

FROM THE BOARD

HIGHLIGHTS FROM THE
JUNE 15, 2023 MEETING



HIGH QUALITY TEACHING AND LEARNING

ENGAGEMENT OF ALL STUDENTS,
FAMILIES, AND COMMUNITIES

HEALTHY, SUSTAINABLE PHYSICAL
& SOCIAL ENVIRONMENTS

EFFECTIVE POLICY
AND PROCEDURES

June 15, 2023 Regular Meeting

The Regular Board meeting on June 15, 2023, was held at the Good Spirit Education Complex. The following trustees were present: Chairperson Jaime Johnson, Vice Chair Steve Variyan, Jade Anderson, Chris Balyski, Gilda Dokuchie, Shannon Leson, Bob Simpson, Lois Smandych, and Nicole Pohl. Also in attendance were division office staff, including Director of Education/CEO Quintin Robertson, Chief Financial Officer Keith Gervais, and Executive Services Supervisor Heather Morris.

Meeting Opening

Board Chair Johnson commenced the meeting at 10 am.

Trustee Pohl respectfully recognized that the meeting was taking place on Treaty 4 Territory; the traditional territory of the Anishinaabe, Cree, Assiniboine, and homeland of the Métis Peoples.

Approval of Minutes

The meeting package included the minutes for the May 4, 2023, Regular Board Meeting and the May 25, 2023, Special Board Meeting, which were prepared by Executive Services Supervisor Heather Morris. The approved minutes can be accessed on the GSSD website: [GSSD](#) | [Board](#) | [Board Meetings](#) | [May 4, 2023, Minutes](#) and [May 25, 2023, Minutes](#).

Delegation

As outlined in Board Policy 7, 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.

During the Regular Meeting on June 15th, two delegations were approved to address the Board.

Accountability Report

Transportation

Ryan Hall, Transportation Manager, provided an overview of the targets, data, key strategies employed, future strategies, risk assessment, and summary comments during the accountability report on Transportation.

Targets:

- Minimizing ride times.
- Collaborating with HR and other divisions to enhance recruitment strategies.
- Analyzing fuel usage to minimize costs.

Data:

- Route cancellations categorized as mechanical, weather-related, medical, personal, and other.
- Information on ride statistics, including the number of students transported, daily kilometres, longest ride times, and average ride time.
- Updates on bus and vehicle purchases for the division.

Key Strategies Employed:

- Collaborating with Human Resources and Payroll for educational assistants to obtain their S-endorsement, offering a monetary bonus as an incentive.
- Building relationships between bus drivers, administrators, and families.
- Implementing BusPlanner Web as a school locator and transportation eligibility tool.
- Conducting discussions with bus drivers and local government officials regarding road conditions.
- Providing training for bus drivers, introducing new software, and complying with electronic safety inspections.

Future Strategies:

- Fully implementing BusPlanner Workflow for charter bus requests.
- Analyzing Administrative Procedure related to school closures or inclement weather and student transportation.
- Developing a five-year fleet renewal plan.

Risk Assessment:

- Assessing the impact categories of financial, reputational, managerial effort/capacity, government relations, legal, and student outcomes.
- Likelihood of identified risks assessed as rare.

Summary Comments:

- GSSD has seen an increase in ridership with improved efficiency and reduced ride times.
- Fewer cancellations due to the availability of spare drivers and favorable weather conditions.

The Board approved the accountability report on Transportation and acknowledged the report met the requirements of QIs 1.2, 5.1, 6.2, and 7.2, based on the evidence within the report.

To view the accountability report in its entirety visit: [GSSD](#) | [Board](#) | [Board Meetings](#) | [Accountability Report – Transportation](#).

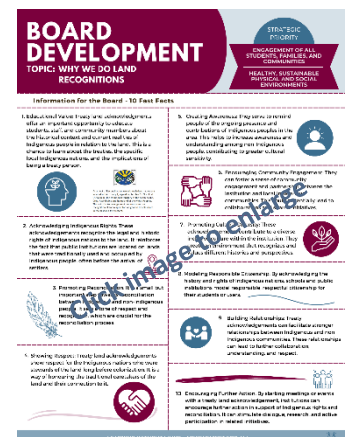
Board Development

Why We Do Land Recognitions

Chair Johnson posed a question to Jess Armstrong, the Indigenous Student Success Consultant, asking for an explanation of what a treaty is. In summary, Armstrong responded by stating that treaties are agreements designed to establish and maintain a partnership between the Crown, Government, and First Nations. Treaties are legally binding agreements and are meant to establish a framework for peaceful coexistence and collaboration among nations.

Armstrong highlighted the significance of Indigenous Identity, emphasizing that it encompasses a deep connection and knowledge of the land. Through acknowledging the land, we also acknowledge its original inhabitants of this land. We recognize the oppression and injustices they endured in the past and continue to face today. By recognizing the land and the Indigenous people of this land, we renew our commitment to not only the treaty relationship but to continuing to build relationships with Indigenous people.

To access the Board Development, visit [GSSD](#) | [Board](#) | [Board Meetings](#) | [Board Development – Why We Do Land Recognitions](#).



Relationship Building/Advocacy Session

Saskatchewan School Boards Association

Representatives from the Saskatchewan School Boards Association (SSBA), including Jaimie Smith-Windsor (President), Shawn Davidson (Vice President), Darren McKee (Executive Director), and Robert Bachman (Constituency Representative), joined the Board via Teams. The purpose was to foster communication, address inquiries, and discuss the SSBA's role in advocating for its members.

The session focused on fostering relationships, amplifying local voice, and discussing advocacy campaigns and initiatives. Topics included membership fees, voting structure, local voice importance, advocacy strategies, and board and public engagement. Director Robertson emphasized ethical alliance-building, while Jaimie expressed gratitude for Trustee Smandych's pandemic efforts.

During the session, participants explored various strategies aimed at strengthening the role of locally elected school boards. These strategies included promoting public involvement, utilizing videos to raise awareness, and fostering engagement with School Community Councils (SCC). The importance of engaging Members of the Legislative Assembly (MLAs) and facilitating knowledge sharing was emphasized.

Chair Johnson delivered closing remarks and emphasized the significance of implementing the discussed strategies at the division level. Appreciation was expressed for the support received and the exchange of communication ideas. Participants were encouraged to actively participate in the renewal of the SSBA Strategic Plan by providing input through surveys.

Both board members and SSBA representatives expressed gratitude for the productive discussions that took place and reaffirmed their commitment to ongoing collaboration and cooperation.

New Business

School Community Council Loans

In response to the request made by the Yorkdale Central School Grade 6 to 8 students through the School Community Council (SCC), plans are underway to upgrade their section of the school grounds. The SCC has initiated research into the feasibility of installing a pair of gazebos. These gazebos would serve as a versatile gathering space for the older grades, accommodating activities such as outdoor classes, presentations, events, and more.

To support this endeavor, the SCC has consulted with the GSSD Facilities department. Discussions have been held regarding the relocation of existing sheds and the placement of the new gazebos in the designated area. The collaboration between the SCC and the Facilities department aims to ensure the successful implementation of the project.

The Board made a motion to approve the School Community Council loan application for the Yorkdale School outdoor classroom project.

The Columbia School Community Council (SCC) is committed to enhancing the Columbia School playground, with a two-fold plan:

1. Revitalizing the playground space to create an improved recreational area for the students.
2. Establishing a large outdoor learning space with shade and seating, enabling teachers to conduct classes outdoors.

To accomplish these goals, Columbia School has been collaborating with Playquest. The estimated timeline for the project includes an installation date in August. The SCC is actively working towards providing a revitalized and engaging playground experience for the students of Columbia School.

The Board made a motion to approve the School Community Council loan application for the Columbia School playground and outdoor classroom project.

Director's Report

Board Policy Review

The Board had the opportunity to review three policies: Policy 18 Community Partnerships, Policy 19 Enterprise Risk Management, and Policy 19 Appendix A Enterprise Risk Management Framework. No edits are required, indicating that the policies align with the Board's current practices.

To access all Board Policies, visit [GSSD](#) | [Board](#) | [Board Policy Handbook](#).

Facilities Update

Pat Morrison, Facilities Manager, provided an overview on the status of facility projects, maintenance, and other facility related items.

Here is a summary of the provided information:

1. Current Projects - Active Design:
 - Canora Composite School: Design phase for roof and envelope issues (Phase 1).
 - Good Spirit Education Complex: Planning for parking lot improvements including rail for walkway and jersey barriers.
 - Davison School: Planning support for barrier-free playground path.
 - Churchbridge Public School: Planning to replace main backboards in the gym.
 - Macdonald School: Planning for water softener addition.
 - Yorkton Regional High School: Planning for relocation of reset button for the divider wall in the gym.
 - Yorkton Regional High School: Tender for parking lot recap and extension.
2. Current Projects - Scheduled:
 - Various schools have scheduled projects, such as concrete step installation, washroom upgrades, computer lab renovation, drainage system installation, gymnasium floor replacement, etc.
3. Current Projects - Work in Progress:
 - Ongoing projects include site drainage, room renovations, boiler room renovation, daycare flooring and countertops, etc., at different schools.
4. Recently Completed Projects:
 - Completed projects include track repairs, office renovations, surveillance system replacement, storage shed construction, etc.
5. Service Request Snapshot - April 29th to June 12th, 2023:
 - Total requests: 373
 - Closed: 218
 - Work in Progress: 2
 - Pending Info: 12
 - Pending Parts: 7
 - Pending Approval: 1
 - Pending Scheduling: 133
6. Facilities Strategic Plan and Other Facilities Related Items:
 - Updates on the Yorkton Regional High School major capital project
 - Asbestos Management Plan Review and incident review and process development.
 - Facilities Manager holds meetings with school administrators to discuss projects, safety issues, and collect feedback
 - Facilities summer activities include:
 - summer projects
 - facility inspections

- school deep cleans and waxing
- gym floor recoating

Facilities Tour – Yorkdale Central School



The school is configured for grades K-8 and has a total size of 5215 m² (56,133 ft²). It was originally built in 1959 and has undergone several additions in 1967, 1976, and 1984 to accommodate additional classrooms, a student center, performing arts facilities, and administrative offices. The current enrollment for the 2022/23 academic year is 464 students, with 25 classrooms and 1 gymnasium available. The school also features facilities such as a library, wood shop, performing arts area, band room, workout area, home economics lab, and a student center.

Recently completed projects at the school include the Home Economics lab, fitness area, phone system, PAA doors, and a portable roof top HVAC unit. Planned projects include replacing the asphalt shingles on the student center with tin, concrete repairs, roof replacements for sections 2, 4, 7, and 10, constructing a concrete ramp to the PAA doors, and a boiler replacement with a mechanical room renovation.

Principal Dennis Nesseth is highly regarded as a great ambassador for GSSD's commitment to serving students. He consistently prioritizes the well-being and educational experience of the students at the school. The Facilities Team enjoys collaborating with Dennis and his staff, as they share a common goal of improving the overall student experience.

To take a complete tour and see lots of photos of Yorkdale Central School, please visit [GSSD](#) | [Division](#) | [Facilities](#) | [Yorkdale Central School](#).

Student Incident Report

School staff and administration utilize a behaviour tracking system called Review 360 to document incidents of concern, which can be accessed by the in-school administration and senior leadership to address office-level referrals. One possible consequence of such referrals is suspension, either in-school or out-of-school. To determine when a suspension is necessary, process and practices have been established to support in-school administration.

Robertson presented a report on student incidents of concern, which included 16 out-of-school suspensions that occurred across the Division between April 28 – June 8, 2023. In response to these incidents, school administration and staff provide support to their students by implementing various measures.

Administrative Procedures

Since the last Board meeting, only one Administrative Procedure ([AP 175 Workplace Violence](#)) has been reviewed, finalized, and made available on the GSSD website.

GSSD Professional Development Opportunities

June 16, 19, 20	Hanen Teacher Talk Training Series
August 29	Division PD via TEAMS
August 31	Cultural Event
September 21 & 22	Beginning Your Journey to Anti-Racist Education
October 10	Division PD via TEAMS (AM) School Based Prep. (PM)
November 30	Leading to Learn Signpost #1 at GSEC Leading to Learn Signpost #2 at GSEC

Upcoming Important Dates

June 15	Retirement Banquet, 5 pm; supper – 6:30 pm
June 22	Bus Garage Barbeque, Melville Bus Garage
June 26	Bus Garage Barbeque, Good Spirit Education Complex
August 16	Director/Board Evaluation, 9 am-4:30 pm
August 17	Regular Board Meeting
September 21	Board Chairs Council – In-person, Regina, location TBC, 1:00 p.m. – 4:00 p.m.
September 27	Deadline for Bylaw Amendments (for the AGM) – 4:30 p.m.
September 30	Deadline for Submissions for the 2023 Premier’s Board of Education Award for Innovation and Excellence & the 2023 Award of Distinction – 4:30 p.m.
October 12	Deadline for Resolutions (for the AGM) - 4:30 p.m.
October 23	Board Chairs Council Meeting – via Zoom, 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.
November 12	Board Chairs Council Meeting – In-person before Fall Assembly, Regina, 8:30 a.m. – 11:30 a.m.
November 12-14	Fall General Assembly and AGM – Regina, Delta Hotel
December 4	Board Chairs Council Meeting – via Zoom, 8:30 – 9:30 a.m.

Financial Update

Chief Financial Officer Keith Gervais presented a detailed financial update and informed the Board that GSSD is currently on track.

GOOD SPIRIT SCHOOL DIVISION NO.204 Financial Information Report June 15, 2023

Cash/Accrual Basis

	2021-2022 Approved Budget	2021-2022 Year to Date	% of Budget Year to Date	2022-2023 Approved Cash Budget	2022-2023 Year to Date	% of Budget Year to Date
REVENUE						
PROPERTY TAXATION	-	4,432	#DIV/0!	-	-	#DIV/0!
GRANTS	79,155,034	47,156,451	59.57%	83,560,255	61,608,329	73.73%
TUITION & RELATED FEES	1,820,000	1,679,093	92.26%	2,328,847	2,082,694	89.43%
SCHOOL GENERATED FUNDS	2,500,000	1,405,967	56.24%	2,500,000	2,499,921	100.00%
COMPLIMENTARY SERVICES	914,132	103,883	11.36%	927,312	207,503	22.38% (1)
EXTERNAL SERVICES	440,736	223,660	50.75%	412,350	305,230	74.02%
OTHER REVENUE	405,200	172,446	42.56%	377,700	592,119	156.77% (2)
TOTAL REVENUE	85,235,102	50,745,932	59.54%	90,106,464	67,295,796	74.68%
EXPENDITURES						
GOVERNANCE	292,384	182,857	62.54%	295,450	223,131	75.52% (3)
ADMINISTRATION	2,903,577	1,946,243	67.03%	2,954,470	2,226,940	75.38%
INSTRUCTION	56,041,787	42,682,753	76.16%	56,968,219	49,824,350	87.46%
PLANT	10,693,451	9,821,088	91.84%	10,912,895	8,958,858	82.09% (4)
TRANSPORTATION	7,399,115	5,712,580	77.21%	8,417,807	7,195,011	85.47% (5)
TUITION & RELATED FEES	632,200	479,756	75.89%	602,200	321,642	53.41% (6)
SCHOOL GENERATED FUNDS	2,541,000	1,312,647	51.66%	2,541,000	2,407,399	94.74%
COMPLIMENTARY SERVICES & PROGRAMS	896,407	581,732	64.90%	862,688	882,027	102.24% (7)
EXTERNAL SERVICES	464,256	265,747	57.24%	426,021	338,550	79.47%
OTHER EXPENSES	18,043	34,574	191.62%	7,805	5,050	64.70%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	81,882,220	63,019,978	76.96%	83,988,555	72,382,957	86.18%
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	3,352,882	(12,274,046)		6,117,909	(5,087,161)	
TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS						
Less Purchases	9,630,000	2,784,625		11,278,000	7,752,804	
Plus Proceeds from disposals	-	-		-	-	
LONG TERM DEBT						
Less Repayments of the year	344,524	206,715		348,862	234,145	
Plus Debt issued during the year	890,000	89,196		-	-	
NON-CASH GAIN/EXPENSES						
Plus Amortization Expense	5,731,642	3,821,095		4,003,953	3,002,965	
Less Gain on Disposals of Tangible Capital Assets	-	-		-	-	
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	-	(11,355,096)		(1,505,000)	(10,071,145)	

HIGHLIGHTS:

- (1) Additional funding for ELIS grant, Operating grant to be transferred at year end
- (2) Interest revenue is exceeding budget due to higher interest rates
- (3) Savings in regular travel, over budget for PD travel
- (4) Caretaker subs are over budget
- (5) Repair and Maintenance exceeding budget due to inflation and shortage of parts, Savings in Fuel
- (6) Less tuition paying students that anticipated
- (7) PreK Teacher salaries are over budget

GOOD SPIRIT SCHOOL DIVISION NO.204
Financial Information Report June 15, 2023 **Cash/Accrual Basis**
Projected to Year End August 31, 2023
Q3 Forecast

	2021-2022 Approved Cash Budget	2022-2023 Projected Yr End	% of Budget Year to Date
REVENUE			
PROPERTY TAXATION	-	-	#DIV/0!
GRANTS	83,560,255	83,746,885	100.22% (1)
TUITION & RELATED FEES	2,328,847	2,300,000	98.76%
SCHOOL GENERATED FUNDS	2,500,000	2,600,000	104.00%
COMPLIMENTARY SERVICES	927,312	999,312	107.76% (2)
EXTERNAL SERVICES	412,350	400,000	97.00% (3)
OTHER REVENUE	377,700	815,000	215.78% (4)
TOTAL REVENUE	90,106,464	90,861,197	100.84%
EXPENDITURES			
GOVERNANCE	295,450	291,000	98.49%
ADMINISTRATION	2,954,470	2,882,000	97.55%
INSTRUCTION	56,968,219	56,820,000	99.74%
PLANT	10,912,895	11,137,000	102.05% (5)
TRANSPORTATION	8,417,807	8,113,000	96.38%
TUITION & RELATED FEES	602,200	320,000	53.14% (6)
SCHOOL GENERATED FUNDS	2,541,000	2,600,000	102.32%
COMPLIMENTARY SERVICES & PROGRAMS	862,688	940,650	109.04% (7)
EXTERNAL SERVICES	426,021	419,000	98.35%
OTHER EXPENSES	7,805	6,300	80.72%
TOTAL EXPENDITURES	83,988,555	83,528,950	99.45%
EXCESS (DEFICIENCY) OF REVENUES OVER EXPENDITURES	6,117,909	7,332,247	
TANGIBLE CAPITAL ASSETS			
Less Purchases	11,278,000	12,695,000	(8)
Plus Proceeds from disposals	-	-	
LONG TERM DEBT			
Less Repayments of the year	348,862	348,862	
Plus Debt issued during the year	-	-	
NON-CASH GAIN/EXPENSES			
Plus Amortization Expense	4,003,953	4,003,953	
Less Gain on Disposals of Tangible Capital Assets	-	-	
SURPLUS (DEFICIT) FOR THE YEAR	(1,505,000)	(1,707,662)	

HIGHLIGHTS:

- (1) Actual student enrolment was greater than projected
- (2) ELIS Funding \$100K greater than budgeted
- (3) ISSI grant \$20K less than budgeted
- (4) Interest rate increases result in more interest revenue
- (5) Caretaker Sub Costs exceed budget
- (6) Less tuition paying students than projected
- (7) Increased salary costs, professional and support
- (8) 2 sets of buses expected in 22-23

Upcoming Board Meetings: August 17, 2023
 Location: Good Spirit Education Complex
 To review [Board Policy 7 Board Operations](#), visit gssd.ca > [Board](#) > [Board Policy Handbook](#).

Contact Us
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 #204
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 Visit us online at
www.gssd.ca

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.

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

*Building Strong Foundations to
 Create Bright Futures*

