

Minutes

Provincial Executive Meeting

Monday, February 8, 2010

UNOFFICIAL until approved by the Provincial Executive.

February 8, 2010

Leadership, advocacy and service for Manitoba's public school boards

191 Provencher Boulevard, Winnipeg, Manitoba
9:00 A.M.

PRESENT: Hugh Coburn President
Robert Rivard Vice-President
Jacquie Field Vice-President
Yolande Dupuis Past President
Floyd Martens Director Region #1
Cheryl Zelenitsky Director Region #3
Marion Pearson Director Region #4
Tom Parker Director Region #5
Bruce Alexander Director Region #5

Carolyn Duhamel Executive Director
Heather Demetriooff Associate Director
Barb Unrau Executive Assistant

REGRETS: Hugh Greaves Director Region #2
Cindy Gilroy-Price Director Region #6
George Coupland Director, Labour Relations

1.1 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Add: 6.0 1. Education Finance and Taxation
 2. Student Assessment/Achievement in Schools

Field/Rivard:

THAT the agenda be adopted as amended.

Carried

1.2 ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

An error was noted in the seconder of the motion on Page 4, point 2.

Dupuis/Pearson:

**THAT the minutes of the Provincial Executive meeting held
December 7, 2009, be approved as amended.**

Carried

4.0 FOR ACTION/DECISION

1. Executive and Executive Director Performance Evaluation 2010.

Field/Martens:

THAT the Executive move in camera at 9:10 A.M. to conduct the Executive and Executive Director performance evaluations.

Carried

Rivard/Alexander:

THAT the Executive move out of camera at 10:30 A.M.

Carried

2. Joint Executive/Staff Compensation Committee Report.

Postponed until the end of the meeting.

3. Active and Safe Routes to School in Manitoba

- (a) Information Session Wednesday, March 3, 2010

Since the Executive received a presentation on the Active and Safe Routes to School program at its December meeting, they decided to decline participation in the March 3rd information session.

- (b) Request for letter of support

The Executive Director reviewed the correspondence received from Jackie Avent, Active and Safe Routes to School Program Coordinator, requesting Executive support for the establishment of an Active School Travel Coordinator position at every division within the urban centre.

The Executive felt this was an individual school board issue and did not feel provincial support for this recommendation was appropriate. School principals are responsible for student safety to and from school. The Executive Director will recommend to Ms Avent that she contact urban school divisions regarding this initiative.

5.0 FOR DISCUSSION

1. Regional meeting follow-up:
 - (a) Member satisfaction survey

Executive and staff received positive feedback from trustees regarding the inclusion of a professional development activity at regional meetings and at other events throughout the year. The Executive felt it would be helpful to get feedback from member boards on the value and appropriateness of association activities/information provided to school boards and whether MSBA strategic priorities reflect their needs and the needs of students in this province. The Executive Director will contact other provincial associations regarding member satisfaction surveys and report back to Executive.

(b) Executive resolutions

➤ Associate Membership for First Nations Education Authorities

The Executive Director reported that Brandon School Division had re-submitted the resolution on *Associate Membership for First Nations Education Authorities* which was referred by Region #1 to the MSBA Executive for consideration.

Respecting the concerns raised at the regional meeting regarding this resolution, the Executive Director proposed a re-wording directing MSBA to explore with First Nations representatives their interest in associate membership with MSBA. The re-worded resolution was forwarded to Brandon School Division for consideration. The Executive felt strongly that the re-worded resolution go forward.

Dupuis/Alexander:

THAT the following resolution on *Associate Membership for First Nations Education Authorities* go forward as an Executive resolution to the 2010 MSBA Convention:

BE IT RESOLVED THAT the Manitoba School Boards Association explore with First Nations representatives their interest in the establishment of a Manitoba School Boards Association associate membership category for First Nations Education Authorities.

Carried

Should Brandon School Division support the re-worded resolution, it will go forward as an Executive and Region #1 resolution.

➤ Sunrise School Division, re Land/compensation in new residential developments

Region #3 referred this resolution to the Executive for possible re-wording in light of MSBA involvement with the City, PSFB and Intergovernmental Affairs regarding school board involvement in new development planning. After further discussion, the Executive agreed that the Sunrise School Division was quite specific in nature and could go forward as a Region #3 resolution at the 2010 AGM.

The Executive may consider putting forward a separate resolution which covers other aspects of the new development planning process.

2. Working Group, re School Closure Guidelines.

A Working Group of Executive members was struck to explore issues around school closure guidelines. Vice-President Jacquie Field, Region #1 Director Floyd Martens and Region #5 Director Bruce Alexander volunteered to serve on this Working Group. The Executive Director will be the staff representative.

3. December 2009 year-to-date financials.

The Executive Director reviewed the year-to-date financials and responded to questions.

- Including both CSBA & NSBA membership fees in the same budget line
- computer replacement process
- anticipated expenditure over-runs

6.0 **EMERGENT ISSUES**

1. Working Group on Education Finance and Taxation.

The Working Group on Education Finance and Taxation met on February 1st to begin developing messaging around the 2010 funding announcement and updating the existing education finance and taxation resource materials. Materials and information will be circulated to all boards as soon as possible.

A lengthy discussion followed around

- assessment (shift from commercial to residential)
- portioning (needs to be adjusted)
- inefficiency of the TIG (need to raise awareness of more effective funding methods)

2. Student Assessment

Executive members expressed concerns around recent media reports about no-fail policies. The Executive Director noted that MSBA has an extensive policy position on student assessment in *The Principles for Fair Student Assessment Practices for Education in Canada* adopted by the membership in 1995.

8.0 **EXECUTIVE/STAFF REPORTS & MATTERS ARISING**

1. President

In addition to his written report the President noted that he had attended the *State of the Province Address* on December 10th. He highlighted topics discussed with MTS on January 12th including

- partnership with SSAAM
- Educational Assistants.

2. Vice-President(s)

Vice-President Jacquie Field commented on events listed in her written report:

- *State of the City Address*
- re-instatement of the Teacher Practicum Committee.

Vice-President Robert Rivard's written report included in the agenda package.

3. Past President

In addition to her written report Past President Yolande Dupuis noted that since the ticket had not been purchased in advance and there was inclement weather, she did not attend the Breakfast with Theresa Oswald on February 2nd. She also participated in the Resolutions and Policy Committee meeting February 5, 2010.

4. Directors

- (a) Region 1 (written report included in agenda package)
- (b) Region 5 (written report included in agenda package)
- (c) Region 4

Director Marion Pearson reported that she had been in contact with northern boards to advise them that Cristo Spiess, Frontier School Division had withdrawn his name from election for Region #4 Director due to work commitments. She also noted that Frontier School Division had hired a new Chief Superintendent - Ray Derksen, currently Superintendent of Beautiful Plains School Division.

- (d) Region 5

Director Tom Parker thanked rural Executive members for attending the Region 5 & 6 meeting on January 23rd and the Executive Director for conducting the professional development activity in the afternoon. It was a very productive meeting and well received by those in attendance.

5. Executive Director

The Executive Director provided a verbal report. She commented on:

- Provincial Healthy Child Committee meeting held in January
- MERN Forum on Social Justice
- Hiring of a CSBA staff person
- Workplace Safety and Health; Job Hazard Analysis
- Working with Communications Officers in different school divisions
- Offer of employment made for MSBA Manager, Finance and Administration

It was suggested that since *The Youth Criminal Justice Act* is a federal issue concerns regarding youth violence should be pursued by CSBA on behalf of provincial associations. The Executive Director will raise this at the next CSBA Board of Directors meeting.

6. Associate Director

The Associate Director gave a verbal activity report. She commented on:

- office renovations
- Directors' responsibility re Student Citizenship Award
- launch of the MASS DVD on the value of public education
- Education Week activities/advertising

A suggestion was made that MSBA raise with the Minister the possibility of creating a multi-departmental Anti-Poverty Committee much like the Healthy Child Committee.

Field/Rivard:

THAT the Executive move in camera to discuss the report of the Joint Committee on Staff Compensation at 1:30 P.M.

Carried

Alexander/Rivard:

THAT the Executive move out-of-camera at 1:45 P.M.

Carried

Pearson/Zelenitsky:

THAT the report of the Joint Committee on Staff Compensation be approved.

Carried

8.1 INFORMATION REPORTS

(a) Correspondence

(b) Committee Minutes

Sent via e-mail February 5, 2010

1. Technical Vocational Education Advisory Committee (TVEAC) meeting December 1, 2010

(c) Publications

1. Manitoba Human Rights Commission, *MHR Connections*, December 2009
2. Association for Supervision & Curriculum Development, *Manitoba ASCD*, December 2009
3. *The Quality of Public Education in Canada*; from The Learning Partnership, Fall 2009
4. The Manitoba Child Care Association, *Child Care Bridges*, Winter 2009
5. TVEAC Meeting - Supporting Documents:
 - *Green and Growing - Building a Green and Prosperous Future for Manitoba Families*
 - *CATIA Project*
 - *America's Perfect Storm - Three Forces Changing Our Nation's Future*
 - *Connecting Talent and Opportunity - Canada's Foremost Economic and Social Challenge*
 - *Workforce Knowledge, Skills, Competencies, and Employer-Related Attitudes in Manitoba: a Survey of Manitoba Employers*

9.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

WEDNESDAY, MARCH 17, 2010, 1:00 P.M., Delta Winnipeg

Field:

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

Carried

The meeting adjourned at 1:45 P.M.