

BUFFALO TRAIL PUBLIC SCHOOLS

Wednesday, September 20, 2023

The regular meeting of the Board of Trustees of Buffalo Trail Public Schools was held in the Administration Building Boardroom on Wednesday, September 20, 2023.

PRESENT:

Chair: Kara Jackson, Board Chair

Trustees: Barry Livingston, Stephanie Spornitz, Jim King, Tanya Ford, Stephanie Cooper, Arthur Block, David Bensmiller (Online) and Darla Yonkman

Administration: Michelle Webb, Superintendent, Peter Neale, Secretary Treasurer, James Trodden, Assistant Superintendent, Camille Quinton, Assistant Superintendent and Faye Dunne, Recording Secretary

Absent:

A. CALL TO ORDER:

Board Chair Jackson called the meeting to order at 9:30 A.M. and shared a treaty acknowledgement. Chair Jackson took a moment to acknowledge the September 30th National Truth and Reconciliation Day.

B. APPROVAL OF AGENDA:

Chair Jackson asked for any emergent additions to the agenda.

23-236 COOPER: Moves that the agenda be approved as presented.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

C. MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING

23-237 LIVINGSTON: That the Minutes of the Organizational Meeting held August 22, 2023, be accepted as presented.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

23-238 YONKMAN: That the Minutes of the Regular Meeting held August 22, 2023, be accepted as presented.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

F. SUPERINTENDENT REPORTS:

1. Superintendent's Report:

- Leadership Highlights
 - o Wainwright Elementary School Design Process
 - o Military Family Appreciation Day
 - o Day 2 of New Administrators Orientation
 - o National Day for Truth and Reconciliation
 - o Dual Credit Information
 - o Continuation of School Visits

1. Superintendent's Report Cont.:

- Communications
 - o Letters to Parents/Guardians
 - o Media Releases
 - o Social Media
 - o BTPS Online Store

- Leadership Highlights

The Superintendent shared an update with the Board on the recent leadership highlights. BTPS will have a Learning Day and other events to recognize Truth and Reconciliation Day on September 28th. The Board recognition of Military Family Appreciation Day was well received by stakeholders. The second day of new administrators' orientation was held on September 18th. The Superintendent continues to visit all schools in the jurisdiction.

Assistant Superintendent Trodden shared an update on Dual Credit. Last year BTPS was able to offer both the Automotive Technician course and University Psychology. This year we have expanded our university courses to include both Psychology and Sociology. The number students in Psychology has doubled this year. BTPS will continue to offer Automotive Technician this year but also is excited to announce that we have received funding to run Welding next semester as well. He shared a thank you to Lakeland College for their support of BTPS and our students.

- Communications
 - o Letters to Parents/Guardians
 - o Media Releases

The information was shared with the Board. The division office is now using the social media platforms for Facebook and Instagram as well as Twitter. There is also an online store to purchase BTPS apparel now available.

2. Secretary Treasurer Report

- Accounts Payable:
 - Cheque Lists Dated; Aug 30,2023
 - Accounts Payable Cheque Lists Dated August 25,30,31, September 15 2023
 - Manual Cheques Issued Dated: August 15th to September 14, 2023
 - August 31, 2023 Cash Flow Statement
 - Friends of WHS
 - Innisfree All Weather Surface

Secretary-Treasurer Neale asked the Board if there were any questions regarding the accounts payable information that was shared.

2. Secretary Treasurer Report Cont.

23-239 KING: Moves that the accounts payable cheque lists for the period ending August 30, 2023, beginning, and ending with cheques #135321 to #136379 and automated payments for the period ending September 15, 2023, beginning, and ending with #800024491 to #800024621 and manual cheques issued #700001531 to #700001549 be received for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- August 31, 2023 Cash Flow Statement

23-240 BLOCK: Moves that the Board accept the August 31, 2023 Cash Flow Statement for information.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Friends of WHS

Additional information regarding the track project was shared.

23-241 COOPER: "That the Board of Trustees hereby waives the remaining \$16,556.44 owing by the Friends of WHS Foundation relating to the Wainwright Community Recreation Track project effective August 31, 2023 to be funded from unrestricted reserves; AND FURTHERMORE, That the Board of Trustees provides their recognition of appreciation to the Friends of WHS Foundation for their great work for the project and creating a legacy for the Wainwright schools and community."

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Innisfree All Weather Surface

23-242 SPORNITZ: That the Board of Trustees hereby waives the remaining \$12,697.50 owing by the Innisfree School Financial Society relating to the Innisfree Community All-Weather Recreation Surface project effective August 31, 2023 and requests the Society uses the dollars for a future school and community project; AND FURTHERMORE, THAT the Board of Trustees provides their recognition of appreciation to the Innisfree School Financial Society for their great work for the project and creating a legacy for the Innisfree Delnorte School and the Innisfree community.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

D. Petitions and Delegations

- John Hilton-O'Brien - Re; 302.11AP Support for Student Organizations

Board Chair Jackson welcomed Mr. Hilton-O'Brien and there was a round of introductions. The delegation was here to request the Board to require administration to remove paragraph 5 of 302.11AP, Support for Student Organizations. Mr. Hilton-O'Brien thanked the Board for its time. The Board Chair and thanked the delegation and public members for attending.

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Assistant Superintendents Trodden and Quinton left the meeting at 10:35AM.

E. IN-CAMERA:

**23-243 COOPER: That the meeting move In-Camera at 10:36 AM.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Secretary Treasurer Neale and Recording Secretary Dunne were in attendance. Director Rapson joined the in-camera at 10:56 AM. Director Rapson left the in-camera at 11:16AM.

E. IN-CAMERA:

**23-244 LIVINGSTON: That the meeting come out of In-Camera at 11:50AM.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**23-245 BLOCK: That the board meeting recess for lunch 11:52am.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

The meeting reconvened at 1:05PM with all trustees present except Trustees Spornitz and Livingston.

Assistant Superintendents Quinton and Trodden also rejoined the meeting.

**23-246 KING: That the Board add one item to its agenda titled Alberta Education Information.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Trustee Spornitz rejoined the meeting at 1:07PM

Trustee Livingston rejoined the meeting at 1:08PM

3. Facilities Director Report:

- Irma Custodial Tender
- Wainwright Elementary Replacement School Meeting Update
- Irma Custodial Tender

23-247 FORD: Moves that the Board of Trustees of Buffalo Trail Public Schools accept the tender from White Pebble Cleaning Services of \$105,000 + GST per year to provide custodial services at the Irma School for a term of three years commencing October 1, 2023 until September 30, 2026.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Director Huxley joined the Board to present information on the Wainwright Elementary Replacement School.

3. Facilities Director Report Cont.:

- Wainwright Elementary Replacement School Design Meeting Update

Information was shared with the Board regarding the startup meeting with Alberta Infrastructure. The next meeting will be held locally and representatives from the WES Staff, the Town of Wainwright and Rotary Club will be invited to attend. Tours of a few other new schools in the province will be arranged to help in the decision making process.

4. Transportation Director Report:

- Cross-Jurisdiction (non-resident) Boundary Exemption Requests 2023-2024

- o **Off Route: For Board Approval**

- #2023-2024-29 - Off Route
- #2023-2024-30 - Off Route
- #2023-2024-31 - Off Route
- #2023-2024-32 - Off Route
- #2023-2024-33 - Off Route
- #2023-2024-34 - Off Route
- #2023-2024-35 - Off Route

- Cross-Jurisdiction (non-resident) Boundary Exemption Requests 2023-2024

- o **Off Route: For Board Approval**

- #2023-2024-29

23-248 LIVINGSTON: Moves that the Board approve the cross-jurisdiction (non-resident) boundary exemption request for applicant #2023-2024-29 for bussing to their school of choice, Blessed Sacrament School, for the 2023 - 2024 school year.

DEFEATED

- #2023-2024-30

23-249 SPORNITZ: Moves that the Board approve the cross-jurisdiction (non-resident) boundary exemption request for applicant #2023-2024-30 for bussing to their school of choice, Blessed Sacrament School, for the 2023 - 2024 school year

DEFEATED

- #2023-2024-31

23-250 YONKMAN: Moves that the Board approve the cross-jurisdiction (non-resident) boundary exemption request for applicant #2023-2024-31 for bussing to their school of choice, Irma School, for the 2023 - 2024 school year

DEFEATED

4. Transportation Director Report Cont.:

- #2023-2024-32

23-251 COOPER: Moves that the Board approve the cross-jurisdiction (non-resident) boundary exemption request for applicant #2023-2024-32 for bussing to their school of choice, Holy Rosary School, for the 2023 - 2024 school year

DEFEATED

- #2023-2024-33

23-252 FORD: Moves that the Board approve the cross-jurisdiction (non-resident) boundary exemption request for applicant #2023-2024-33 for bussing to their school of choice, Kitscoty Elementary and High Schools, for the 2023 - 2024 school year.

DEFEATED

- #2023-2024-34

23-253 BLOCK: Moves that the Board approve the cross-jurisdiction (non-resident) boundary exemption request for applicant #2023-2024-34 for bussing to their school of choice, Innisfree, for the 2023 - 2024 school year based on the approval letter from Elk Island Public Schools. This request is required annually for review by the Board.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- #2023-2024-35

23-254 LIVINGSTON: Moves that the Board approve the cross-jurisdiction (non-resident) boundary exemption request for applicant #2023-2024-35 for bussing to their school of choice, Innisfree, for the 2023 - 2024 school year based on the approval letter from Elk Island Public Schools. This request is required annually for review by the Board.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

G. COMMITTEE REPORTS

- none

H. Business Arising from Minutes:

- none

I. NEW BUSINESS:

- Ranger Land Services Ltd. re; Offer to Lease Petroleum and Natural Gas Rights
- JR Robson Request for Endorsement for County of Vermilion River School Reserve Funds
- Outstanding Support Staff Committee
- MLA Engagement

I. NEW BUSINESS Cont.:

- Ranger Land Services Ltd. re; Offer to Lease Petroleum and Natural Gas Rights

23-255 BENS MILLER: That the Board of Trustees of Buffalo Trail Public Schools hire its own land company prior to entering into a Petroleum and Natural Gas Lease Agreement with Ranger Land Ltd. with the cost to be covered by Cardinal Energy Ltd.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- JR Robson Request for Endorsement for County of Vermilion River School Reserve Funds

23-256 KING: Moves that the Board endorse the application from JR Robson High School for cash in lieu of school reserve funds in the amount of \$5000.00 for its exterior electronic information sign to be forwarded to the County of Vermilion River for approval.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Outstanding Support Staff Committee

23-257 JACKSON: Moves that the Board support Trustee Ford to be the trustee representative on the Outstanding Support Staff Committee.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- MLA Engagement

23-258 COOPER: Moves that the Board write a letter to the local MLAs and the Minister of Education to request a meeting with them at their earliest convenience to discuss current BTPS Celebrations and challenges.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- Alberta Education Information

23-259 COOPER: THAT the Board of Trustees hereby approves to proceed in referring a confidential matter to the Alberta Government as reviewed in-camera and requests the Board Chair to proceed in the referral with legal counsel.

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

E. IN-CAMERA:

23-260 YONKMAN: That the meeting move In-Camera at 1:41 PM.
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

E. IN-CAMERA Cont.:

23-261 **KING: That the meeting come out of In-Camera at 2:00 PM.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Assistant Superintendents Trodden and Quinton and Recording Secretary Dunne rejoined the meeting.

I. NEW BUSINESS Cont.:

Appeals:

- Transportation Appeal re; #2023-2024-36

23-262 **SPORNITZ: Moves that the Board receive the appeal letter re #2023-2024-36 for information and do research on routes and ride times to find improvements.**

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

J. TRUSTEE REPORTS:

- ASBA - Trustee Spornitz reported that the first Zone 2/3 is this Friday. Trustee Spornitz will bring transportation funding concerns to the table. The ASBA Speakers Corner Sessions are coming up.
- PSBAA/PSBC - Trustee Yonkman reported the meeting was positive and there was progress in some areas of concern. Several trustees will represent BTPS at the upcoming AGM. There will be a motion coming forward regarding the PSBAA budget. Trustee Yonkman is registered and will be attending the ASBA governance program
- TEBA - Trustee Ford reported that she will have a report at the next board meeting.
- RCASB - Trustee King shared there is no information at this time.

K. TRUSTEE READINGS:

- none

L. INFORMATION ITEMS:

The information was shared with the Board.

- Concerns were raised regarding government funding announcements and how they might impact the division.

Secretary Treasurer Neale explained the implication of the government announced bus funding. BTPS has applied for the Low Incidence Supports and Services funding grant.

M. COMMUNICATION STRATEGY:

- **Wainwright Elementary Replacement School Update**
- **Military Family Appreciation Day**
- **Sept 28th Truth and Reconciliation Learning Day**
- **Dual Credit Celebrations**
- **Media News - Facebook and Instagram**
- **Financial Dashboard Reporting**
- **Friends of WHS and Innisfree Community Financial Society Celebration and Recognition of Project Completion**
- **Delegation re; 302.11AP Support for Student Organizations**
- **Transportation Research on Bus Ride Times and Routes**
- **Outstanding Support Staff Deadline**
- **Board Advocacy - MLAs and Ministers Meeting Request**

AGENDA Items for Next Meeting

- None

Board Work Plan Items for the Next Board Meeting

I. NEW BUSINESS Cont.:

- 23-263 YONKMAN: Moves that the policy committee review 302.11AP, Support for Student Organizations, and do further research to bring back to the Board.**
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

- 23-264 KING: Moves that the meeting adjourn.**
CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY

Time: 2:36 P.M. hours (14:36PM)

Board Chair

Recording Secretary