

## October 2021 Regular Meeting

The regular Board meeting for October 2021 took place via Zoom on Thursday, October 7, 2021. Trustees who were in attendance included: Chairperson Bob Simpson, Vice Chairperson Jaime Johnson, Trustees Jade Anderson, Chris Balyski, Gilda Dokuchie, Gord Gendur, Shannon Leson, Jan Morrison, Lois Smandych, Nicole Pohl and Steve Variyan. Division office staff in attendance included Director of Education/CEO Quintin Robertson, Chief Financial Officer Keith Gervais, and Executive Services Supervisor Heather Morris.

## Delegation

The Board of Education heard two delegations during the October 7th meeting. In accordance with [Policy 7](#) contained within the [Board Policy Handbook](#), the Board will make provision for a delegation to make a presentation at a Board meeting in the interest of improving the education provided in Division schools.

## Accountability Report

### Facilities

During the Accountability Report, Facilities Manager Pat Morrison shared a listing of projects that were completed during the 2020-21 school year, current active 2021-22 projects, upcoming 2021-22 projects, and projects of interest in development. The list of projects can be viewed in the report which is posted on the GSSD website: [gssd.ca](https://gssd.ca) > [Board](#) > [Board Meetings](#) > 2021 10 07 > [Accountability Report – Facilities](#). Also included in the report are pictures of upgrades at Columbia School (Yorkton), Norquay School, Churchbridge Public School, Dr. Brass School, Springside School, and Macdonald School (Stockholm).

Morrison made the Board aware that Facilities is seeing an increase of service requests resulting from an improvement in processes and more Administrators using the system. From September 1, 2021 to August 31, 2021, 2,293 service requests were logged compared to 1,501 the previous year.

## New Business

### Appoint Voting Delegations & Allocate Votes for SSBA Convention

The Saskatchewan School Boards Association (SSBA) convention is scheduled for November 14 to 16, 2021 and set to be held in person in Regina. CFO, Keith Gervais, shared that those in attendance will need to provide proof of vaccination or negative COVID-19 test, masks will be required, and those who are not feeling well or have symptoms are not to attend.

For the purposes of voting on bylaw amendments and resolutions at the Annual General Meeting, Boards are required to provide a list of approved voting delegates. Election Buddy will be used for voting on bylaw amendments and during the Northern and Southern Constituency Elections, and each Board is asked to select one or two accredited delegates for voting. Board Chair Simpson and Vice Chair Johnson were appointed as GSSDs voting delegates.

### Board Policy 5 Role of the Board Chair Amendment

During the Director Evaluation held on August 28, 2021, the Board was advised to amend Policy 5 by including the following:

- *Manage the Director contract on the Board's behalf and bring any relevant matters to the Board's attention. Each month, the Chair shall sign off on the Director's expenses, applications for leaves, including but not limited*

*to sick leave and vacation days. The Chair will monitor the Director's accumulated holiday days to ensure that the Board is not in the position of an unfunded liability.*


A motion was passed to approve the amended [Board Policy 5 – Role of the Board Chair](#).

## Board of Education Budget Framework Amendment

During GSSD's 2021-22 Strategic Plan development, the Aspirational Statements were revised to reflect the four pillars of Comprehensive School Community Health:

- High Quality Teaching & Learning
- Engagement of All Students, Families, and Communities
- Effective Policy and Procedures
- Healthy, Sustainable Physical and Social Environments

The 2021-22 Budget Framework was amended to reflect these Aspirational Statements:

<b>Students Come First</b>	
<b>Board of Education Budget Framework – 2021-22</b>	
<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: #4a7c9c;">HOW ARE WE FUNDED?</p> <p>The Government of Saskatchewan determines the funding available to school divisions each year. The primary driver for funding is projected enrolment levels established prior to the upcoming academic year. Boards of Education are given the responsibility to allocate funding in an equitable and transparent manner that reflect the principles, priorities and commitments adopted by the Board of Education.</p>	<div style="display: flex; align-items: center;">  <div style="width: 90%;"> <p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: #4a7c9c;">WHAT ARE WE ABOUT? GSSD Aspirational Statements</p> <p><b>High Quality Teaching and Learning</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Provincial curricula and related resources that are developmentally appropriate and culturally responsive.</li> <li>Employ play-based learning experiences that support a sense of personal competency, self-efficacy, and social responsibility; and,</li> <li>A wide range of opportunities to learn, practice, experience and demonstrate understanding, confidence, and motivation for a healthy and balanced life.</li> </ul> <p><b>Engagement of All Students, Families, and Communities</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Efforts are aligned to promote student, family, staff and community health and well-being.</li> <li>School Community Councils and First Nations Education organizations are involved in School Level Plans.</li> <li>School Leadership values cooperation, effective interpersonal communication and shared decision making.</li> <li>Schools, families, and communities engage in ongoing discussions and shared efforts to promote and support the health and well-being of staff, students, and the community; and,</li> <li>Reciprocal relationships share resources and services within the school and community.</li> </ul> <p><b>Effective Policy and Procedures</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Protocols for collaboration on policy development and related protocols practices for health and well-being.</li> <li>Ongoing evaluation and monitoring of needs and effectiveness of efforts to improve well-being.</li> <li>Promising practices that enhance and well-being; and,</li> <li>Clear practices, procedures, protocols and regulations regarding health and safety in children and youth (e.g., nutrition, anti-bullying, physical activity, pandemic planning, air quality).</li> </ul> <p><b>Healthy, Sustainable Physical and Social Environments</b></p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>Access to and support for healthier options.</li> <li>A welcoming, caring, and inclusive environment.</li> <li>Healthy relationships among and between students, staff, and the community.</li> <li>Responsive and inclusive leadership of students, staff, and community.</li> <li>Relationships that influence and are influenced by families, cultural perspectives, and the community.</li> <li>Modern, responsible infrastructure to maintain and promote the highest levels of support for students, staff, families, and the community.</li> <li>Systems that ensure buildings, grounds, transportation, and technology are built and maintained not only to current standards, but that practices and procedures are in place to plan for a strong, vibrant future.</li> <li>Proactive, innovative approaches to sustain, support and grow Division facilities and systems.</li> <li>Efficiencies, both internally and externally, to ensure appropriate resources are targeted to our key areas including facilities, transportation, and technology.</li> <li>Strategies to use the school buildings and grounds, materials, equipment, and routes to and from the school to enhance well-being of staff, students, and the community; and,</li> <li>Informal role modelling, peer support, nurturing families, and safe communities.</li> </ul> </div> </div>
<p style="text-align: center; font-weight: bold; color: #4a7c9c;">WHAT ARE OUR PRIORITIES?</p> <p><b>Advocacy</b> —The Board of Education and Administrative Council will conduct targeted advocacy sessions with the Ministry of Education and the Provincial Government seeking sustainable funding. GSSD will also explore innovative partnerships with a mission to expand funding sources allowing the division to meet the vision of building strong foundations and bright futures.</p> <p><b>Principled Decision Making</b> — The Board of Education and Administrative Council will strive to make budget decisions based on our Aspirational Statements.</p> <p><b>Expenditure Review</b>—The Board of Education and Administrative Council will support processes and practices that allow for the review of expenditures for cost efficiencies in operational, administrative, and instructional areas.</p> <p><b>Equitable Staffing</b> —The Board of Education and Administrative Council support equity and transparency of staff allocation. Staffing equity will be achieved by considering the Pupil-Teacher Ratio (PTR) with an eye on class size, grade configurations, the diversity of our students, schools, and communities. Consultation and collaboration will be a key feature of the staffing process.</p> <p><b>Targeted Supports for Indigenous Students</b> —The Board of Education and Administrative Council are mindful of the significance and urgency of the Truth and Reconciliation Calls to Action. GSSD is compelled to work with stakeholders to enhance educational outcomes for indigenous students, now and into the future.</p> <p><b>Maximizing the Impact of the Division's Strategic Plan</b> —The Board of Education and Administrative Council is cognizant of the importance of the division four Focus Areas – Student &amp; Family, People Capacity, Internal Processes, and Financial Stewardship. The division is committed to exploring new and innovative ways to enhance opportunities for students, staff, and communities.</p>	<div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: center; padding: 5px;"> <div style="width: 45%; background-color: #4a7c9c; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Building Strong Foundations to Create Bright Futures</div> <div style="width: 45%; background-color: #4a7c9c; color: white; padding: 5px; text-align: center; font-weight: bold;">Learning Without Limits...Achievement For All</div> </div>

## Director's Report

### Enrollment / Pupil Teacher Ratio Report

Director/CEO Robertson unpacked the September 30, 2021, school enrollments with the Board of Education. In January of 2021, Good Spirit would have projected 5,742 Kindergarten to Grade 12 students (not included Home Based Education). Based on September 30, 2021, numbers GSSD has 5,785 students enrolled which is an increase of 43 students.

Some schools within the Division have seen a decrease in their enrolment while others are showing a significant increase. GSSD's Education Council has identified three schools that are showing significant enrolment pressures. These schools will soon see an increase in their staffing: Kamsack Comprehensive Institute, Norquay School, and Victoria School.

## GSSD Scholarships 2021

Robertson shared the 2021 scholarship recipients from each of the GSSD schools. The list below identifies the student from each school who graduated with the highest academic average for their grade twelve year.

School	Name of Student	Average
Canora Composite School	Emily Owchar	97%
Churchbridge Public School	Abbey Kaeding	95.4%
Esterhazy High School	Kendall Walker	98.43%
Invermay School	Christian Cabungcal	87%
Kamsack Comprehensive Institute	Anastasia Schwartz	92.57%
Langenburg Central School	Charlee Mitschke	99.4%
Melville Comprehensive School	Minheon (Bella) Song	99%
Norquay School	Tatiana Bellows	95.9%
Preeceville School	Almina Kovcic	95.1%
	Eli Kashuba	95.1%
Sturgis Composite School	Eloisa Vicente	93.7%
Yorkton Regional High School	Laura Gillis	97.86%

## Strategic Plan Report

Robertson provided a copy of GSSDs 2021-22 Strategic Plan Report to the Board. The Report is accessible on the website at [gssd.ca](https://gssd.ca) > [Media Room](#) > Reports > 2021-22 > 2021-22 Strategic Plan.

## 2020-2021 Financial Report

Gervais reviewed the year end financial report with the Trustees. With the pandemic safety restrictions in place, GSSD experienced some savings due to less professional development, travel expenses, extra-curricular activities and substitutes.

Highlights noted within the report included:

- Revenues:
  - Increased grants from YRHS Capital and Contingency funds
  - Decrease in tuition from less federal tuition paying students
  - School generated funds had less activity at the schools due to COVID-19
  - Facility rental and interest revenues were under budget
- Expenditures:
  - Governance saving in travel, PD and SCC grants
  - Instruction savings in sub costs and increased staffing for Digital Learning School
  - Facilities caretaker sub costs exceeded budget, savings in utilities, and incomplete PMR projects will carry forward
  - Transportation had less Special Events Transportation costs, savings in fuel and sub costs, and Fleet supervisor vacancy
  - Decreased tuition costs due to less Parkland College and out of province students
  - Savings in interest costs – paid off RBC lease in full at the beginning of school year

## Saskatchewan School Board Association

Trustees received information on the 2022 proposed SSBA budget. Robertson highlighted the following:

- Proposed 2% increase in membership fees to offset the increase in market adjusted salary pay grids.
- No rental revenue
- 2.0% (\$45.7K) membership fee increase
- 2.0% pooled salaries increase for staff
- Funding for an increase to the Strategic Advisor for First Nation and Métis Education position from 0.5 to 1.0 FTE; and
- Increase to Executive and committee member per diem and hourly rate by 12% to 15%

## Administrative Procedure Updates

Robertson informed the Board of the Administrative Procedures which went up for feedback and are now approved:

- [AP 161 Communicable Disease](#) (previously HIV/AIDS)
- [AP 309 Potentially Life-Threatening Medical Conditions](#)

## GSSD Professional Development Opportunities

Robertson noted that there is a Non-Violent Crisis Intervention (NVCi) Refresher being held on October 21 and a 2-day NVCi training session for GSSD staff on October 26 & 27, 2021.

## Upcoming Important Dates

October 10-16, 2021	School Sport Week in Saskatchewan
October 15, 2021	Deadline for Resolutions (for the AGM) 4:30 pm
October 17-23, 2021	Education Week Theme: Learning for the Future
October 17-23, 2021	Saskatchewan Library Week
October 18, 2021	School Bus Driver Appreciation Day
October 25, 2021	Board Chairs Council Meeting, 8:30 am – 9:30 am, via Zoom
November 14–16, 2021	SSBA Fall General Assembly and AGM, Regina, SK – TBD
November 15, 2021	Public Section Annual General Meeting, Regina – time TBA
November 16, 2021	Board Chairs Council Meeting, 11:30 am – 4:00 pm, Regina, SK – TBD
December 6, 2021	Board Chairs Council Meeting, 8:30 am – 9:30 am – via Zoom
March 3, 2022	Public Section Executive Meeting, 1:00 pm – 2:30 pm – via Zoom
April 7, 2022	Public Section Executive Meeting, Saskatoon, time TBA
June 2, 2022	Public Section General Meeting and Professional Development Event, Saskatoon Travelodge, 6:30 pm – 9:00 pm
June 3, 2022	Public Section General Meeting and Professional Development Event, Saskatoon Travelodge, 8:30 am – 2:00 pm



Upcoming Board Meetings: November 18, December 16, January 27, March 3, March 31, May 5, June 16, August 18

Location: Good Spirit Education Complex

To review [Board Policy 7 Board Operations](#), visit [gssd.ca](http://gssd.ca) > [Board](#) > [Policy Handbook](#) > [Board Operations](#).

### Submissions & Feedback

To submit photos or stories regarding the Board of Education or an individual Trustee in your school community, please contact [Heather.Morris@gssd.ca](mailto:Heather.Morris@gssd.ca).

For more information related to the Board of Education, visit our website at [gssd.ca](http://gssd.ca) > [Board](#)

### Contact Us

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*Building Strong Foundations to  
Create Bright Futures*