

December 2019 Regular Meeting

The regular meeting of the Board for December 2019 took place in the Saskota Room at the Good Spirit Education Complex on Thursday, December 19, 2019. In attendance at this month's meeting were Bob Simpson, Chairperson, Jaime Johnson, Vice Chair, Trustees Jade Anderson, Chris Balyski, Gilda Dokuchie, Gord Gendur, Shannon Leson, Jan Morrison, Lois Smandych, Florence Stachura, Steve Variyan, Assistant to the Director Heather Morris, Director of Education/CEO Quintin Robertson, Chief Financial Officer Keith Gervais and Deputy Director of Education Donna Kriger.



Accountability Report

Jason Trost, Superintendent of Human Resources, presented an accountability report regarding the function of Human Resources across the Good Spirit School Division. Trost identified that the primary function of Human Resources is to support the division's strategic plan by developing strategies and processes which build strong employee relationships while promoting a healthy, productive and engaged work environment aligned with the Foundational Statements of the Board.

Superintendent Trost unpacked the number of employees within each of the employee groups across the division. A review of the collective agreements was shared and who the representatives are within the school division for each of these groups.

Trost also highlighted that the Human Resources work plan for the 2019-20 school year focusses on the following areas:

- Implementation of a new Human Resource Information System Implementation (Atrieve);
- Refinement of the Performance Management for Senior leadership, Professional Service Providers and In-School Administrators;
- The recruitment of Educational Assistants & Bus Drivers;
- Employment Equity Plan for hiring individuals of visible minorities and disabilities;
- Revision and development of Administrative Procedures; and,
- Contract Negotiations impacting various employment groups.

To view the accountability report in its entirety, visit gssd.ca > Board > Board Meetings > 2019 12 19 Regular Board Meeting > [Accountability Report – Human Resources](#).

Board Development

Director/CEO, Quintin Robertson, discussed outcome-based reporting with the Board of Education. Robertson shared that the compelling reason for outcome-based reporting is due to the renewal of the Saskatchewan Curriculum which has taken an outcomes-based approach. This ultimately necessitated a change to accurately reflect how we report student achievement.

Outcome-based reporting is being utilized in Grades K-9 in the Good Spirit Division where all curricula have been renewed to outcomes and indicators. Robertson indicated that academic achievement is reported using a 4-pt

Achievement Scale. All 23 Saskatchewan school divisions have recently adopted the 4-pt Achievement Scale and have also identified a common definition for other terms like IE-Insufficient Evidence, NA-Not Applicable, IG-Individualized Goals. Robertson indicated that Good Spirit will transition to the provincial 4-pt Achievement Scale in the 2020-21 school year upon the implementation of the new provincial Student Data System.

Robertson highlighted that academic marks are intended to reflect only the student's achievement of outcomes and does not factor in learning behaviours such as effort, participation, attendance, etc. Learning behaviours are reported separately on a 4-point scale for all Kindergarten to Grade 12 students and reflects the frequency of the behaviours. GSSD will be adopting the provincial factors that affect student achievement for the 2020-2021 school year with the implementation of the provincial student data system.

To read more on the board development topic, visit gssd.ca > Board > Board Meetings > 2019 12 19 Regular Board Meeting > [Board Development – Outcome-Based Reporting](#).

New Business

Board Policy 2 - Role of the Board

The Board passed a motion to accept the amendments made to Board Policy 2 regarding the Role of the Board. Item 3.2. was amended to read Annually approve priorities and outcomes (it previously stated Annually set priorities and outcomes). Policy 2 has been posted to the website: gssd.ca > Board > Board Policy Handbook > [Policy 2 Role of the Board](#).

Board Policy 4 - Board Member Code of Ethics

The Board of Education passed a motion to accept the amendments made to Board Policy 4 regarding Board Member Code of Ethics. Point 7 was amended to include the word "corporate". Policy 4 has been posted to the website: gssd.ca > Board > Board Policy Handbook > [Policy 4 Board Member Code of Ethics](#).

Amended Annual Work Plan

The Board of Education passed a motion to accept amendments made to the Board Annual Work Plan regarding the revision of dates for the Advocacy session with First Nations Partners, the Parkland College, and the centralized SCC Symposiums. The amended Policy 2 Annual Work Plan has been posted to the website: gssd.ca > Board > Board Policy Handbook > [Annual Work Plan](#).

Director's Report

Board Policy Review

The Board of Education and CEO/Director Robertson reviewed Board Policy 6 – Role of the Vice Chair and Board Policy 7 – Board Operations. It was determined that minor edits were required within Board Policy 7 to reflect the change from the Fairview Education Center to the Good Spirit Education Complex. A minor edit was also added to Delegations to the Board under 10.8 to replace "will normally table" to "may table".

Financial Report

Keith Gervais presented the Board of Education with an updated financial report for the 2019-20 school year.

Sturgis Bus Garage/PAA Shop

Robertson shared financial information related to the possible conversion of the Sturgis Bus Garage into a PAA Center for the north cluster of GSSD Schools. The Board of Education has committed to continuing the conversation around innovative programming for North cluster schools.

MySchoolSask

Deputy Director, Donna Kriger, presented an update on MySchoolSask(MSS), the provincial student information system. Kriger identified that GSSD will be onboarding the new provincial system in the fall of 2020-21. The implementation schedule will begin in January 2020 to prepare for the fall rollout.

Provincial Bargaining Update

Robertson updated the Board of Education on the current status of the provincial teacher's bargaining process. Robertson shared that the process has gone to conciliation and the members of the conciliation board have been named. The process is expected to be initiated in the new year.

Funding Distribution Adjustment

CFO Gervais shared that funding allocations are provided to school divisions on budget day based on projected enrolments for the 2019-20 school year. Adjustments are made by the Ministry in December with updated enrolment data for the current year. With slightly higher enrolment numbers than what was projected will result in GSSD receiving a small positive adjustment to our funding.

Administrative Procedure Update

Director/CEO Robertson updated the Board on GSSD Administrative Procedure revisions and updates which have taken place since the November Board meeting.

Upcoming Important Dates

December 23–January 3	Christmas Break
January 9	School Community Council Symposium, Supper at 6 pm, Meeting at 6:45 pm.
January 12	Board Chairs Council Teleconference, 8:30–9:30 am
January 27	Family Literacy Day
January 27	International Holocaust Remembrance Day
January 30	Regular Board Meeting, 10 am–5 pm
January 31	ECDAA Winter Meeting, 1–4 pm
February	Aboriginal Story Telling Month
February 6	Board Chair Council Meeting, Regina (TBC), 1:40-4 pm
February 7	Trustee Academy, Regina
February 9-15	Teacher/Staff Appreciation
February 10	Trustee Academy, Saskatoon
February 17	Family Day
February 18-21	Winter Break
February 27	Red Cross Pink Day

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

Upcoming Board Meetings:

January 30, 2020, March 12, 2020, April 2, 2020, June 18, 2020, August 27, 2020

Location: Good Spirit Education Complex, Saskota Room

To review Board Policy 7 Board Operations, visit 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.

Contact Us

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Create Bright Futures*