



Park West School Division

Board Agenda

Regular Session

Thursday, February 8, 2024,

6:00 p.m.

- 1. Call to Order/Greetings and Acknowledgement**

Park West School Division recognizes our history as an organization and as settlers to these Lands on Treaty 2 and Treaty 4, the original lands of the Anishinaabe, Cree, Oji-Cree, Dakota, and Dene peoples, and on the homeland of the Metis Nation. Park West School Division respects the Treaties that were made on these territories, we acknowledge the harms and the mistakes of the past, and we dedicate ourselves to move forward in partnership with Indigenous communities, in the spirit of reconciliation and collaboration.
- 2. Appoint Opening for Next Meeting and Opening of Meeting**
- 3. Addition to and Adoption of Agenda**
- 4. Delegations**
- 5. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting(s)**
 - a) Minutes of the Regular Board Meeting, [January 11, 2024](#)
- 6. Unfinished Business Arising Out of Minutes**
 - a) Citizenship
 - b) Region 1 Collaboration - March, May, June
 - c) Motion for Director 1 position
- 7. Board Education and Vision**
 - a) Indigenous Sharing Circle
- 8. Information from Trustees**
 - a) Chair/Vice Chair Report
 - b) Advocacy Committee Report
- 9. Senior Administration Report**
 - a) Superintendent/CEO ([attached](#))
 - b) Secretary-Treasurer ([attached](#))
- 10. Other Reports**
- 11. New Business**
 - a) Appointment By-Law
 - b) Public attendance at meetings
- 12. Questions of Clarification or Comments Regarding the Current Meeting from the Public**
- 13. Correspondence/PD Opportunities**
 - a) MSBA Board Ballots ([memo attached](#))
- 14. In-Camera**
- 15. Motions from In-Camera (as needed)**
- 16. Date(s) of Future Meeting(s)**
 - a) February 15 - Budget Meeting
 - b) February 20 - Budget Meeting
 - c) February 22 - Student Citizenship Awards
 - d) February 29 - Public Budget Meeting
 - e) March 14 - Regular Board Meeting
 - f) March 22,23 - MSBA Convention
- 17. Adjournment**

**Regular Board Meeting
January 11, 2024
Division Office**

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Sandy Szwaluk, James Roszell, Debby Lee, Lorra Eastcott, Taras Daneluk, Patsy Chuhai, Danielle Arran, Jennifer Andrew, Lisa Makwebak, Erica Lowe

Trustees ABSENT:

ADMIN PRESENT: Stephen David

RECORDER: Jody Percival

The meeting was called to order at 6:00 pm.

Due to remote participation Trustee Arran stepped down as Vice-Chair for the meeting.

Trustee Chuhai accepted the nomination as Vice-Chair.

It was decided by consensus to adopt the agenda as presented.

It was decided by consensus to approve the minutes as presented.

Trustee Chuhai accepted the nomination as Vice-Chair.

R1-24 Patricia Chuhai, J. Andrew

I MOVE that we support Rossburn Daycare plans for expansion provided that it involves zero cost to the school division and occurs in consultation with the division.

Sandy Szwaluk left the Chair and Patsy Chuhai took over as Chair.

It was decided by consensus to move in camera at 7:20 pm.

It was decided by consensus to move out of in camera at 8:15 pm.

Patricia Chuhai left the Chair and Sandy Szwaluk took over as Chair.

Items discussed In-Camera:

1. Personnel
2. Negotiations
3. Committee Reports
4. Trustee Concerns
5. Other

It was decided by consensus to adjourn to meet again in regular session at 6:00 pm on Thursday, February 8, 2024.

ADOPTED:

Chairperson

Secretary-Treasurer

Sandy Szwaluk
Board Chair
Park West School Division
1126 St. Clare Street
Birtle, MB R0M 0C0
sszwaluk@pwsd.ca

February 8, 2024

The Honourable Chrystia Freeland
Minister of Finance & Deputy Prime Minister
House of Commons
Ottawa, Ontario,
Canada
K1A 0A6
chrystia.freeland@parl.gc.ca

Re: Federal Budget 2024

Dear Minister Freeland:

As the federal government conducts its pre-budget consultations, we, the Board of the Park West School Division, are compelled to state our request that \$1 billion over five years, with a minimum \$200 million per year, be included in Budget 2024 for a National School Food Program. We are particularly concerned as there was no mention of this in last year's budget, which we found disheartening since a National School Food Program was initially introduced as part of Budget 2019, and then reaffirmed in the 2022 Budget's reference to mandate letters for the Minister of Families, Children and Social Development and the Minister of Agriculture and Agri-Food.

Our school division strongly believes that the government should fulfill this election platform promise. By including this incredibly important societal need as part of Budget 2024, the government will demonstrate its commitment to school food and student nutrition. We know that all the provinces and territories are ready to work out agreements with the federal government on a cost-shared National School Food Program. Like Child Care Agreements, we are confident that federal funds could flow to the provinces and territories, each of whom have the structures in place to ensure money gets turned into more robust programs and quality food for students. This will make an incredible impact on the affordability issues families are facing, while also supporting Canadian students' achievement and well-being.

Many key stakeholders participated in the consultations conducted by the ministries noted above, and our support and comments can be found in the [National School Food Policy Engagements – What We Heard Report](#). Our school division is not alone in showing support of MP Serge Cormier's Private Member's Bill C-322, National Framework for a School Food Program Act.

As local public education advocates, we see first hand the struggles that our children, families, and communities are facing. Food insecurity is a national issue and rates have been rising at

*[The Daily — Canadian Income Survey, 2021 \(statcan.gc.ca\)](#)

unprecedented levels. A 2022 Statistics Canada report* shows that 6.9 million people in 10 provinces, including almost 1.8 million children, lived in households struggling to afford the food they need.

When children and youth come to school hungry, it is difficult for them to focus on learning. This is an unfortunate reality for far too many students in our schools. Students must be fully prepared to face their learning day without worrying about where their next meal might come from. Simply put, children who are not hungry are more prepared to learn and participate in our classrooms and extra-curricular activities.

The Park West School Division has also advocated at the provincial level for continued support and funding but this must be reinforced by a coordinated national level of financial assurance.

A national school food policy and program would also help ensure that all children have the nourishment they need to learn and grow and improve their health and well-being.

Much work has been done by the federal ministries, and also within our province. The time is now for a true financial commitment from the federal government to ensure this initiative becomes a reality. Our children and their families cannot wait.

On behalf of the Park West School Division, we look forward to the inclusion of dedicated funding to support a National School Food Program in Budget 2024.

Thank you for your consideration,

Sincerely,

Sandy Szwaluk
Board Chair
Park West School Division

- c. The Honourable Jenna Sudds, Minister of Families, Children and Social Development
The Honourable Lawrence MacAulay, Minister of Agriculture and Agri-food



Topic: Superintendent's Report to the Board of Trustees

Date: February 8, 2024

Information items:

1. **COSL Conference:**
 - Several division principals and vice-principals will be attending the Council of School Leaders winter conference on February 15-16 in Winnipeg.
2. **Treaty resource kits:**
 - Schools have received Treaty Education Resource Kits that include a range of resources to support teachers with the implementation of Treaty Education in the classroom
3. **Framework for Learning:**
 - A divisional team is attending regional sessions throughout the year focusing on the provincial Framework for Learning.
 - The purpose of the Framework for Learning is to provide the blueprint on which essential elements of learning and teaching in Manitoba are organized.
4. **Meetings:**
 - Here is an overview of recent and upcoming meetings for the superintendent:
 - February 8 – Assessment committee
 - Feb. 13 – MB Ed Framework for Learning
 - Feb. 14 – Implementation team
 - Feb. 21 – Principal meeting
 - February 23 – Westman superintendents
 - Feb. 28-29 – Provincial bargaining

Action items:

- None



LEADERSHIP, ADVOCACY AND SERVICE FOR MANITOBA'S PUBLIC SCHOOL BOARDS

15 January 2024

TO: The Chairperson and Secretary-Treasurer
All School Divisions and Districts

FROM: Janis Arnold, Director
Governance and Professional Development Services

RE: Distribution of Board Ballots – MSBA March Annual Convention

In accordance with association by-laws, voting on by-laws and by-law amendments, must be conducted by means of board ballots at the annual convention. In order for your school board to receive the number of ballots to which it is entitled, it is imperative that the attached form “Authorization to Receive Board Ballots” be completed and returned to the association office prior to the start of convention. We need to have this form on file in order to release your board ballots at the convention. You may authorize as many or as few trustees as you wish, but I would suggest that you name two as a minimum, to guard against complications that might arise in the event of the unforeseen absence of one of your designates. Please also note that all of your board ballots will be released to the first authorized trustee that requests and signs for them; it is up to the board to determine how the ballots will be subsequently distributed and/or cast.

The business of the association will take place on Friday, March 22. ***Please note that this schedule means that boards should pick up their board ballots as early in the convention as possible, as they will be required on Friday morning.***

Please return the completed form to Jennifer Esau (email to: jesau@mbschoolboards.ca) at the association office no later than **Friday, March 1, 2024**. Thank you for your attention to this important matter. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to email me.

JA:je

Attachment



***Authorization to Receive Board Ballots
at the 2024 Annual Convention
of the Manitoba School Boards Association***

The Board of The Park West School Division/District hereby authorizes the following named trustee(s) to receive the board ballots to which it is entitled at the 2024 Annual Convention of the Manitoba School Boards Association.

The Board understands that:

- it will be receiving 3 board ballot(s), based on a K-12 FTE student population of 2112 (as of September 30, 2023).
- the entire allotment of board ballots will be released to the first authorized trustee who requests and signs for them at the Association Convention; it is the board's responsibility to determine how these board ballots will be subsequently distributed and/or cast.
- at least one trustee member of the school board must be present at the time of voting to cast the board ballots; proxy voting is not allowed.

(Signature of Board Chair)

(Date)

(Signature of Secretary-Treasurer)

(Date)

For use upon receipt of ballots only:

Ballots received by: _____

(Print name)

(Signature)

***Please complete this form and return it to the association office no later than Friday, March 1, 2024.
Thank you.***