ADDITIONAL REFERENCE	BP 8: Appendix 8.1 Governance and Planning Committee
SUBJECT	GOVERNANCE & PLANNING SESSION (GPS)

PURPOSE

For information. No recommendation required.

BACKGROUND

The purpose of the Governance and Planning Committee is to provide an opportunity for all Trustees to engage in dialogue on generative governance, strategic planning, advocacy, student engagement and operational understanding. The Superintendent reports directly to the corporate Board and is accountable to the Board of Trustees for the conduct and operation of the Division. The following report shares the unapproved Minutes from the November 5, 2024, GPS Meeting.

REPORT SUMMARY

On November 5, 2024, the Governance and Planning Committee met to discuss a number of topics chose in advance by both the Board of trustees and the Executive Team. The following report is a record of this meeting.

LS:kz



MINUTES OF THE GOVERNANCE & PLANNING SESSION (GPS)

Meeting held at the Centre for Education, Boardroom, in Stony Plain, Alberta
On Tuesday, November 5, 2024, at 9:00 AM

Attendance:

Lorraine Stewart, Board Chair
Aimee Hennig, Vice-Chair
Aileen Wagner, Trustee
Eric Cameron, Trustee
Anne Montgomery, Trustee (*via videoconferencing*)
Jill Osborne, Trustee
Shauna Boyce, Superintendent
Mark Francis, Deputy Superintendent
Scott Johnston, Associate Superintendent
Scott McFadyen, Associate Superintendent
Dr. Meg Miskolzie, Associate Superintendent
Jordi Weidman, Director of Strategic Communications
Keri Zylla, Recording Secretary

Regrets:

Paul McCann, Trustee

1. WELCOME & LEARNING MOMENT

- 1.1. **Call to Order:** Board Chair Stewart called the meeting to order at 9:03 a.m.
- 1.2. **Land Acknowledgement:** Board Chair Stewart acknowledged Treaty Territory.
- 1.3. **Changes to the Agenda:** add agenda item 5. In-Camera: Legal, move 4.2 Stakeholder Engagement Session Plans (November 27, 2024) to 2.7 in the agenda.
- 1.4. **Approval of the Agenda:**
MOVED by Trustee Cameron that the Board of Trustees accept the agenda as amended.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY
- 1.5. **Approval of the September 24, 2024, GPS Minutes:**
MOVED by Trustee Osborne that the GPS Minutes of September 24, 2024, be approved as presented.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

2. OPERATIONS AND INFORMATION

- 2.1. Annual Education Results Report (AERR) Draft:** Associate Superintendent Johnston discussed the draft AERR with Trustees, reviewing both challenges and growth areas in student achievement through the Provincial Achievement Tests and Diploma Exam Results, requesting feedback from Trustees. A full report will be presented for Board approval at the regular Board meeting of November 26, 2024.
- 2.2. Calendar Draft 2025-2026:** Superintendent Boyce and Associate Superintendent Johnston provided a draft calendar for the 2025-2026 school year, based on current feedback from the staff. A second survey will go out to the public for stakeholder feedback. A finalized calendar and report will be presented to the Board at the January 21, 2025, Regular Board meeting.
- 2.3. Athabasca Delta Community School (ADCS) Update:** Superintendent Boyce shared updates regarding Athabasca Delta Community School and PSD's role as the Interim Authority. Discussion ensued.
- 2.4. Spruce Grove Composite High School (SGCHS) Update:** Superintendent Boyce shared information regarding the SGCHS replacement school, including draft sketches of the school site. The draft sketches indicate the location of structures, parking, green space and possible traffic-flow.
- Associate Superintendent McFadyen shared information regarding next steps in the construction process and legal agreements. Discussion ensued.
- 2.5. Blueberry School Update:** Superintendent Boyce shared information regarding recommendations following an investigation regarding use of a sensory room at Blueberry School. PSD Administration has further defined Division practices through Administrative Procedure 364: Seclusion and Physical Restraint, which will be shared annually with school leaders to ensure staff awareness and proper training. Discussion ensued.
- 2.6. Graminia Area School of Choice Request:** Superintendent Boyce shared a briefing note highlighting the options regarding a Graminia Area School of Choice inquiry for Graminia students going into high school. Administration reviewed a number of items including the enrolment of students in various high schools over the last 3-4 years, school capacities, bell times for schools, the complexities of timing, and the cost of additional bus routes. Discussion ensued.
- 2.7. Stakeholder Engagement Session Plans (November 27, 2024):** Associate Superintendent Johnston discussed the process for invitations, the tentative agenda and discussion topics for the upcoming Stakeholder Engagement event to be held November 27, 2024, at École Broxton Park School. The engagement will be geared primarily to parents / guardians of PSD Grade 4 – 6 students. Discussion ensued.

Board Chair Stewart called a recess at 10:38 a.m. Meeting resumed at 10:45 a.m.

3. GOVERNANCE

3.1. Summit Follow-up:

- 3.1.1. **Onboarding Trustees:** Board Chair Stewart reviewed a document based on the Trustee Summit and Board Self-Evaluation from October 9-10, 2024, and requested Trustee feedback on providing “onboarding” to new Trustees post-election. Discussion ensued.
- 3.1.2. **Student Presentations at Board Meetings:** Superintendent Boyce requested Trustee feedback on what Trustees would like to see from student presentations including the purpose, topic areas, format and the number of presentations in a school year. Discussion ensued.
- 3.1.3. **Election 2025:**
 - **Criminal Record Check Bylaw:** Board Chair Stewart reviewed a document regarding Bill 20 and the implications of changes to current practice. A new bylaw would need to be approved by the Board before December 31, 2024 in order to be in effect for the 2025 Election.
 - **Election Costs:** Associate Superintendent McFadyen discussed the potential of election cost increases due to the use of electronic ballot counters being prohibited. Other school Divisions have also expressed their concerns regarding extra cost associated with counting ballots. Discussion ensued.

Board Chair Stewart called a recess for lunch at 12:01 p.m. and excused Deputy Superintendent Francis, Associate Superintendent McFadyen, Associate Superintendent Johnston, Associate Superintendent Dr. Miskolzie, Mr. Weidman and Ms. Zylla, while Trustees finished the Superintendent Performance Review with Superintendent Boyce.

The regular GPS meeting resumed at 1:03 p.m. with the return of the abovementioned staff.

3.2. Association Business:

- 3.2.1. **Public School Boards Association of Alberta (PSBAA):** Trustee Cameron shared that the November Public School Board Council will run November 15-16, just prior to the Alberta School Boards Association’s Fall General Meeting.
- 3.2.2. **Alberta School Boards Association (ASBA):** Trustees reviewed and discussed the ASBA proposed position statements in preparation for the Fall General Meeting (FGM) to be held November 17-19, 2024, and discussed the revised position statements feedback provided by Board Chair Stewart, Trustee Wagner and Trustee Osborne.

3.3. Board Policy Revisions:

- 3.3.1. **Board Policy (BP) 7: Board Operations:** Board Chair Stewart and Superintendent Boyce reviewed additional changes to BP 7 to Board Meeting process and to provide clarity and consistency with language used in the *Education Act* and Board Policy. Discussion ensued.

BP 7 will be submitted for approval at the November 26, 2024, Regular Board meeting.

- 3.3.2. Board Policy (BP) 8: Board Committees and Representation:** Board Chair Stewart reviewed additional changes to BP 8 from the September GPS Meeting, including some further clarity of membership and reflecting changes to the *Education Act*. The Policy Review Committee will add clarity to quorum and the decision-making processes for each committee. Discussion ensued.

BP 8 will be further reviewed by the Policy Review Committee following the discussed changes, and submitted for approval at the November 26, 2024, regular Board meeting.

- 3.3.3. Board Policy (BP) 11: Board Delegation of Authority:** Board Chair Stewart and Superintendent Boyce introduced some changes to BP 11, which are necessary for updates to Board Policy 14: Hearings on Teacher Matters (currently). BP 11 will be reviewed at a future GPS. Discussion ensued.

- 3.3.4. Board Policy 14: Appeals to the Board Regarding Teacher Transfers:** Board Chair Stewart and Superintendent Boyce introduced the new BP 14, discussing key changes from the original BP 14: Hearings on Teacher Matters. Discussion ensued.

Deputy Superintendent Francis exited the meeting at 2:31 p.m.

- 3.4. Bill 27:** Trustees discussed Bill 27, which had its first reading October 30, 2024, and the impact of implementing new gender and pronoun regulations and the “opt-In” requirements for some curricula. School Divisions are responsible for implementing this policy in September of 2025, but related regulations have not yet been drafted. Discussion ensued.

- 3.5. School Council Updates:** Trustees provided governance updates from various School Council Meetings they attended.

4. STRATEGIC PLANNING

- 4.1. Advocacy Plan:** Trustees discussed their Board priorities and how they will advocate and action those items including the next steps in the Spruce Grove Composite High School replacement school, creating a Trusteeship brochure for the ensuing 2025 Election, and providing support for the Mental Health in Schools Project with some positive messaging.

Associate Superintendent Johnston exited the meeting at 3:00 p.m.

- 4.2. Indigenous Accord:** Board Chair Stewart discussed a letter and draft document sent to Mayor of Spruce Grove, Jeff Acker, from the Skydancer Indigenous Cultural Centre regarding the framework of an Indigenous Accord for the Tri-Region as part of their commitment to Truth and Reconciliation.

5. IN-CAMERA: LEGAL

MOVED by Trustee Cameron that the Board of Trustees move to in-camera at 3:24 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Associate Superintendent Dr. Miskolzie and Mr. Weidman exited the meeting at 3:24 p.m.

MOTION TO REVERT TO THE REGULAR GPS MEETING

MOVED by Trustee Wagner that the Board of Trustees move out of In-Camera at 4:02 p.m.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

6. CLOSING

- 6.1. Discussion with Superintendent:** Trustees engaged in discussion with Superintendent Boyce regarding any further questions or requests for additional information.
- 6.2. Topics to come forward to the next Board Meeting include:** Annual Education Results Report, Revised Board Policy 7: Board Operations, Revised Board Policy 8: Board Committees and Representation.
- 6.3. Roundtable Discussion:** Board Chair Stewart closed the session with a roundtable discussion.
- 6.4. Adjournment:** Board Chair Stewart adjourned the meeting at 4:14 p.m.

Next meeting: Tuesday, December 17, 2024, at 9:00 a.m. (*MORNING ONLY*)