

MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF THE BOARD OF  
TRUSTEES  
OF PRAIRIE LAND REGIONAL DIVISION #25  
HELD AT HANNA ON TUESDAY, October 28, 2009

The meeting was called to order at a.m. with the following in attendance:

Duane Roy – Chair	Edward Brinkman	Elaine Horner
John Neill	Vern Thuroo	Marsha Tkach
Sam Vogel	Angie Warwick	Dr. Wes Neumeier – Superintendent
Bob Smith – Deputy Superintendent		Sharon Orum – Secretary Treasurer
Lana Campbell – Administrative Assistant		

- Review of Agenda MELRA Awards Attendance - 7F  
Budget Wrap-Up Meeting with Minister -7G  
**Motion #53/09-10** **Moved by V. Thuroo that the agenda be adopted as amended. Carried**
- Action Sheet  
Consent Items  
**Motion #54/09-10** **Moved by E. Horner to accept the starred items. Carried**
- Adoption of  
Minutes  
**Motion #55/09-10** Moved by A. Warwick that the minutes of the Regular meeting of October 14, 2009 be approved as amended. Carried
- Meeting with MLA The Chair presented a report on the October 23, 2009 meeting with MLA, The Honorable Jack Hayden which was also attended by J. Neill, W. Neumeier D. Roy, and S. Orum.
- Engaging the Communities All meetings have now been completed. The prominent themes from all meetings include: video conferencing, limiting grade combinations, keeping small schools open, limiting bus times, consolidating J.C. Charyk and Hanna Primary School, and examining alternate revenue streams.
- Meeting Follow Up  
**Motion #56/09-10** **Moved by E. Horner to strike an ad hoc committee to synthesize the input from the Engaging the Communities meetings. Carried**  
S. Vogel spoke to the motion and suggested that a committee of the whole may produce a more encompassing outcome. D. Roy suggested that the Board as a whole will be expected to submit their feedback to the committee to achieve comprehensive trustee input. A committee consisting of three trustees was suggested and membership was taken to a private vote. E. Horner, V. Thuroo, and A. Warwick will comprise the ad hoc committee along with W. Neumeier. Information from individual trustees regarding input for this process is to be sent to L. Campbell by Nov. 4.
- Motion #57/09-10** **Motion made by V. Thuroo to destroy the ballots. Carried.**  
Board/School Council Meeting The Board reviewed the finalized agenda for the November 2 Board/School Council meeting. Trustees were asked to identify the

items they felt comfortable in speaking to.

E. Horner - agenda item 3 - Small Schools Preparing Students for Big futures

D. Roy - agenda item 4 - New Fiscal Realities

S. Vogel - agenda item 5 - CTS programming for all students

E. Brinkman and M. Tkach - agenda item 6 - Role of School Council

Information to backup the discussions will be distributed by email to the school council chairs prior to the meeting.

Board Policies 3&4 Revisions were suggested for both policies and discussion ensued regarding whether or not to add Policy 4 – *Trustee Code of Ethics* as an Addendum to Policy 3 or keep it as a separate policy.

Policy 3 – *Role of the Trustee*: An orientation will be provided to all new trustees at the beginning of their term in office.

Policy 4 – *Trustee Code of Ethics*: An addendum will be modified to contain only the code of ethics itself with the first paragraph of the existing policy to be included in policy 3. Amendments will be made by administration and brought back for affirmation by the Board.

E. Horner reminded the Board that all trustees need to take an active role in policy review.

Accountability  
Pillar Report

The Deputy Superintendent presented each trustee with the divisional results as well as their individual school results. The principals have had an opportunity to review their results and formulate plans for addressing the various issues. The AERR presentations with principals will be held on November 17<sup>th</sup> and 30<sup>th</sup>, 2009, at which time the principals are asked to complete a report regarding issues concerning their individual schools. A copy of the report template was presented to the Board. The Board was encouraged to watch for in depth analysis at each presentation. Administration was asked to determine the role video conferencing may have played in the diploma exam results. Recessed for lunch at 1:04 p.m.

Reconvened at 1:50 p.m.

ASBA Fall General  
Meeting

The ASBA Fall General Meeting will be attended by all trustees excluding V. Thuroo and E. Brinkman. Trustees are to review the proposed policy positions in preparation for discussion at the next regular Board meeting.

In Focus

The Board reviewed a summary of suggested topics for the fall edition of In Focus. The final topics chosen were:

1. Former students – Where are they now? Three former students will be attending the upcoming Alberta Career Educators Conference.
2. School Act review
3. Small Schools Preparing Students for Big Futures: 21<sup>st</sup>

Century Learning

4. CTS Unit in operation and future plans for expanding CTS programming

Board Advocacy Plan	Trustees requested that the Advocacy Plan be brought to the table for review at a future Board meeting.
Executive Summary of Board Working Session	The Superintendent presented the list of goals the Board would like to accomplish by the end of this term. Administration will bring tasks to the Board throughout the year to ensure all items are addressed. The summary will serve as a tracking document.
Upgrading Administrator Qualifications	Administrative Procedure 408 – <i>Upgrading Administrator Qualifications</i> was presented as information. The Board will allocate funds for this Administrative Procedure through the regular budget process. All requests for support should be directed to administration
MELRA Awards	D. Roy indicated that PLRD has been invited to attend the MELRA awards at the Greenwood Inn in Calgary on November 6, 2009. E. Horner, A. Warwick, and W. Neumeier will attend on the behalf of the Board.
Budget Wrap-up Meeting with Minister	The Minister has called a meeting for November 25, in Edmonton, to discuss the budget wrap-up. As a result, the regular Board meeting will tentatively be rescheduled to November 26, 2009, pending auditor availability.
J.C. Charyk Off-Site Activity Proposal	The Superintendent presented information regarding a senior girls basketball trip to Cuba.
<b>Motion #58/09-10</b>	<b><i>Moved by A. Warwick to approve the JC Charyk off-site activity to Cuba as presented. Carried</i></b>
Homework Guidelines	The Superintendent presented the homework guidelines document developed by administration in consultation with principals. The principals will share that document with their staff and parents. Following receipt of all feedback, the guidelines will be amended as necessary and adopted.
Principal Meeting Report for October	An overview of the principal's meeting held on October 15, 2009 was presented by the Superintendent.
PLRD – Small Schools Preparing Students for Big Futures	The Superintendent presented a concept document on the topic and requested input from trustees. Amber Wecker will work from this document to prepare a reader-friendly version for public release.
PSBAA	E. Brinkman, E. Horner, M. Tkach, S. Vogel, and A. Warwick reported on the PSBAA U3 and Fall General Meeting they attended in Edmonton October 22-24, 2009. Four key messages were developed supporting public education. These messages will be discussed in depth at the next meeting. Recessed at 3:31 p.m. Reconvened at 3:37 p.m.
Inspiring Education	E. Horner and V. Thuroo reported on the Inspiring Education

Forum they attended in Edmonton on October 18-20, 2009. Highlights from forum were discussed.

#### Round Table

A. Warwick noted that she has requested information relating to honorarium rates from other Boards. She suggested that the Board discuss the idea of tying honorarium increases to an index such as the AWEI and put that concept into policy. She also suggested that it may be valuable to bring in a speaker to address media presentations.

S. Vogel communicated that the School Council in Consort was disappointed with attendance at the Engaging the Communities meeting and will initiate a phone tree for any future community meetings. D. Roy was complimented regarding his communication skills at this meeting.

V. Thuroo attended a J.C. School Council meeting and reported that the magic show was well attended. Upcoming events are: Dr. Scott Wooding speaking to the issue of bullying on Nov. 17, 2009, Science Olympics, and Science Fair. Cam McKeage discussed the homework guidelines and will be bringing information regarding the AERR to the next Council meeting.

Dr. Scott Wooding will be leading an anti-bullying presentation in Consort on November 2, 2009.

J. Neill reported that Morrin will be having a School Council meeting on Nov 3<sup>rd</sup>.

#### Recognition and Acknowledgement

The Board recognized Barry Davis and Carrie Lecuyer for organizing the PLRD Career fair at J.C. Charyk School on October 29, 2009.

#### Motion to Move In Camera

**Motion #59/09-10**

**Moved by E. Horner to move in camera at 4:00 p.m. to deal with personnel, student, properties and finance, and Board advocacy issues.**

#### Motion to Rise from In Camera

**Motion #60/09-10**

#### Adjournment

**Moved by M. Tkach to rise from in camera at 5:29 p.m.**

The meeting was adjourned at 5:30 p.m.