



## Board Public Meeting

Mon Dec 9, 2024 5:00 PM - 7:30 PM CST

TRUSTEES PRESENT: Ryan Bast (Board Chair), Vicky Bonnell (Deputy Chair), Bob Kowalchuk (Deputy Chair) (MS Teams), Rob Bresciani (MS Teams), Shauna Weninger, Darren Wilcox

STAFF PRESENT: Sean Chase (Director), Josh Kramer (CFO), Kelley Ehman, Stacey Gherasim, Heidi Hildebrand, Joanna Landry, Dave Magnusson, Ryan Robinson, Twylla West, Jill Hrynkiw (Recorder)

R. Bast called the meeting to order at 5:02 p.m.

### 1. Land Acknowledgement

R. Bast: We are blessed to serve, live and learn on Treaty 4 territory, traditional lands of the nêhiyawak (neh HEY o wuk), nahkawé (NUK ah way), Nakota, and homeland of the Métis, Lakota, and Dakota. Collectively, we are committed to seeking the Truth and taking intentional steps toward Reconciliation with Indigenous Peoples in our communities.

### 2. Opening Prayer

V. Bonnell opened the meeting with a prayer.

### 3. R. Bast: This meeting will be recorded.

### 4. Consent Items

R. Bast: The following consent items have been received as information. Do any of the trustees want to move a consent item to discussion? No Trustees responded.

- i. RCSD Board of Trustees Update - December 2024
- ii. Student Enrolment - November 30, 2024
- iii. Staffing Report - November 5-25, 2024
- iv. Downtown Express - November & December
- v. 2025 ACSTA Symposium: Answering the call with a Servant's Heart
- vi. Finding Strength in Change - Navigating Loss and Life Transitions - Mental Health and Capacity Building Community Event

### 5. 14074: Adoption of Agenda

S. WENINGER: That the agenda be adopted.

 CARRIED

### 6. Conflict of Interest

R. Bast: Do any of the trustees have a conflict of interest based on the agenda they need to declare? No Trustees responded.

**7. 14075: Adoption of Minutes**

V. BONNELL: That the minutes of the November 4, 2024 Public Board Meeting be adopted.

 CARRIED

**8. 14076: Adoption of Minutes**

G. FISCHER: That the minutes of the November 25, 2024 Board Organizational and Special Public Meeting be adopted.

 CARRIED

**9. Presentations**

**a. Trustee Recognition**

R. Bast, Board Chair presented S. Weninger, past Board Chair, with a gavel plaque and acknowledged her leadership and commitment to the Regina Catholic School Division while serving as Board Chair for the past two years.

**b. Student Trustees (STRIVE)**

**i. Michael A. Riffel Catholic High School**

R. Bast introduced Riffel STRIVE students Brooklyn Czinka, Megyn Verbeek, Principal Tyler Wright and SRC Director Ryan Schmidt. The STRIVE students shared highlights from School Culture, Spirit Days, Grade & Colour Wars, Assemblies, Semester End Good Vibes & Treats Day, Dances, Extra-Curricular Sports clubs, Advent Collections and the FIP Program. In addition to the many school events, the students shared results from a ThoughtExchange survey facilitated to all Student Representative Council (SRC) students and all Grade 9, 10 & 12 students in the four high schools within Regina Catholic School Division. Top themes included Sense of Belonging (Friends, Extra-Curriculars, etc.), Academics & Lunch & Nutrition.

B. Czinka, M. Verbeek, T. Wright and R. Schmidt left the meeting.

**10. Decision Items**

**a. 14077: 2023-2026 Strategic Plan**

B. KOWALCHUK: That the Board approve the amended 2023-26 RCSD Strategic Plan as presented.

☒ **Post 2023-26 STRAT Plan to Website**

Assigned to: Jill Hrynkiw

 CARRIED

**b. 14078: Director of Education Search Consultant Services**

V. BONNELL: That the Board approve the hiring of Gwen Dueck of the Saskatchewan Educational Leadership Unit (SELU) to facilitate the Director of Education search process.

- ☑ Send SELU contract to Gwen Dueck for signing.

Assigned to: Heidi Hildebrand

 CARRIED

## **11. Discussion**

### **a. Review 2024-25 Board Annual Work Plan and Events Schedule**

The Board reviewed the Board Annual Work Plan and Events Schedule.

## **12. Governance**

S. Chase, M. Dizy, L. Eberharter, M. Reavie, K. Quiroz-Norman, G. Rodriguez, F. Stadnyk, J. Owens and M. Wahl joined the meeting.

## **13. Governance - Executive Council Reporting**

### **a. Detailed Implementation Plan (DIP) - Early Years**

Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction, Sherry Chase and Achievement Team members Michelle Dizy, Early Years and Literacy Consultant, Michael Reavie, Student Services Coordinator, and Genna Rodriguez, Education Technology Coordinator shared their presentation on the Early Years Detailed Implementation Plan (DIP). Information included: Early Years SMART Goal, division data (Pre-Kindergarten and Kindergarten) including EAL and intensive support, Kindergarten instruction as well as inclusionary practices. Professional development for early years teachers and support staff was also highlighted.

### **b. Detailed Implementation Plan (DIP) - Reading, Writing & Math**

Supervisor of Curriculum and Instruction, Sherry Chase and Achievement Team members Michelle Dizy, Early Years and Literacy Consultant, Lisa Eberharter, Numeracy & Literacy Learning Consultant, Jennifer Owens, 21st Century Learning/PAA Consultant, and Monique Wahl, French Education Coordinator presented the Reading, Writing, Math Detailed Implementation Plan (DIP) Report. The presentation included reading and math SMART GOAL, division data (Grades 1 -3) including French Immersion, EAL and intensive supports.

S. Chase recognized the leadership work from each of the individuals on the achievement team and their accomplishments.

R. Bresciani joined the meeting at 5:42.

S. Chase, M. Dizy, L. Eberharter, M. Reavie, K. Quiroz-Norman, G. Rodriguez, F. Stadnyk, J. Owens and M. Wahl left the meeting.

### **c. Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) Report - Loss of Reserves**

J. Kramer presented the Regina Catholic Schools - ERM Dashboard. The ERM Dashboard included Risk Profile, Key Projects, RCSD's Unfunded Liabilities and Mitigation Initiatives.

Key points for Loss of Reserves are:

1. Funding Vulnerability: Without reserves, funding cuts could force reductions in staff, programs, or services, impacting education quality.
2. Infrastructure Risks: Lack of funds delays critical repairs, risking safety, compliance, and higher long-term costs.
3. Financial Inflexibility: No reserves limit response to emergencies, risking disruptions and hindering strategic investments.
4. Reputation Impact: Depleted reserves may erode trust, making advocacy and community engagement more difficult.

**d. Enterprise Risk Management (ERM) Report - Spending within Means**

J. Kramer presented the Regina Catholic Schools - ERM Dashboard and presentation. The ERM Dashboard included Risk Profile; Key Projects, RCSD's Unfunded Liabilities and Mitigation Initiatives. Key points for Spending within Means are:

1. Salary Forecasting: Reliance on Excel and lack of employee-level tracking increase risk in managing the largest expense category (73%). Adopting budgeting software is recommended.
2. Dependence on Government Funding: Unstable and insufficient government funding fails to meet status quo pressures, leaving critical student needs unmet and limiting reduction options.
3. Chart of Accounts: Non-alignment with the Ministry of Education's chart risks misrepresentation of financial data. Transition efforts depend on PowerSchool and SchoolCash integration timelines.
4. Cash Flow Volatility: Education Property Tax (EPT) remittance timing causes fluctuating cash flow, limiting investment opportunities and reliability of financial statements.
5. Unfunded Enrolment Growth: Rapid student increases strain internal funds due to lack of government support, with expectations for future funding commitments.

**14. Reports**

**a. Chair's Report**

R. Bast highlighted SSBA Fall Assembly (Dec 1-3): Trustees engaged in key discussions and networking. Thank you to Shauna for her Vice-President candidacy, which strengthened connections with provincial school boards. Jody Wilson-Raybould delivered an inspiring keynote on courageous leadership. Trustees attended the St. Timothy School Tour as well as Ecole St. Angela Catholic School Community Council meeting and celebrated literacy at the French Immersion "Battle of the Books" event.

**b. Trustee Reports / Committee Chair Reports**

V. Bonnell expressed gratitude to the Trustees for the SCSBA President nomination and proudly accepts the position for the upcoming year.

S. Weninger highlighted the visible divide between Catholic and public divisions at the SSBA and emphasized the need to address it. RCSD should take the lead, with support from other Catholic divisions, in fostering collaboration and unity.

**c. Director's Report**

S. Chase provided the following updates:

1. Provincial Education Plan Meeting (Nov 25-26): Regina Catholic Schools hosted a two-day session with Ministry and provincial colleagues. Updates were shared on provincial priorities, and the Ministry unveiled a new provincial assessment plan, with teacher hiring planned for developing ELA and Math assessments.
2. CEC Staff Retreat (Dec 13): Staff will participate in a faith retreat led by Darcie Lich, followed by volunteering with local charities and contributing food hampers for schools.
3. High School Advent Christmas Choral Concert (Dec 11): An event showcasing high school talent during the Advent season.

**15. Community Linkage**

None.

**16. Correspondence**

**a. Toonies For Tuition Donation**

Provided as information.

**17. 14079: Move in to Closed Session**

D. WILCOX: That the Board move in to Closed Session.

 CARRIED

**i. Sensitive Matters**

**18. 14080: Move out of Closed Session**

R. BRESCIANI: That the Board move out of Closed Session.

 CARRIED

**19. Items for Future Agenda**

1. SSBA Working Advisory Group (WAG) Strategies Discussion - December Planning Meeting - B. Kowalchuk
2. Infrastructure Advisory Committee - V. Bonnell

☑ Add SSBA Working Advisory Group (WAG) Strategies Discussion to December Planning Meeting - B. Kowalchuk  
Assigned to: Jill Hrynkiw

☑ Add Infrastructure Advisory Committee - V. Bonnell to December planning Meeting.  
Assigned to: Jill Hrynkiw

**20. 14081: Adjournment**

S. WENINGER: That the meeting be adjourned.

 CARRIED

**21. Closing Prayer**

G. Fischer closed the meeting with a prayer.

**22. 2024-2025 Board of Trustees Goals**

- a. Continue to prepare for the future of the school division through succession planning.
- b. Continue to support and advocate for Catholic Education and liaise with our Church.
- c. Create a long-range plan, five to ten years that is sustainable.
- d. Establish the role of the board as it relates to the division.
- e. Ensure Board/Division culture is maintained.

*Ryan Bast* 

Ryan Bast, Board Chair

Josh Kramer, Chief Financial Officer