

UNOFFICIAL until approved by the Provincial Executive.

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

Norwood Hotel
Taché Salon – Main Floor
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
Hugh Greaves Director Region #2
Cheryl Zelenitsky Director Region #3
Tom Parker Director Region #5
Dennis Ruggles Director Region #5
Rita Hildahl Director Region #6

Carolyn Duhamel Executive Director
Heather Demetriooff Associate Director
George Coupland Director, Labour Relations
Barb Unrau Executive Assistant

REGRETS: Vaughn Wadelius Director Region #4

1.1 ADOPTION OF THE AGENDA

Dupuis/Rivard:

THAT the agenda be adopted as amended.

Carried

1.2 ADOPTION OF THE MINUTES

Hildahl/Zelenitsky:

**THAT the minutes of the Provincial Executive meeting held
March 17, 2010 be approved as circulated.**

Carried

Hildahl/Parker:

THAT the minutes of the Provincial Executive meeting held March 19, 2010 be approved as circulated.

Carried

3.0 DELEGATIONS

1. Minister of Education, The Honourable Nancy Allan, 11:00 a.m.

The President welcomed Minister Allan, Deputy Minister Gerald Farthing and Special Assistant Kaila Wiebe, to the meeting and conducted introductions.

Issue: School facilities/moratorium on school closure

Minister's comments:

- this is a very difficult situation since immigration is having a significant impact on enrolment
- we thought the funding in January would be a substantial but found out there were struggles around enrolment, so we had another look and made a change to the formula which resulted in more funding for affected school boards
- we believe the moratorium on school closures was put in place for the right reasons
- 300 new child care spots have gone into schools since the moratorium, however, the notion of a school with only 9 students is challenging
- we are having conversations internally, with stake holder groups and individual school divisions in this area but do not intend to lift the moratorium at this time

Issue: Immigration/support for newcomers

Minister's comments:

- an inter-sectoral group of Ministers are working on a strategy to help new-comers. Although it may not seem like we are doing enough we have more supports for immigrants and newcomers than any other province, i.e. the "re-entry program" and interpretive resource centres
- we have increased funding for new comers from \$8 million in 2004 to \$30 million which is in addition to EAL funding
- a bigger struggle is for refugees - we don't have a lot of control because they come through a different system
- we are aware of their challenges and Government has assigned a Minister responsible for housing; unfortunately, there is not a minister responsible for housing at the federal level
- thanks to school divisions for doing a phenomenal job of working with these children and families
- we worked with the Federal Government and were the first jurisdiction to put the "temporary foreign workers system" out of business; recruiters made promises to immigrants that they did not keep, and resulted in placing a huge burden on the education system
- if you have any suggestions on what else can be done, we would appreciate hearing from you

Issue: Rural and northern connectivityMinisters comments:

- our Government made a commitment to look into this area
- we have met with John Clarkson, Deputy Minister, Manitoba Innovation, Energy and Mines and Dave Chomiak, Minister responsible for Manitoba Innovation, Energy and Mines and asked that they prioritize this matter
- Mr. Clarkson assured us that they are making progress in this area
- MTS Allstream is still in discussion

Issue: PovertyMinister's comments:

- the "all aboard" strategy was an initiative of the previous Premier – Healthy Living was involved
- the new Premier has just announced the establishment of the Premier's Advisory Council on Education, Poverty and Citizenship
- Government and school boards are going to have to work on this together
 - Can you get milk subsidized for junior and senior high students?
 - What about regulating the price of milk in northern and remote areas of the province?
- we can look at that

Issue: Mental health support for studentsMinister's comments:

- I believe this would be best moved to the Healthy Child Committee of Cabinet
- while this has been raised with Healthy Child in the past, it is time to pursue this again
- perhaps MSBA could write to Minister Rondeau, Minister responsible for Healthy Child Manitoba

Issue: MTS report on teacher workloadMinister's comments:

- I agree that school boards will be impacted by the report
- we are in the process of analyzing the report
- the new Statistics Canada report shows that pupil-teacher ratios have gone down in Manitoba

At this point the Minister asked if MSBA would work with government to address the concerns around the use of 15 passenger vans in the province of Manitoba. The Executive Director indicated that MSBA's Risk Manager Keith Thomas would welcome the opportunity to assist in this regard.

The President thanked the Minister and her staff for coming to the meeting.

4.0 FOR ACTION/DECISION

1. Priorities and planning 2010-2011

Member satisfaction survey

- will invite research company to the September Executive meeting to discuss their findings

School board election procedure

- we are still waiting to hear from MTS regarding partnership opportunities
- are updating the MSBA Website
- will publicize elections in the Manitoba Chambers of Commerce e-bulletin; the MAPC newsletter; and possibly the AMM newsletter
- candidate information sessions will be held September 13 in Winnipeg and September 14 in Brandon
- will be distributing posters to all school divisions
- we are investigating ways of offering the candidate information session via electronic means for those not living within easy access of Winnipeg or Brandon

Trustee education opportunities

- a board chairs workshop will be held in Winnipeg November 25 all day
- new trustee orientation sessions will be held in Winnipeg the evening of November 25 and all day November 26; and in Brandon the evening of November 29 and all day November 30
 - a session on ethical leadership was suggested for the new trustee orientation
- we are hoping to re-offer the Mary Delagardelle session in February or early April in Brandon
- the Executive Director will prepare a professional development work plan for the next four years
- Manitoba will host CSBA in 2014 (not 2012 as previously planned)

Policy and Governance

- will feature a variety of policy and governance issues on the website which will be updated regularly
- it will feature information and resources and where to find them

Early Childhood Development

- have a discussion around all aspects of early childhood education and development at January regional meetings
- there may be an opportunity for trustee participation at the MASS early childhood development conference in the fall to hear their guest speaker Clyde Hertzman
- the National Child Day Forum on November 20 is another opportunity to raise awareness
- include something from the United Nations on early childhood education
- prepare an early childhood action plan for the membership at the 2011 AGM
- consider developing an MSBA “lending library” of research books on governance, early childhood development, etc.
 - invite current and retiring trustees to donate books
 - books could be available at convention with ordering information
- consider assigning Executive members to attend board meetings in their regions to talk about governance issues for those who may not be able to find the time to read the resource documents/article

Aboriginal Education

- the Aboriginal Education Committee met on June 4
- four areas were discussed - trustee education, associate membership, liaison & advocacy, and actions/recommendations to the Executive

- some of the proposed actions/recommendations include:
 - exploring a partnership agreement with the Treaty Relations Commission of Manitoba (TRCM)
 - include a 2 hour presentation by representatives of the TRCM at the January regional meetings
 - convene a meeting of divisional aboriginal education support staff and Aboriginal Circle of Educators (ACE) to discuss ideas and best practices
 - convene a meeting of the MASS, MTS and MSBA Aboriginal Education Committees
 - investigate with government the development of a Manitoba Summit on aboriginal education
 - include list of aboriginal education related events for the year on the MSBA website so that trustees can plan ahead
 - provide a listing of aboriginal education resources and contacts on the MSBA website
 - request CSBA to lobby the federal government regarding funding of First Nations students

2. Committee appointments.

Field/Parker:

THAT the following committee appointments be approved:

- (a) re-appoint **Wayne Ruff**, Louis Riel S.D. to the *Convention Planning Committee* for a 2nd two-year term
- (b) re-appoint **Cindy Gilroy-Price**, Winnipeg S.D. to the *Dean's Advisory Committee U of M* for a 2nd two-year term
- (c) re-appoint **Teresa Jaworski**, Seven Oaks S.D. to the *Manitoba Addiction Awareness Week Committee* for a 2nd two-year term
- (d) re-appoint **Denis Clement**, DSFM to the *Inter-organizational Curriculum Advisory Committee (ICAC)* for a 2nd two-year term
- (e) re-appoint **Robert Arnason**, Evergreen S.D. to the *Manitoba High Schools Athletic Association* for a 2nd two-year term

2. New committee appointments.

Rivard/Field:

THAT new committee appointments for the remainder of the current trustee term of office be suspended until after the October 2010 school trustee elections.

Carried

3. Committee appointments in municipal election years.

Yolande/Greaves:

THAT in municipal election years, new committee appointments be suspended pending the outcome of school board elections in the fall of that year.

Carried

4. Policy manual update - *Section E – Trustee Remuneration & Expenses, E. (c)*, re claiming of travel expenses.

Ruggles/Martens:

THAT Section E – Trustee Remuneration & Expenses, E. (c) of the MSBA Executive Policy Manual be amended to read as follows:

- (c) **Conference registration fees may be claimed at the time incurred; air fare may be claimed within 30 days prior to the event. Claims for all other conference expenses may be submitted at the conclusion of the event.**

Carried

5. Manitoba Theatre for Young People request for sponsorship.

Parker/Rivard:

THAT MSBA approve the sponsorship request from MTYP for the 2010-2011 school year.

Carried

Administration will investigate the possibility of splitting sponsorship between the two plays.

6. Advertising and Sponsorship Policies and Procedures

Hildahl/Martens:

THAT the Executive approve the revised policy for advertisement and sponsorship for the association.

Carried

7. Selection of Executive members to Joint Executive/Staff Compensation Committee for 2010-2011

Region 3 Director Cheryl Zelenitsky, Vice-President Robert Rivard, and Region 6 Director Rita Hildahl volunteered to represent the Executive on the Joint Executive/Staff Compensation Committee for 2010-2011.

5.0 FOR DISCUSSION

1. Pension Committee, re appointment process

Floyd Martens, Region 1 Director and member of the MSBA Pension Plan for Non-Teaching excused himself from the meeting during discussion of this matter.

The Executive Director reported that one of the five trustees on the MSBA Pension Plan is resigning his seat. The Pension Committee has some significant issues to deal with in the year ahead and someone new would not have the background/history to provide support to the committee. Craig Wallis, MSBA staff representative on the Pension Committee provided Executive members with two possible solutions in this regard.

A discussion followed.

Parker/Dupuis:

THAT the Executive approve option 2 as outlined in the administration report regarding pension board of trustees.

Carried

Floyd Martens rejoined the meeting.

6.0 EMERGENT ISSUES

1. New requirements for controlled access to child care centres.

The Executive Director commented on her conversation with the Executive Director of the Manitoba Child Care Association. MCCA has serious concerns regarding this proposed legislation and the fact that education partners were not consulted in the development of this legislation.

The Manitoba Association of School Business Officials is in the process of gathering feedback from school boards regarding the possible impact of this legislation. In the meantime it was suggested that MSBA write to Minister Mackintosh expressing school board concerns regarding the new access requirements for child care centres as they impact public schools.

Field/Hildahl:

THAT MSBA write to Minister Mackintosh expressing concern regarding the impact on schools of the new access requirements for child care centres and copy the Minister of Education and all member school boards.

Carried

2. MTS teacher workload report.

Discussed with the Minister earlier in the meeting.

7.0 EXECUTIVE DEVELOPMENT

Executive members shared their suggestions for Executive development discussions at future meetings.

- ½ day session on early years with MASS on October 4
- something on aboriginal education to help us understand the issue better – particularly transition between public schools and First Nations schools
- build Executive member networking skills
- role of Superintendents in the province – school boards not required to have a superintendent in the current PSA
- cooperation with the Manitoba Library Association
- information session regarding the rise of STI's
- MSBA role when dealing with MTS as a union

8.0 EXECUTIVE/STAFF REPORTS & MATTERS ARISING

1. President
 - commented on his printed report
2. Vice-President(s)
 - no additional comments on written reports
3. Past President
 - Past President Yolande Dupuis gave a verbal report on her activities since the last meeting
4. Directors
 - both written and verbal reports were received

5. Executive Director

In addition to her written report the Executive Director commented

- on the CNLEELC (Canadian Network for Leadership in Education and Early Learning and Care) Webcast
- her appointment to the Premier's Advisory Council on Education, Poverty and Citizenship
- meeting with David Yeo from Manitoba Education and representatives from Elections Canada regarding the use of schools for polling stations
- communication from new Managing Director of CSBA

6. Associate Director

- written report provided

8.1 INFORMATION REPORTS

(a) Correspondence

Printed

1. Third quarter financials and April month end.

Sent via e-mail April 23, 2010

1. April 15, 2010, copy of Ministers response to Pembina Trails S.D., re school and municipal taxation. (same response to Brandon S.D.)

Sent via e-mail April 30, 2010

1. April 19, 2010 letter of appreciation from Cliff Cullen, PC Education Critic, re meeting with MSBA.

(b) Committee Minutes

Sent via e-mail May 28, 2010

1. March 2, 2010 Inter-Organizational Curriculum Advisory Committee (ICAC) meeting.

Sent via e-mail June 4, 2010

1. March 16, 2010 Technical Vocational Education Advisory Committee Meeting.

(c) Publications

1. Notes of appreciation
 - (a) Kristen McLean, re Student Citizenship Award
 - (b) Laura Sokal, Acting Dean, U of W, re invitation to AGM Banquet
2. Manitoba Human Rights Commission, *MHR Connections*, March, 2010.
3. *Education Manitoba*, May 2010.

9.0 DATE OF NEXT MEETING

Tuesday, September 7, 2010

Parker/Field:

THAT the Executive move in-camera at 1:40 p.m. to discuss a personnel issue.

Carried

Dupuis/Rivard:

THAT the Executive move out of camera at 1:50 p.m. to discuss a personnel issue.

Carried

Parker/Zelenitsky:

THAT the meeting be adjourned.

Carried

The meeting was adjourned at 1:50m p.m.

/bu