



Leading Change
with courage, clarity and resilience

MANITOBA
School Boards
ASSOCIATION

56th Annual Convention
March 12 - 13, 2020
Delta Winnipeg,
350 St. Mary Avenue

***2020 Resolutions
and Special Business***



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NOTICE OF MOTION

The Chair of the MSBA Resolutions and Policy Committee shall move or cause to be moved the following motion regarding adoption of the Rules of Procedure for the resolution process at the MSBA Annual General Meeting:

2020 RULES OF PROCEDURE

Process:

1. All resolution proceedings shall be governed by these rules of procedure, the MSBA Act, and the MSBA By-Laws. In the event of any conflict, the provisions of the MSBA Act and the MSBA By-Laws shall prevail. Where any of the aforementioned identified instruments are silent, the current edition of Robert's Rules of Order Newly Revised, shall apply.
2. The resolution process shall be conducted by a "Resolutions Chair", referred to in the following sections as the "Chair".
3. The Chair will advise the membership of the disposition of emergent resolutions submitted to the MSBA Executive and request the assembly's consideration of those late resolutions not adopted by the Executive.
4. Resolutions shall be dealt with in the following order:
 - (a) consideration of new resolutions in the order listed in the resolutions booklet and any emergent resolutions adopted by the MSBA Executive at the end of the section in which the resolution is assigned (point #3 above);
 - (b) consideration of emergent resolutions not adopted by the MSBA Executive but approved by the assembly for debate;
 - (c) any resolution(s) for reconsideration in the order of receipt by the Chair (point #25).
5. Should any resolution be identified as a particular concern of the assembly, that resolution may be brought forward in the convention proceedings for discussion and debate by majority consent of the assembly. A motion requesting this action must be moved and seconded.
6. Proposed resolutions shall be read and moved by members of the Resolutions and Policy Committee and the Chair shall immediately ask for a seconder who may speak to the proposed resolution and close debate.

Resolutions:

7. Resolutions submitted by any member board in the period between the deadline for receipt of regular resolutions and the final Executive meeting preceding the annual general meeting will be considered emergent resolutions.

The Executive will assess emergent resolutions to determine whether the issue addressed was evident prior to the deadline for submission of regular resolutions. Where the Executive deems the resolution to be truly emergent in nature, it will be included among those for consideration at the annual general meeting.

Any emergent resolution not adopted by the MSBA Executive will require a separate motion to be added to the annual general meeting agenda and must be moved and seconded and receive the support of not less than two-thirds of the delegates present and voting in order to be considered.

2020 Rules of Procedure, cont'd....

8. Any resolution sponsored by the provincial executive will be deemed to be a regular resolution, whether or not it meets the timeline outlined above.
9. Extraordinary resolutions arising out of the business of the annual general meeting may be considered if consideration is supported by a two thirds majority of voting trustees.

Debate:

10. As soon as a proposed resolution has been moved and seconded, the Chair will call upon the seconder to explain the proposed resolution.
11. The Chair will then ask if any delegate wishes to speak against the proposed resolution. If no delegate so indicates, the seconder will be invited to close debate and the question will be called.
12. Once any delegate speaks in opposition to the proposed resolution, debate shall begin and continue until the question is called in the usual manner. The seconder will have the right to be the final speaker in the debate.
13. Each delegate wishing to speak to a resolution must first be formally recognized by the Chair and shall announce his/her name and school division/district before speaking to the resolution to be debated.
14. No delegate shall speak to a resolution more than once, except the seconder of the resolution, and debate shall be limited to three (3) minutes unless permission for an additional three (3) minutes is granted by general consent of the assembly.
15. Associate members may, at the discretion of the Chair, speak on a point of information but may not enter into the debate, nor may they move, second, or vote on a resolution.

Voting:

16. Member school boards who have at least one trustee in attendance at the Annual Convention shall be eligible to vote, via board ballots, on by-laws and by-law amendments. Trustees from member boards who are registered Convention delegates are eligible to register as voting delegates, and to receive a ballot book and voting delegate card that will be used to vote on resolutions other than by-laws.
17. A quorum shall consist of not less than 100 voting delegates present on the floor of the convention at the time any vote is called on any motion before the assembly.
18. The Resolutions and Policy Committee [By-Law #5, (10)] shall be responsible to know the voting strength at all times on the convention floor, and shall be responsible for ruling on any disputes over the issuance of voting cards and ballot books.
19. All voting shall be by show of hands (using the authorized voting cards) unless:
 - (a) the Chair, in his/her discretion, calls for a standing vote before announcing the results of a vote by show of hands, or
 - (b) immediately after the result has been announced by the Chair, one delegate can call for a standing vote.

2020 Rules of Procedure, cont'd....

20. A favourable vote of not less than two thirds of the board ballots cast shall be required to approve any amendments/changes to the By-Laws or MSBA Act. All other questions shall be decided by majority vote of those delegates present and voting unless otherwise specified in these rules of procedure.

Amendments:

21. A delegate may, at any time during the debate on a resolution, move an amendment, providing it is relevant to and deals with the same subject matter as the original resolution. Amendments must be seconded.
22. The Chair has the prerogative to divide a question into two or more questions so as to allow for a separate vote on any particular point or points, if the Chair deems that the division of the question will facilitate debate.
23. No more than one amendment and one amendment to the amendment (sub-amendment) will be accepted by the Chair at any one time.
24. The Chair may, in his/her discretion, require that any amendment to a resolution be submitted in writing.

Reconsideration:

25. A written notice of motion to reconsider a vote on the resolution shall be presented to the Chair, and may only be submitted by a delegate who originally supported the vote on that particular resolution. Upon validation of the request for reconsideration, the Chair shall immediately announce that a motion to reconsider will be presented after all other convention resolutions have been considered in accordance with [Section 4 (c)] above.

/ak

AUDITOR AND FINANCIALS

RECEIPT OF FINANCIAL STATEMENTS A-01-20
(MSBA Executive)

BE IT RESOLVED that the audited financial statements for the fiscal period ending June 30, 2019 be received.

The members of the Manitoba School Boards Association are hereby notified that the following resolution constitutes special business to be transacted pursuant to the Corporations Act.

APPOINTMENT OF AUDITOR A-02-20
(MSBA Executive)

BE IT RESOLVED that KPMG Chartered Accountants be re-appointed as the Manitoba School Boards Association auditors for the fiscal period ending June 30, 2020.

Notice:

In keeping with applicable provisions under *The Corporations Act*, all members are advised that the above motion constitutes special business, and shall be transacted during the forthcoming annual convention and annual general meeting of the Manitoba School Boards Association, to be held in Winnipeg at the Delta Hotel situated at 350 St Mary Avenue on Friday, March 13, 2020 between the hours of 7:30 a.m. and 6:30 p.m. (Central Daylight Time).

Rationale:

The motion to appoint an auditor is now featured as part of the annual resolutions process, being an Executive Resolution. By including this motion under the annual resolutions process, it is intended that feedback and input will be obtained from the membership before each annual convention takes place.

It is important to clarify that sections 156(3) and 158(1) of *The Corporations Act* provide clear guidance for the future. In the event that membership is not able to come to a decision regarding this motion, section 156(3) provides that, notwithstanding that shareholders (read "*members*") may not have appointed an auditor at an annual meeting, "the incumbent auditor continues in office until his successor is appointed". Section 158(1) further provides for continuance in office of the incumbent auditor, until there is a valid appointment of a successor by member boards or the auditor resigns, dies or is removed, in accordance with the Corporations Act.

Finally, all boards should be aware that, once this resolution does in fact appear before the annual convention in March, 2020, the present motion shall be considered and voted on by the eligible and lawful membership of the association through board ballot, consistent with section 15(b) of *The Manitoba School Boards Association Act*.

If members have any questions on this motion in advance of the MSBA November 2019 regional meetings or the March 2020 annual convention, we request that all such communications be routed through Board Chairpersons to Josh Watt, MSBA Executive Director, by telephone at: (204) 594-5162 or by email at: jwatt@mbschoolboards.ca

FUNDING AND FINANCIAL MATTERS

ALLOWING OPERATIONAL RESERVES FFM-01-20 (Region 1)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Manitoba School Boards Association lobby the Provincial Government to change the regulations to permit School Boards to create operational reserve funds.

Rationale:

Reserve Funds are established by Boards to assist with long term financial stability and financial planning. They are an important element of the Board's financial plan. By maintaining adequate levels of reserve fund balances, Board's are able to mitigate current and future risks, provide a cushion to absorb unexpected shifts in revenue or expenditures, fund one-time expenditure requirements, or minimize fluctuations in taxes.

As with many Boards, certain operational expenses can fluctuate greatly year over year. As Boards are not permitted to run deficits, they must fully budget for these potential expenses in their annual operating budget.

The provincial government acknowledges the importance of operational reserves by establishing them for themselves. Municipal governments also have established operational reserves. School Boards are not currently permitted to create operational reserves, as the Public Schools Finance Board currently restricts the creation of Reserve Funds to be Capital in nature.

Given the financial restrictions currently placed on School Boards by the provincial government, such as the 2% cap on the Special requirement and the ongoing reductions to the administration cap, it is becoming harder and harder for Boards to find the financial flexibility to invest in new educational initiatives and improve educational outcomes. Allowing operational reserves would allow some flexibility and would conform with the provincial government's request for fiscal prudence.

SUBSIDIZING TRAVEL COSTS FOR NORTHERN TEACHERS FFM-02-20 (Region 4)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Manitoba School Boards Association advocate with Manitoba Education for financial support for travel and substitute teacher costs when teachers from school divisions north of the 53 parallel are required by Manitoba Education to attend workshops held in southern Manitoba.

Rationale:

Northern School division representation at southern Manitoba workshops or in-service sessions are sometimes required by Manitoba Education. The extra cost of releasing teachers and transporting them to such mandated events financially impacts the northern school divisions due to the additional release time and travel days required to attend that exceed the length of the actual workshop. Manitoba Education should ensure a more fair access to its mandated events by subsidizing the travel and substitute costs.

FUNDING AND FINANCIAL MATTERS CON'T...

SPECIAL NEEDS FUNDING FFM-03-20 (Region 5/6)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Manitoba School Boards Association request Manitoba Education to review the Special Needs formula-based funding model (formerly Level 2 and Level 3 student specific funding) and the underlying characteristics in order to address changing school division demographics, and by extension growing needs for support;

AND FURTHER that Manitoba Education make transparent the formula used to calculate the formula-based funding that is allocated to school divisions.

Rationale:

In correspondence to school division in February 2017, Manitoba Education and Training stated:

Ending the student specific application process for Level 2 and 3 funding will avoid the negative labeling of students by funding category, save staff time in preparing and reading funding applications, and will allow for predictable levels of funding as school divisions plan for and provide appropriate educational programming that is inclusive of all students. It is hoped that this change in funding process will allow for more opportunities for innovation in service delivery models that will further enhance equity and inclusion in Manitoba schools, while supporting high levels of achievement for all students.

However, since piloting the new funding model in 2016 and fully implementing it across all school division in 2017-18, student profiles and student demographics have changed significantly and, in many cases, enrolment has increased in a number in school divisions across the province.

While the need for supports have increased, funding has remained relatively frozen at 2016-17 levels. Consequently, in order to meet the growing needs, a greater burden has been placed on the local taxpayer.

With recent limits imposed on local taxation increases, an undue restriction is placed on local school boards to adequately provide appropriate resources for the most needy and vulnerable student population.

PLAYGROUND DEVELOPMENT COSTS..... FFM-04-20 (Pembina Trails S.D.)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Manitoba School Boards Association Executive advocate with and urge the Minister of Education to include the cost of development and construction for playground structures and outdoor equipment, accessible to all students, in the provincial funding formula for all new school builds and the replacement of play structures which have been deemed unsafe for use.

Rationale:

Outdoor education and play is a vital part of our school programming and the health and wellbeing of our students. Playground structures and other outdoor education equipment form a critical component of this programming. There is no provincial funding currently in place to fund, as part of new school construction the development or construction of playground structures and outdoor education experiences.

EDUCATION PROGRAMMING

DUAL CREDIT RECOGNITION EP-01-20

(Region 4)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Manitoba School Boards Association advocate with Manitoba Education and the Department of Economic Development and Training for a return to past practice whereby courses in accredited university or college programs that were completed successfully by high school students were recognized for post-secondary as well as high school credit.

Rationale:

For several years students in some northern high schools were selected by their school principals and allowed to enroll in university or community college post-secondary courses as a means of enriching their curricular experiences when it was untenable to offer specific vocational or enrichment courses (e.g. International Baccalaureate) in their high school due to financial, staffing and facility restraints. This opportunity was welcomed by these high school students and also encouraged some students to give more consideration to vocational careers. Upon high school graduation such successful dual students often enrolled in that post-secondary institution to further their training and certification.

In recent years, while some arrangements for high school students to attend vocational programs in nearby post-secondary education institutions has been developed when their high school has no dedicated vocational facilities, such students no longer receive official recognition by the post-secondary institution of the students' earned achievements, even when they achieve a similar level of course attainment as the college graduates.

Official recognition by post-secondary institutions of such dual achievement, as well as encouraging student vocational career selection, would allow for more flexibility in the training of northern workers in several fields, and allow and encourage high school students who qualify for such admission to be recognized for their successful course/program completion.

ELECTIONS EP-02-20

(Region 5/6)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Manitoba School Boards Association urge the Manitoba Government to repeal legislation requiring school closures on fixed election dates in order to continue to expose our students to our democracy in action and enable the voting public to see our schools in operation.

Rationale:

We have opened our schools as polling places for decades without incident. Doing so provides an opportunity to teach our students about the democratic process and to showcase our schools to the public.

STUDENTS

MENTAL HEALTH SUPPORTS S-01-20 (Region 2)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Manitoba School Boards Association lobby the provincial government to ensure comprehensive mental health supports including crisis response services are available locally.

Rationale:

There are students in crisis who are not able to access the mental health services they need in a timely manner. Many students do not get the attention and follow-up that they need. Without exaggeration, all regions in the province are under-resourced and kids are paying with their lives.

VAPING S-02-20 (Region 5/6)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Manitoba School Boards Association urge federal and provincial Ministers of Health to ban flavored vaping products and to develop education and regulatory programs modeled on successful tobacco use reduction strategies to discourage the use of vaping products by our students.

Rationale:

The growing use of vaping products poses a significant health risk to our students and the use of vaping products is reversing the gains we have made in reducing the use of tobacco products by young people. We are now aware of serious health risks from select vaping products. There may be long-term health risks as well. We need to act now.

FACILITIES AND MATERIALS

REMOTE PARTICIPATION IN PROVINCIALY MANDATED PROFESSIONAL DEVELOPMENT FM-01-20
(Region 4)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Manitoba School Boards Association advocate with Manitoba Education to provide mechanisms for interactive video conferencing access for personnel from northern school divisions to attend mandatory Manitoba Education workshops/in-service sessions held in southern Manitoba.

Rationale:

Costs of attendance at required workshops and in-service sessions put on by Manitoba Education could be reduced significantly if electronic attendance was possible, saving substitute teacher costs and travel costs, and time.

EXTERNAL ORGANIZATIONS

ROYAL CANADIAN LEGION SUPPORT.....EO-01-20 (Region 2)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Manitoba School Boards Association encourage its membership to support the efforts of the Royal Canadian Legion by providing a prime point of contact to assist the Legions with the distribution of poppies.

Rationale:

As one of its mandates, the Royal Canadian Legion is to ensure that all school children in Canada receive a poppy from the Legion to wear on Remembrance Day. Some branches of the Legion find it extremely difficult to overcome the great dispersion of schools with too few people to get to each school in the province in a timely manner. School divisions are ideally positioned to assist the Legions with the distribution of poppies by providing a prime point of contact to ensure that all of Manitoba's school children receive a poppy from the Legion.

ACCESS TO MENTAL HEALTH PROFESSIONALS.....EO-02-20 (Region 5/6)

BE IT RESOLVED THAT Manitoba School Boards Association lobby the provincial and federal governments to have increased access to mental health professionals covered under our Health Care System.

Rationale:

Currently, access to mental health professionals on an individual and on-going basis is not covered by Manitoba Health. There are provincially funded community mental health agencies such as the Manitoba Mood Disorders Association that offer group sessions, but do not provide individual coverage. If a student, staff, or family member needs to have on-going one-to-one mental health care, it is at their own expense. We do provide mental health services through schools and at hospitals in a crisis situation but often that is not sufficient and not on a regular basis. We can do better, and it is imperative that individuals get the help they need before it escalates into a more serious condition. While universal health care is available to all in Canada, so should access to universal mental health care, and not just for those individuals who can afford it.